

Nursing competencies in genomics: revised framework 2022

<p>1. Identify individuals who might benefit from genomic services and/or information as part of assessing needs and planning care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognising the importance of family history in assessing predisposition to disease, • recognising the key indicators of a potential genomic condition, or clinical situation where genomics informed healthcare would be appropriate, • based on an awareness of the care pathways that incorporate genomics services and information, • taking appropriate and timely action to seek assistance from and refer individuals to genomics specialists, other specialists and peer support resources.
<p>2. Demonstrate the importance of communication in tailoring genomic information and services to the individual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognising factors e.g. ethnicity, culture, religion, ethical values, developmental stage or language, that may influence the individual's ability to use information and services, • listening to and acknowledging an individual's prior experience or stage in their diagnosis/treatment journey, • demonstrating the use of appropriate communication skills in relation to the individual's level of understanding of genomic issues.
<p>3. Advocate for the rights of all individuals to make their own informed decisions and voluntary action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding the importance of delivering genomic information and counselling fairly, accurately and without coercion or personal bias to facilitate decision making and manage expectations, • recognising that personal values of self and individuals may influence the care and support provided during decision-making, and that choices and actions may differ over time, • ensuring that the consent process is person centred, • promoting and supporting equitable access to genomic services.
<p>4. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the role of genomic and other factors in human development and variation; maintaining health; and in the manifestation, modification and prevention of disease expression, to underpin effective practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which includes core genomic concepts that form a sufficient knowledge base for understanding the implications of different conditions and clinical situations that may be encountered.
<p>5. Apply knowledge, understanding and context of genomic testing and information to underpin care and support for individuals and families prior to, during and following decision-making:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • including types, uses and limitations of genomic tests to prevent, predict or treat a health condition, • recognising that decision-making and testing in some situations may be time-critical. • incorporating awareness of the ethical, legal and social issues related to testing, recording, sharing and storage of genomic information and data, • incorporating awareness of the potential physical, emotional, psychological and social consequences of genomic information for individuals, family members, and communities.
<p>6. Examine your own competency of practice on a regular basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognising areas where professional development related to genomics would be beneficial, • maintaining awareness of clinical developments in genomics that are likely to be of most relevance to your area of practice, seeking further information on a case-by-case basis, • based on an understanding of the boundaries of your professional role in delivering genomic healthcare including the referral, provision or follow-up to genomic services.
<p>7. Obtain and communicate reliable, current information about genomics, for self, patients, families and colleagues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using information technologies and other information sources effectively to do so, • applying critical appraisal skills to assess the quality of information accessed, • ensuring the information is appropriate for the intended audience.
<p>8. Provide ongoing nursing care and support to patients, carers, families and communities with genomic healthcare needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being responsive to changing needs through the life-stages and during periods of uncertainty,

- demonstrating awareness about how a genomic test result can have implications for family members and might impact on family dynamics,
- working in partnership with family members, MDT and other agencies in the management of conditions,
- recognising the potential expertise of individuals, family members and carers with genomic healthcare needs, that develops over time and with experience.
- promote healthy behaviours that may be beneficial to alleviate symptoms or where applicable implement management strategies or lifestyle changes to help reduce risk.

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