

**SKILLS FRAMEWORK FOR HEALTHCARE
TECHNICAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES (TSC) REFERENCE DOCUMENT**

TSC Category	Patient Care					
TSC	Client Assessment for Speech Therapy					
TSC Description	Select and apply assessment methods and tools appropriate for clients and interpret findings					
TSC Proficiency Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
			HCE-PTC-3007-1.1	HCE-PTC-4007-1.1	HCE-PTC-5007-1.1	HCE-PTC-6007-1.1
			<p>Conduct evidence-based assessments of routine cases independently and seek guidance for assessment of complex and/or novel cases. Articulate new trends and evidence-based practices in client assessments</p>	<p>Conduct evidence-based assessments of routine and complex cases independently, demonstrating flexibility in selection and modification of assessment methods. Provide guidance to junior therapists where necessary. Assist in the appraisal of new trends and evidence-based practices in client assessments</p>	<p>Evaluate existing assessment practices and develop clinical practice guidelines within the department based on evidence-based practices</p>	<p>Identify and evaluate trends in assessment practices in defined client populations. Develop and refine clinical practice guidelines and assessment practices for client groups across organisations based on evidence-based practices. Has oversight of the implementation of new assessment tools or trends</p>
Knowledge			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human anatomy and physiology • Pathophysiology of the clients' conditions relating to swallowing or communicating difficulties • Disorders of communication and swallowing • Possible contributing factors to communication or swallowing difficulty • Indications, contra-indications and precautions related to clients' conditions • Principles of informed consent • Effective interviewing techniques • Relevant medical or therapy history • Assessments relevant for communication and swallowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence-based assessment methods for complex disorders • Advanced clinical methods and techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialised clinical methods and techniques • Trends in assessment practices in defined client populations • Latest speech, language and swallowing therapy assessment tools • Emerging trends in speech therapy assessment technology • Impact of new trends and assessment tools to systems in organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical standards across the sector with regard to assessment practices • New and emerging clinical guidelines and legislation • Methods relating to integration of new evidence-based assessment methodologies into existing practices

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation's policies and/or guidelines relating to client care and safety • Workplace safety and health (WSH) measures • Types of complex conditions in swallowing and communication disorders • Differential diagnosis for swallowing and communication disorders 			
Abilities			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify purpose of interviews and structure the interviews to achieve required outcomes • Document assessment and case history findings appropriately • Seek help in interpretation of results in complex cases • Select appropriate and relevant assessments for routine and basic cases • Ensure clients' suitability for assessments • Plan and prioritise key assessment areas • Perform assessments for routine and basic cases • Analyse assessment results for routine and basic cases • Identify clients' suitability for further assessments • Adhere to clinical practice guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate or modify the assessment methods that would be relevant to the clients' cases • Analyse and interpret results for complex cases • Differentially diagnose complex communication and swallowing conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop clinical practice guidelines for communication and swallowing assessments • Evaluate efficacy of existing practices and assessment tools • Integrate new evidence-based assessment methodologies into existing practices • Develop guidelines and protocol to ensure diagnostic accuracy and clinical standards • Implement latest evidence-based practice assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain up-to-date clinical standards within department • Review trends in assessment practices in defined client populations • Shape assessment practices for defined client populations across organisations based on evidence-based practices