

Qualification Purpose Statement

Qualification title

NCFE CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding the Safe Handling of Medicines
(501/0037/3)

Overview

This qualification has the following mandatory units:

- **Understand medication and prescriptions (Y/601/9571)**
This unit provides an introduction to the many types of medicines learners are likely to encounter in a work environment. It introduces some of the legislation about medication and sources of information and guidance.
- **Supply, storage and disposal of medication (K/601/9574)**
This unit provides learners with an understanding of the requirements for safe handling, storage and disposal of medication and the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to these procedures.
- **Understand the requirements for the safe administration of medication (T/601/9576)**
This unit will provide learners with an understanding of the safe administration of medication. It covers the process, routes and methods of administration and some of the more common sideeffects and adverse reactions to medication.
- **Record-keeping and audit processes for medication administration and storage (F/601/9578)**
This unit provides an opportunity for learners to develop an understanding of the audit process, the records that must be maintained regarding the administration of medicines and issues of accountability, responsibility and confidentiality.

Who is this qualification designed for?

The qualification is suitable for learners aged 18 and above.

There are no specific recommended prior learning requirements for this qualification. This qualification is designed for a wide range of learners who wish to develop their understanding of the safe handling of medication in a health and/or social care context. These may be learners who wish to access this training with a view to progress to further qualifications or employment within health and social care, to complement other qualifications within apprenticeship frameworks within health or health and social care, or to develop within their current job role within health and social care.

What could this qualification lead to?

As noted in the apprenticeship frameworks, career progression within the health and social care sectors will not always be vertical, it may also be horizontal. New ways of working and new roles are constantly evolving to meet the health & social care needs of the population.

These new roles provide staff with opportunities to develop new knowledge and skills often described as 'expanded' roles.

This qualification supports progression to employment and progression within employment for the following job roles and workers:

- care assistant or worker
- personal care assistant
- adult social care relief team worker
- night care assistant
- support worker (supported living)
- key workers in residential, domiciliary or day care settings
- home care support worker
- re-enablement worker
- healthcare support service worker - clinical healthcare support worker
- healthcare assistant.

Progression opportunities

This qualification supports progression to further learning in the following areas:

- Level 2 and 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) for England
- Level 2 and 3 Diploma in Clinical Healthcare Support
- Level 2 and 3 Certificate in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care
- Level 2 and 3 Certificate for Working in the Health Sector
- Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of End of Life Care
- Level 3 Certificate in Stroke Care Management
- Level 3 Diploma In Allied Health Profession Support
- Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeship in Health & Social Care
- Intermediate and Advanced Level Apprenticeship in Health (Clinical Healthcare Support)

Are there any larger or smaller versions of this qualification at the same Level, why should a learner take this one?

There are no larger or smaller qualifications currently regulated in this subject area.

This qualification was the first to be regulated in this area (September 2010), the other qualifications available are direct duplications of this one.

Who supports the qualification?

The qualification is supported by providers listed on the Register of Training Organisations and who have current contracts for delivery of provision in Health and Social Care. For further information please contact CACHE on 0345 347 2123 or email us at info@cache.org.uk.