Unit ID: 642

Domain: HAIRDRESSING

Title: Apply the principles of hairdressing science

Level: 2 Credits: 8

Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to apply the principles of hairdressing science. It includes procedures for applying knowledge of skin structure and function, structure and function of hair, hair and scalp disorders and diseases, hairdressing products and promoting hair and scalp care. This unit standard is intended for those who work as hairdressers.

Special Notes

1. Entry information:

   Prerequisite
   - Unit 632 – Apply personal health and safety routines in a hairdressing salon environment or demonstrated equivalent knowledge and skills.

2. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real workplace or a simulated real workplace or an appropriate simulated realistic environment in which hairdressing operations are carried out.

3. All procedures associated with the use of tools, equipment and products shall comply with manufacturers’ specifications and/or workplace guidelines and instructions.

4. Glossary of terms:
   - ‘disorder of hair and scalp’ means any abnormal condition that may be treated by the hairdresser
   - ‘disease of hair and scalp’ means any abnormal condition, i.e. contagious, infected, swollen, that may not be treated by the hairdresser, but must be referred to a medical practitioner.

5. Performance of all elements in this unit standard must comply with industry standards.

6. Regulations and legislation relevant to this unit standard include the following:
   - Labour Act, No. 11, 2007
   - Occupational Health and Safety Regulations No. 18, 1997 and all subsequent amendments.

7. This unit standard applies to all type of hairs and range of people from different social, cultural or ethnic backgrounds.
Quality Assurance Requirements

This unit standard and others within this subfield may be awarded by institutions which meet the accreditation requirements set by the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority and which comply with the national assessment and moderation requirements. Details of specific accreditation requirements and the national assessment arrangements are available from the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority on www.nta.com.na

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element 1: Apply knowledge of skin structure and function

Range

The main structure, functions and role of the skin may include the structure and function of the glands of the skin, the relevant skin surface anatomy, major epidermal appendages and dermal structures, major cells of the epidermis and the role of vascular, connective and nervous tissue in the dermis.

The structure and function of the glands may include the structure, function distribution and development of skin glands, the production, composition and function of sebum, and the production, composition and functions of eccrine and apocrine sweat fluids.

The physical effects of scalp treatment may include conditioning, removal of excess skin cells, and removal of excess sebum.

Performance Criteria

1.1 The main structure, functions and role of the skin are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

1.2 The structure and function of the glands of the skin are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

1.3 The physical effects of scalp treatments on the skin are identified and related to the performance of hairdressing treatments.

Element 2: Apply knowledge of the structure and function of hair

Range

The main functional role of hair may include thermo-regulation, protecting the scalp from physical damage, and controlling micro-organisms on the skin.

The structural and cellular features of hair and hair follicles may include hair shaft, layers of the hair, and hair root and follicle.
The process of hair growth and the hair growth cycle may include hair growth cycle (growth phase, transitional phase and resting phase) and influences on hair growth rate.

The characteristics of normal and damaged hair may include hair type (coarse, medium and fine), texture and porosity.

Hair colour and chemical reformation may include main factors contributing to hair colour, origin, structure and location of melanin.

Physical effects of hairdressing services may include effects on hair structure, effects on hair texture, degree of curl or wave in hair and hair colour.

**Performance Criteria**

2.1 The main functional role of hair are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

2.2 The structural and cellular features of hair and hair follicles are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

2.3 The process of hair growth and the hair growth cycle are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

2.4 The characteristics of normal and damaged hair are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

2.5 Factors affecting hair colour and chemical reformation are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

2.6 The physical effects of hairdressing services are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

**Element 3: Apply knowledge of hair and scalp disorders and diseases**

**Range**

Hair and scalp disorder and diseases may include round bald patches, scarring alopecia, damaged cuticle, split ends, male pattern baldness, beaded hair shaft, dandruff, psoriasis, greasy scalp, dermatitis and head lice.

**Performance criteria:**

3.1 Hair and scalp disorder and diseases are identified by visual and physical examinations and applied in line with hairdressing services rendered.

3.2 Proper procedures and practice conducive to good hygiene are identified and applied to the provision of hairdressing services.

3.3 Corrective treatment for hair and scalp disorder is identified and applied in line with hairdressing services rendered.
Element 4: Apply knowledge of hairdressing products

Range

Range of hairdressing products may include but is not limited to colouring products, lightening products, chemical reformation products, chemical relaxation products, temporary setting aids, shampoos, conditioners and topical products including sprays and waxes.

Contraindications may include allergic reactions and hair porosity.

Performance Criteria

4.1 The formulation of a range of hairdressing products is assessed in relation to the products’ purpose and action on the hair.

4.2 Contraindications are identified where they relate to client health and safety, hair condition and/or service outcomes.

Element 5: Promote hair and scalp care

Range

Potential environmental damage may include ultraviolet (sun) light and excessive use of overheated thermal equipment.

Performance Criteria

5.1 Knowledge of the physical and chemical actions of a range of hairdressing products is applied during services to maximise the promotion of hair and scalp care, and client and self safety.

5.2 Knowledge of potential environmental damage to hair is applied in the provision of after care service and advice.

Registration Data

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