

GCE Health and Social Care

Further guidance on internal assessment for Unit 9: Investigating Disease

This unit requires students to produce a piece of portfolio work as follows (extract from page 112 of the specification):

Assessment evidence will typically consist of a comparison of two diseases. One must be a communicable disease and one a non-communicable disease. You should select a pair of diseases, on which to base your report, and agree these with your tutor. Learners could choose to study the same communicable (or non-communicable) disease as each other, however, their work should be clearly individual. They should then study a different non-communicable (or communicable) disease to each other.

Your work must show evidence of the following for the communicable and the non-communicable disease that is studied, giving a comparison of the two diseases:

- a a brief summary of the biological basis of the disease and the body's response to it
- b information about the causes and distribution of the disease
- c an analysis of the availability of support, facilities for diagnosis and treatment in your locality, including factors that may affect the availability and outcome of the treatments
- d an evaluation of the strategies for the prevention of the disease and factors that might affect them.

Evidence presented for this unit could be drawn from diseases affecting people at any stage of life. You might choose to investigate two diseases normally affecting people at the same life stage, or two diseases normally affecting people at different life stages. You must cover the content as specified in *What you need to learn* and make sure that you choose one communicable disease and one non-communicable disease.

When you carry out interviews or activities with clients as part of your internally assessed work it is essential that you obtain the client's consent and maintain full confidentiality throughout.

For this unit students must choose:

- one communicable disease and
- one non-communicable disease.

Any diseases that are communicable or non-communicable are acceptable. However, students may find that there is more information available for a viral or bacterial disease, which would enable them to access the higher mark bands more easily.

Students may choose the same diseases as a classmate. For example, a group of learners in a class could have chosen:

- a the same communicable disease but different non-communicable diseases
- b the same non-communicable disease but different communicable diseases.

Students could choose to study the same communicable and non-communicable diseases, however, it is not good practice to do so. We encourage students to choose either option a or b, listed above, to allow them to produce distinctly individual work. Teachers must ensure that all work produced is the student's own, and is clearly individually produced.