

Unit 56: Assist in Cardiac Stress Testing

Level:	4
Unit type:	Optional (Cardiac Physiology)
Credit value:	6
Guided learning hours:	48

Unit summary

This unit aims to give you the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to assist the healthcare science practitioner/clinical scientist/medical staff in the performance of cardiac stress testing. You will be expected to build your patient-centred professional practice and practise safely in the workplace.

Unit assessment requirements

There are no specific assessment requirements for this unit. Please refer to the assessment strategy in *Annexe B*.

Additional information

Learners completing this unit must also complete *Unit 53: Recognising ECG Abnormalities in Adults*.

It is suggested that learners will have completed the Level 2 Unit 72: Measuring Blood Pressure Using an Automatic Machine, or have appropriate experience before completing this unit.

It is expected that learners will have the appropriate life support qualification required by their own place of work.

The responsibility for the conduct of the test and gaining informed consent will lie with the healthcare science practitioner/clinical scientist/medical staff.

AC1.1 includes the physiological effect of exercise on the:

- cardiovascular system
- respiratory system
- musculoskeletal system

and

- the effect of exercise on patients with:
 - suspected angina
 - breathlessness on exertion.

AC1.2 includes:

- the importance of patient-centred practice

- ways to ensure and promote patient-centred care in own area of practice
- indications and contraindications for undertaking cardiac stress testing
- possible symptoms experienced by a patient experiencing angina
- how angina can impact on quality of life
- methods available to exercise patients in own area of practice.

LO2 – in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures.

AC2.5 and 2.6 include:

- measuring the height and weight of the patient
- gathering information on current medication
- assisting in correct positioning of the patient
- setting up all monitoring equipment
- maintaining the highest standards of person-centred care, treating every person with compassion, dignity and respect
- checking resuscitation equipment.

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

To pass this unit, learners need to demonstrate that they can meet all the learning outcomes for the unit. The assessment criteria outline the requirements that the learner is expected to meet **in own area of work and in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS)** to achieve the learning outcomes and the unit.

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
1	Understand the principles and practice of cardiac stress testing	1.1	Explain the physiological changes that occur during exercise			
		1.2	Explain the principles of cardiac stress testing			

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
2	Be able to assist with cardiac stress testing	2.1	Evaluate the departmental Standard Operating Procedure underpinning cardiac stress testing			
		2.2	Explain the factors influencing the choice of equipment for the investigation			
		2.3	Select suitable equipment in accordance with the requirements of the test			
		2.4	Explain the principles of measurement for the range of equipment used			
		2.5	Prepare the environment for cardiac stress testing			
		2.6	Prepare the equipment for cardiac stress testing			
		2.7	Prepare the patient treating the patient with respect and compassion			
		2.8	Address any special patient requirements and, if necessary, discuss with senior staff and carers			

Learning outcomes		Assessment criteria		Evidence type	Portfolio reference	Date
3	Be able to assist following completion of the recording	3.1	Explain how to remove electrodes and clean the site with minimum discomfort			
		3.2	Remove electrodes and clean the site minimising discomfort to the patient			
		3.3	Provide information to the patient with respect to how they will be informed of results of the investigation			
		3.4	Ensure that all the required arrangements are in place for the patient/carer following completion of the cardiac stress test			
		3.5	Clean and decontaminate equipment, leaving in a suitable condition for reuse			

Learner name: _____

Date: _____

Learner signature: _____

Date: _____

Assessor signature: _____

Date: _____

Internal verifier signature: _____

Date: _____

(if sampled)