

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

TSC Category	Patient Care					
TSC	Environmental Assessment and Modification for Occupational Therapy					
TSC Description	Provide recommendations on environmental modifications to remove environmental barriers and support clients' participation in their homes, schools and/or workplaces					
TSC Proficiency Description	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
			HCE-PTC-3014-1.1	HCE-PTC-4014-1.1	HCE-PTC-5014-1.1	HCE-PTC-6014-1.1
			<p>Perform visits to assess clients' ability to manage in their environment and make necessary recommendations to facilitate clients' ability to cope in their environments. Seek guidance for complex cases. Articulate new trends and evidence-based practices in environmental assessment and modification</p>	<p>Review environmental modification recommendations and evaluate effectiveness of recommendations. Provide guidance to junior therapists where necessary. Assist in the appraisal of new trends and evidence-based practices in environmental assessment and modification</p>	<p>Provide recommendations and advocacy on environmental modifications at organisational level. Evaluate existing environmental assessment practices with reference to new trends and evidence-based practices in environmental assessment and modification</p>	<p>Influence the development of policies and national standards that impact guidelines and approaches to the modification of environmental features relevant to clients' reintegration. Oversee the implementation of new tools or trends in environmental assessment and modification</p>
Knowledge			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of environmental factors on human performance and participation in self-care, work and leisure Theoretical models to guide environmental modifications Tools and standardised instruments for environmental assessments and modification Factors to consider in the design of environmental modifications Common environmental hazards Principles of ergonomics Furniture and relevant environmental fixtures which clients can use to improve performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge in ergonomics relevant to specialty areas Evaluation criteria in assessing the effectiveness of environmental modifications Government initiatives and policies that enable the elderly in Singapore to enhance their daily living including silver zones by the Land Transport Authority, Active Ageing Hubs, Co-location of eldercare and childcare facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant guidelines and code of practice including Building and Construction Authority (BCA) guidelines Principles of universal design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Architectural considerations in commercial or residential areas that enhance accessibility and occupational participation of the elderly or disabled Emerging trends in environmental assessment and modification

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpersonal skills to coordinate or collaborate with external stakeholders to enable clients to manage in their environments • Relevant legislation or guidelines for environmental modifications • Price range, suppliers and contractors for environmental modification, if relevant • Documentation processes for home, work and school visitation reports 			
Abilities			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the impact of the physical environment on performance and participation • Ensure assessment data and clinical observations related to the client, context, and performance in environmental modification are synthesised and interpreted according to current evidence and best practices • Identify safety issues during task performance and advise appropriate environmental modifications to clients and/or caregivers • Assess accessibility and clients' performance, mobility, transfers and other functions within the home, school and work environments, where applicable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit the processes and effectiveness of the environmental assessments and modifications performed by staff • Guide junior staff in environmental assessments and modifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for the needs of those requiring modifications in their homes and community environments through interfacing with governmental agencies, payment sources, and community planners • Advocate for the use of universal design principles in the built environment to accommodate people across the lifespan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with relevant government bodies and private stakeholders to plan and implement policies to aid the ageing population • Drive relevant national initiatives by participating in the formulation of policies that contribute to the enhancement of the physical environments to facilitate ageing in place

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify falls risks and hazards and recommend environmental modifications, as appropriate • Evaluate environmental modifications together with the person's physical requirements and functional goals • Document environmental hazards found in clients' homes by taking photographs and using prescribed checklists and/or templates • Initiate and complete Enhancement for Active Seniors (EASE) referral forms, where applicable • Complete and submit assessment reports with relevant recommendations, measurements and drawings as required • Ensure standardised assessments specific to environmental modifications are administered correctly and include the integration of clinical observations throughout the evaluation processes • Obtain feedback from clients on the effectiveness of modifications • Analyse feedback to improve future recommendations • Identify ethical implications associated with the delivery of services in 			
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