



GEN77 Perform first line calibration on clinical equipment to ensure it is fit for use

OVERVIEW

This standard relates to first line calibration of specific equipment prior to clinical use. Individuals will be able to calibrate equipment for use in their own healthcare context. Individuals can use the standard for each type of equipment within the scope of their normal work activity. This is not intended for use following major repair or service. Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies. Version No 1

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

You will need to know and understand:

1. relevant statutory, regulatory and legislative requirements, national standards and guidance
2. the relevant standard operating procedures, policies and their importance
3. limits of responsibility and when and where to seek advice
4. how and why to communicate effectively with appropriate others
5. the intended purpose, operational status and range of use of equipment
6. the importance of both accuracy and precision within calibration
7. the methods of first line calibration, and quality assurance
8. relevant reference materials
9. the significance of keeping calibration documentation
10. how to check for validity and reliability of tests conducted
11. the importance of comparisons between old and new techniques and related reference ranges, where relevant
12. the common faults in equipment and relevant corrective action
13. how to recognise factors which affect safety or risk associated with equipment use and relevant corrective action

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

You must be able to do the following:

- 1.run appropriate tests to confirm the operational status of equipment
- 2.calibrate equipment for operation:
 - 1.using appropriate reference materials
 - 2.to within correct parameters for intended purpose
 - 3.against appropriate approved standards
 - 4.in line with required schedule
- 3.verify accuracy, precision and operational effectiveness of equipment following appropriate procedures
- 4.record the validity and reliability of calibration procedure conducted
- 5.confirm that equipment is suitable and ready for intended use
- 6.correctly identify equipment that does not meet calibration standards and take appropriate action to prevent inadvertent use
- 7.notify appropriate others of the status of equipment on completion of calibration
- 8.work within the limits of your competence and seek advice where necessary

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This National Occupational Standard has been developed by Skills for Health. This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004): Dimension: EF1 Systems, vehicles and equipment