

NHS Training for  
AHP Support Workers

## Workbook 13: Conducting Outcome Measures



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## **13.1 Aim**

The aim of this workbook is to introduce the Healthcare Support Worker (HCSW) to conducting outcome measures and to conduct tests accurately.

## **13.2 Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this workbook you will be able to:

- Describe the purpose of an outcome measure.
- Follow a test protocol to conduct the test.
- Accurately record test results in patient records.
- Report your findings to the therapist.

## **13.3 What are Outcome Measures?**

Outcome measures are carefully designed tests that measure some aspect of the patients performance. Examples used in Physiotherapy would be tests designed to measure walking speed, arm function, balance or disability. These are called outcome measures because they are often used before the start of Physiotherapy, sometimes during the course of the therapy and at the end of the therapy episode to measure the outcome of the treatment.

Because they are used to compare the patient's performance on more than one occasion, it is important that they are done in a standardised way. This is so that any change measured can be attributed to actual change in the condition of the patient and not to differences in the way that the test was done on the two occasions.



Your supervisor will demonstrate the described tests below to you.

List what test(s) are done with patients on your unit.

Which of these might you be involved in?

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Describe the test(s). What does it measure? At what point in the patient's care is the test done? What equipment is involved?



Next, you should go through the steps yourself with a model. Once your supervisor is satisfied that you are familiar enough with the procedure on the model you will be asked to undertake the test, under supervision, with some patients.

Afterwards discuss your performance with your supervisor. Was there anything that required you to undertake more practice?

Describe a test procedure you have undertaken with a patient?

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What went well? Was there any difficulty in ensuring the test was completed according to the protocol? What about scoring? Were you able to score the performance accurately? Were there any problems?



Describe broadly, what do you do with patients to perform the test?

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What do you need to be particularly careful about that might influence the test results?



#### Activity

**Describe and provide an example of:**

How you would record the test results?

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How would you ensure that the therapist was informed of the results?



## 13.4 Conducting Outcome Measures Workbook Completion

Your mentor / supervisor will sign your portfolio to indicate that you have completed this workbook successfully.

Objective	Supervisors Signature	Date
Describe the purpose of an outcome Measure		
Follow a test protocol and conduct the test		
Record test results in patient record		
Reporting findings		

<b>Support worker</b> (name)	
Support workers signature	
<b>Supervisor</b> (name)	
Supervisors signature	
<b>Date</b>	

## 13.5 Conducting Outcome Measures Reflection

**Suggested KSF Dimensions:** C1, C3, C5 and HWB2

This form should be placed in the appropriate section of your portfolio.

**What did you learn from this module?**

**How has this influenced your work?**

**Date module completed**



