

Clinical Skills Competency Assessment

Progressive Neurological Conditions Competency

Registered Nurse Name:	
Registered Nurse Signature:	
Assessor Name:	
Assessor Signature:	
Date Competency completed:	
Date Self-Assessment completed:	
Date of last completion.	

WE STATEMENT

We focus on continuous learning, innovation and improvement across our organisation and the local system. We encourage creative ways of delivering equality of experience, outcome and quality of life for people. We actively contribute to safe, effective practice and research.

INTRODUCTION

This competency has been designed to promote and assess the safe and effective management of residents who have progressive neurological conditions in our care homes.

The competency should be completed by each Registered Nurse who has a responsibility to undertake care for residents.

The Registered Nurse should have confidence in his/her actions delivering supportive care.

For Registered Nurses, the NMC Code of Conduct should be adhered to, to ensure the Registered Nurse understands his/her responsibilities with regards to their scope of practice.

This competency must be completed within induction by an RN, It must then be reviewed and completed on a self-assessed basis at least annually.

There may also be a requirement to repeat this competency in the event of an incident relating to a neurological condition regardless of when the last completion took place.

Once complete, please document this competency on the Registered Nurses HR Training file / training matrix.

Competency & Awareness	Registered Nurse Signature	Comments	Assessor's Signature
Can demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of the central and peripheral nervous systems.			
Has awareness of the most common progressive conditions/diseases of the nervous system and can offer a brief description of those conditions.			
Understands the basic function of the following body systems & processes, and the extent of involvement of the nervous system; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immune • Respiratory • Digestive • Urinary • Skin 			
Can describe the Musculoskeletal impact of progressive neurological disease including knowledge of normal tone, coordination, movement and gait.			
Can describe how speech and swallowing mechanisms might be impacted.			
Can describe how cognition, behaviour and mental health might be impacted.			
Can explain how they keep updated of the most frequently used approaches to treatment and management.			
Demonstrates awareness and develops understanding of the impact of a progressive neurological condition on a resident and their family.			
Demonstrates excellent interpersonal and active listening skills, encouraging			

patients to fully communicate all needs			
Can describe how they would evaluate and interpret findings of assessments accurately to independently inform clinical management and care plans.			
Demonstrates good skills to provide person-centred support for making decisions regarding treatment options.			
Demonstrates ability to discuss outcomes of holistic assessments with wider teams and make referrals as required.			
Understands the stages of disease and how these differ across conditions.			
Understands, initiates, coordinates and contributes to advance care planning processes.			
Recognises the stage of disease a resident is at and can explain this to them and help them plan ahead.			
Demonstrates awareness of the difference between palliative care and end of life care in progressive neurological conditions.			
Demonstrates ability to identify malnutrition using standardised assessment (Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool – MUST)			
Can interpret and act on clinical findings to identify the most appropriate interventions to assist nutritional management.			
Can initiate discussions and best interests meetings about feeding, where the resident lacks capacity to make their own decisions.			

Can confidently maintain safety, privacy, respect and dignity of the resident at all times, and acknowledges their right to make their own decisions, even if these go against the advice provided.			
Demonstrates understanding of own limitations and seeks support and advice when needed, including onward referrals as required.			
Demonstrates an understanding of how relevant past events and experiences can impact on a resident's current situation and future planning.			
Demonstrates ability to align expectations of care with resident, family, friends and healthcare professionals.			
Can use and interpret results from a range of outcome measures to inform management options (eg fluid chart, MUST score etc).			
Demonstrates ability to anticipate likely outcomes/progression using clinical knowledge and experience of working with people with progressive neurological condition.			
Demonstrates awareness and recognition of common symptoms in progressive neurological conditions and has knowledge of the management strategies of these.			
Demonstrates awareness of how drugs commonly used in progressive neurological conditions may affect other body systems.			
Demonstrates awareness of the possible need for different drug presentations in progressive			

neurological conditions e.g. crushable tablets, dispersible, liquid, etc.			
Demonstrates ability to anticipate problems and initiate avoidance strategies based on good knowledge of the progressive neurological condition e.g. choking leading to aspiration pneumonia, communication difficulties.			
Able to act as an advocate for the resident at team level to remove barriers to care and services.			
Demonstrates an understanding of the importance of maintaining the independence the resident has in their life and shows an understanding of how their condition may affect their independence.			
Understands how different communication aids can be used to optimise care.			

Below is a reflective summary to be completed in the event of an incident relating to a resident who has a progressive neurological condition.

REFLECTIVE SUMMARY FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT

This form is to be completed in the event of an incident connected to the care of an individual with a progressive neurological condition and then used to inform a supervision. A copy should be submitted to the General Manager.

NAME

DATE

REFLECTIVE ACCOUNT
What was the nature of the incident?
What did you learn from the incident?
How did you change or improve your practice as a result of the incident?
What is the relevance to the Code of Conduct.

Document Control

Issue	Date	Author	Reason
1.0	01 January 2026	Michelle Francis	New document

