

Clinical Task Instruction

Delegated Task

D-FC05: Toe Pressure

Scope and objectives of clinical task

This CTI will enable the Allied Health Assistant to:

- accurately and safely measure a Toe Pressure (TP)
- use TP findings to support risk categorisation from the implementation of CTI D-FC01: Foot screening including pedal pulses and monofilament testing.

VERSION CONTROL

Version: 1.0

Reviewed: (Profession)	Directors of Podiatry	Date:	05/09/2025
Approved: (Operational)	Chief Allied Health Officer, Queensland Health	Date:	18/09/2025
Document custodian:	Chief Allied Health Officer, Queensland Health	Review date:	24/09/2028
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The CTI reflects best practice and agreed process for conduct of the task at the time of approval and should not be altered. Feedback, including proposed amendments to this published document, should be directed to the Office of the Chief Allied Health Officer (OCAHO) at: allied_health_advisory@health.qld.gov.au

This CTI should be used under a delegation framework implemented at the work unit level. The framework is available at: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/ahwac/html/ahassist>

Prior to use please check <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/ahwac/html/clintaskinstructions> for the latest version of this CTI.

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Requisite training, knowledge, skills and experience

Training

- Completion of CTI D-WTS01 When to stop.
- Completion of CTI D-FC01 Foot screening including pedal pulses and monofilament testing.
- Mandatory training requirements relevant to Queensland Health clinical roles are assumed knowledge for this CTI.
- Completion of the following Queensland Health allied health assistant training modules (or corresponding units of competency in HLT43021 Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance) or equivalent work-based learning:
 - Assist with basic foot hygiene. 2.1 Anatomy and Physiology of the Foot.

Access the module/s at: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/ahwac/html/ahassist-modules>

Clinical knowledge

- The following content knowledge is required by an allied health assistant delivering this task:
 - the purpose of undertaking a TP including measuring unit features and the application process
 - basic foot anatomy to the extent required to undertake this CTI including names and locations of bony landmarks for probe placement and orientation of the first hallux, client position and skin preparation
 - recognition of common signal and wave forms and technique errors and adaptations to the procedure that may be required to improve the accuracy of findings.
- The knowledge requirements will be met by the following activities:
 - completing the training program/s (listed above)
 - reviewing the Learning resource.
 - receiving instruction from an allied health professional in the training phase.

Skills or experience

- The following skills or experience are not identified in the task procedure but support the safe and effective performance of the task and are required by an allied health assistant delivering this task:
 - Nil

Safety and quality

Client

- The allied health assistant will apply CTI D-WTS01 When to stop at all times.
- In addition, the following potential risks and precautions have been identified for this clinical task and should be monitored carefully by the allied health assistant during the task:
 - if the first hallux is missing (amputated, congenital deformity), necrotic or ulcerated or the client has ischaemic pain or allodynia and the second digit is available, place the cuff and note as part of documentation. If both digits are missing the task cannot be completed on that foot.

- positioning may impact on TP measurement accuracy. The client should lay supine for 5-10 minutes prior to measuring. If the client is unable to lay supine for 5-10 minutes, for example due to pain, discomfort, shortness of breath, preference, record the measurement in the clients preferred posture and include the variance as part of documentation.

Equipment, aids and appliances

- As this assessment includes the use of electrical equipment, all equipment should be examined to ensure it is in good working order e.g. cords not frayed, switches are working properly and if in a Queensland Health facility, test and tag is in situ and current. If the equipment is not in working order, cease the task. Locate alternative equipment if available. If no alternative equipment is available inform the client (and carer where relevant) and re-schedule the task and implement local processes to have the equipment fixed/replaced.

Environment

- Nil

Performance of clinical task

1. Delegation instructions

- Receive the delegated task from the health professional either directly or as part of a protocol.
- The delegating allied health professional should clearly identify parameters for delivering the clinical task to the specific client, including any variance from the usual task procedure and expected outcomes. This may include:
 - side to be examined left/right, both
 - required variances to the task e.g. position sitting/supine, wounds, anatomical anomaly/deformity.

2. Preparation

- Equipment should be cleaned with alcohol wipes prior to use, including the probe.

3. Introduce task and seek consent

- The allied health assistant introduces themselves to the client.
- The allied health assistant checks three forms of client identification: full name, date of birth, plus one of the following: hospital unit record (UR) number, Medicare number, or address.
- The allied health assistant describes the task to the client. For example:
 - “I am going to use this machine and probe to measure blood flow pressure to your toe.”
- The allied health assistant seeks informed consent according to the Queensland Health Guide to Informed Decision-making in Health Care, Version 2.6 (2025).

4. Positioning

- The client's position during the task should be:
 - supine with shoes and socks off. See Safety and quality.

- The allied health assistant's position during the task should be:
 - seated, or standing, near the client's lower limb at mid trunk level.

5. Task procedure

- Explain and demonstrate (where applicable) the task to the client.
- Check the client has understood the task and provide an opportunity to ask questions.
- The task comprises the following steps:
 1. Securely attach the TP sensor probe to the tip of the toe with micropore or a clip.
 2. Turn on the measuring unit and confirm a wave form is present.
 3. Place the cuff onto the first hallux, securing as close to the base as possible.
 4. Confirm the wave form is present.
 5. Inflate the cuff, until the wave form disappears.
 6. Deflate the cuff noting the pressure that the wave form returns. Record findings.
 7. Repeat step 1-7 on the other foot.
 8. Use local processes to clean the cuffs, probe and Doppler machine.
- During the task:
 - provide feedback and correct errors in the performance of the task including:
 - check the attachment of the probe to the toe is secure. If loose re-attach. If using micropore, check that it is not circumferentially tight. If using a clip, check that transverse placement is not occluding blood flow.
 - prior to inflating the cuff for recording loosen the cuff and confirm that placement of the cuff has not occluded blood flow.
 - If a wave form is still not present, cease the task and include as part of feedback.
 - monitor for adverse reactions and implement appropriate mitigation strategies as outlined in the Safety and quality section above including CTI D-WTS01 When to stop.
- At the conclusion of the task:
 - encourage feedback from the client on the task.
 - provide summary feedback to client, and if part of the service model, inform the client of implications of observations, including the need for follow up
 - ensure the client is comfortable and safe.

6. Document

- Document the outcomes of the task in the clinical record, consistent with relevant documentation standards and local procedures. Include observation of client performance, expected outcomes that were and were not achieved, and difficulties encountered or symptoms reported by the client during the task.
- For this task, the following specific information should be presented:
 - left and right TP measurement
 - any variance required to the task procedure.

7. Report to the delegating health professional

- Provide comprehensive feedback to the health professional who delegated the task.

References and supporting documents

- Queensland Health (2015). Clinical Task Instruction D-WTS01 When to stop. Available at: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/ahwac/html/clintaskinstructions>.
- Queensland Health (2025). Guide to Informed Decision-making in Health Care. Version 2.6. Available at: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/consent/clinician-resources/guide-to-informed-decision-making-in-healthcare>.

Assessment: performance criteria checklist

D-FC05: Toe Pressure

Name:

Position:

Work Unit:

Performance criteria	Knowledge acquired	Supervised task practice	Competency assessment
	<i>Date and initials of supervising AHP</i>	<i>Date and initials of supervising AHP</i>	<i>Date and initials of supervising AHP</i>
Demonstrates knowledge of fundamental concepts required to undertake the task.			
Obtains all required information from the delegating health professional, and seeks clarification if required, prior to accepting and proceeding with the delegated task.			
Completes preparation for the task including checking the machine is in working order and clean.			
Introduces self to the client and checks client identification.			
Describes the purpose of the delegated task and seeks informed consent.			
Positions self and client appropriately to complete the task and ensure safety.			
Delivers the task effectively and safely as per delegated instructions and CTI procedure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Clearly explains the task, checking the client's understanding. b) Ensures the client removes shoes and socks and lays supine for 10minutes. c) Securely places sensor and cuff on the 1st digit. d) Collects a TP measurement as per the manufacturer's instructions. e) Records the findings on the local recording form. f) During the task, maintains a safe clinical environment and manages risks appropriately. g) Provides feedback to the client on performance during and at completion of the task. 			
Documents the outcomes of the task in the clinical record, consistent with relevant documentation standards and local procedures.			
Provides accurate and comprehensive feedback to the delegating health professional.			

Comments:				
Record of assessment competence:				
Assessor name:		Assessor position:		Competence achieved: / /
Scheduled review:				
Review date:	/ /			

Toe Pressure: Learning resource

Required reading

- Weinberg I (2012). Toe Brachial Index. Vascular Medicine. Available at: <https://angiologist.com/toe-brachial-index/>
- Manufacturer's instructions for the machine to be used in the local service.

Required viewing

- Briggate Medical Company (2019). Obtaining toe pressures with the Hadeco ES100V3. Available at: <https://vimeo.com/325560374>
- Huntleigh Healthcare (2017). Toe Pressure Index (TBI) with Dopplex DMX. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ouTyqtFOAo>