About this workforce competence

This workforce competence covers the assessment of the client to establish their needs in relation to Bowen healthcare. It focuses on effective communication with the client and/or their companion to maintain an environment of mutual trust and cooperation.

Links

This workforce competence has indicative links with the following dimensions and levels within the NHS knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004)

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and Treatment Planning

Level: 3

Searchable key words

Bowen healthcare, assessment, contra-indications, anatomy, physiology, pathology

Origin

This workforce competence has been developed by Skills for Health.

Glossary

This section provides explanations and definitions of the terms used in this workforce competence. In competences, it is quite common to find words or phrases used which you will be familiar with, but which, in the detail of the competence, may be used in a very particular way.

Scope

This section provides guidance on possible areas to be covered in this workforce competence.

Communicate	may include: a) speech
	b) actions, gestures and body language
	c) space and position
	d) the written word or illustrations
	e) specialised professional hand contact
Confirm individual roles	may include: a) the client's identity
	b) the companion's identity
	 c) the role which the client wishes their companion to have and the information the companion should receive
	d) the identity and roles of any practitioners present

Contra-indications or restrictions	may include:
	a) pregnancy
	b) substance abuse
	 c) any other treatment / medications currently being undertaken
	 d) lack of mobility – for example due to: hip replacement; respiration problems; age
Explore	may include:
	 a) history of the client's health, effective functioning and well-being (physical, emotional, psychological) including any particular conditions and treatments
	b) lifestyle including diet, exercise and attitude
	c) work history
	d) social, educational and family history
	e) environmental factors
Initial approach and manner	may include:
	a) appearance
	b) body language
	c) behaviour
	d) posture and gait

Particular requirements	may include:
	a) the client's personal beliefs and preferences
	b) the client's age, sex and physical condition
	c) communication differences
	d) physical support and access
	e) emotional and psychological support
Professional appearance	may include: a) own presentation including appropriate dress/uniform/ adornment
	b) personal hygiene
Work area	may include: a) ventilation
	b) lighting
	c) heating
	d) level of noise
	e) privacy
	f) space
	g) cleanliness and orderliness

Performance Criteria

You need to:

- 1. present a **professional appearance** and be prepared and fit to carry out the assessment
- 2. ensure that any equipment, materials, and surrounding **work area** are prepared and meet professional codes of practice, legal and organisational requirements
- 3. evaluate the client's initial approach and manner to assess their needs
- 4. introduce the client and any companion to those present and **confirm individual roles**
- 5. **communicate** effectively and in a manner which maintains client goodwill, trust and confidentiality
- 6. explain the nature, scope and duration of the assessment and any related interventions
- 7. inform the client of the records to be made and their right of access to these
- 8. encourage the client to ask questions, seek advice and express any concerns about the assessment
- 9. confirm the consent of the client or their companion to the assessment
- 10. ensure that the interaction with any companion(s) is appropriate to the needs of the client and yourself
- 11. respect the client's privacy and dignity throughout the assessment and ensure they are as comfortable as possible
- 12. conduct the assessment in a manner which encourages the effective participation of the client and meets their **particular requirements**
- 13. where possible determine any **contra-indications or restrictions** to assessment and take appropriate action
- 14. comply with professional and legal requirements
- 15. explore and establish the client's needs for Bowen healthcare
- 16. seek advice and support from an appropriate source when the needs of the client and the complexity of the case are beyond your own remit or capability

- 17. halt the assessment at the request of the client or when the information obtained means that it is unsafe to proceed
- 18. inform the client when additional information is required and obtain their consent to obtain the information
- 19. evaluate the information obtained for and during the assessment and determine appropriate action
- 20. explain the outcomes of the assessment clearly and in a manner, level and pace appropriate to the client
- 21. ensure records are kept, in line with professional and legal requirements.

Knowledge and Understanding

You need to apply:

- Α **Professional practice and Bowen healthcare** K1 a factual knowledge of the professional standards and codes of practice for Bowen healthcare K2 a working knowledge of relevant legislation that impacts on your work role K3 a factual knowledge of employment and organisational policies and practices K4 a working knowledge of why it is important to respect the rights of clients K5 a working knowledge of the extent of your own remit as a practitioner and the limits of your responsibilities K6 a working knowledge of communication and the professional relationship K7 an in-depth understanding of how to achieve effective communication through observation, sensitive questioning and listening K8 a working knowledge of confidentiality and confidentiality issues K9 a factual knowledge of the procedures and requirements for confidentiality, security, transmission of information and passing on of information about clients K10 a factual knowledge of consent K11 a factual knowledge of practice management
- K12 a working knowledge of how to be supportive to the client (and any companion(s)) whilst managing time effectively

B Work role and practice – reflecting and developing

- K13 a working knowledge of how to reflect on your own practice, how to identify any development needs and why it is important to do this
- K14 a working knowledge of how to evaluate the effectiveness of your own actions and learn from experience
- K15 a working knowledge of the information available on effective Bowen healthcare and how to evaluate and use this information within your own practice
- K16 a working knowledge of how the models and concepts in your area of practice have evolved and developed, how they tend to change with time and the similarities and differences between different versions
- K17 a working knowledge of how to develop links with other healthcare providers and any protocols for doing this
- K18 a factual knowledge of how to recognise the limits of your own knowledge and competence and the importance of not exceeding these limits

C Health, effective functioning and well-being

- K19 a working knowledge of the concept of health, effective functioning and well-being that is consistent with the practice, principles and theory underlying your discipline
- K20 a working knowledge of why it is important to recognise that the client's previous and present care may affect their health, effective functioning and well-being
- K21 a working knowledge of how the psychological and emotional balance of the client may affect their health, effective functioning and well-being
- K22 a working knowledge of how to recognise when the body is in health balance and when it is not functioning as it should

- K23 a working knowledge of how signs and symptoms may be suppressed or altered by other factors such as medication, exercise, diet
- K24 a working knowledge of how the client's diet, lifestyle and emotional state can affect their health, effective functioning and well-being
- K25 a working knowledge of how the physical, social, emotional and economic context in which people live affects their health, effective functioning and well-being
- K26 a working knowledge of how personal beliefs and preferences affect how clients live and the choices they make
- K27 a working knowledge of what resources are available to clients to make changes to the context in which they live and make choices about their lifestyles
- K28 a working knowledge of the nature of illness and the impact this may have on a client's health, effective functioning and well-being
- K29 a working knowledge of why it is important to recognise conditions which may pose a serious risk to the client and when to seek immediate help or advice from other professional sources
- K30 a working knowledge of the nature of disability and your role in working with those who have disabilities
- K31 a working knowledge of how an individual's abilities and disabilities may affect the nature and form of help and support and the manner in which you provide it

D The scope and methods of Bowen healthcare

- K32 an in-depth understanding of the history, principles and development of Bowen healthcare and its relationship to other healthcare
- K33 a working knowledge of how to recognise those occasions when Bowen healthcare may be used in conjunction with other healthcare which the client is receiving

- K34 an in-depth understanding of how to recognise conditions for which the discipline is incomplete in itself and for which the client should seek advice from other sources
- K35 a working knowledge of the circumstances when you may choose not to accept a client:
 - a) where the interaction may not be beneficial
 - b) the client does not want Bowen treatment
 - c) you do not wish to provide Bowen treatment
 - d) the client is in need of urgent medical care
- K36 a working knowledge of the circumstances when you must not accept a client:
 - a) you do not have the requisite experience or expertise
 - b) the circumstances where medical referral is essential
- K37 an in-depth understanding of the range, purpose and limitations of different methods which may be used for different clients with different needs
- K38 an in-depth understanding of how to determine the most appropriate method(s) for different clients and their particular needs
- K39 an in-depth understanding of how to tailor Bowen healthcare appropriately for each individual
- K40 an in-depth understanding of how to judge whether self-care procedure(s) is/are appropriate for the client

E Assessing the client's needs and the appropriateness of the Bowen healthcare

- K41 a factual knowledge of the amount of time which each assessment method is likely to take to establish the client's needs
- K42 a factual knowledge of the importance of agreeing the location and timing of the Bowen healthcare sessions with the client, and the factors which may intervene and alter plans
- K43 a working knowledge of how to provide an appropriate assessment environment for the client and the importance of doing so

- K44 a working knowledge of how to select, prepare and use a range of equipment and materials that are needed to assess the client
- K45 a factual knowledge of how to prepare and present yourself correctly to carry out assessment
- K46 a factual knowledge of why it is important to introduce everyone present and confirm their role within the assessment process
- K47 a factual knowledge of how to clarify and confirm the client's (and any companion's) understanding of the assessment process
- K48 a working knowledge of how to interpret the client's initial approach and manner and identify their needs
- K49 a working knowledge of how to select and use different assessment methods effectively
- K50 a factual knowledge of the importance of respecting the client's privacy and dignity and affording them as much comfort as possible during assessment
- K51 a working knowledge of how to establish valid and reliable information about the client, determine the priority of need and to formulate your initial hypothesis
- K52 a working knowledge of the information which would confirm or deny initial hypothesis and the reasons for this in particular cases
- K53 a working knowledge of the likely causes of particular conditions and the possibility of changing these
- K54 an in-depth understanding of the potential risks of various courses of action for the client and how to assess these realistically
- K55 an in-depth understanding of how to determine the meaning and significance of the information given by the client and how to deal with any inconsistent information gained during assessment

- K56 an in-depth understanding of why it is important to acknowledge your own limitations and when there may be a need to refer the client on to other healthcare practitioners
- K57 a working knowledge of why it is important to explain the reasons for any delay between requests and assessment
- K58 an in-depth understanding of the appropriate actions to take on the basis of the assessment to suit the client's condition and identified needs

F Anatomy, physiology and pathology

- K59 a working knowledge of the structure, function, location and interaction of glands, organs and systems:
 - a) cardio vascular system
 - b) lymphatic system
 - c) nervous system
 - d) endocrine system
 - e) digestive system
 - f) respiratory system
 - g) urinary system
 - h) reproductive system
 - i) immune system
 - j) the skin
 - k) cells and tissues
 - I) glands and organs
 - m) musculo-skeletal system
- K60 a working knowledge of the interdependence of the body systems in order to recognise conditions:
 - a) for which Bowen treatment is appropriate
 - b) where Bowen treatment must be used with caution.