

## Oral Suctioning

As an NDIS provider, Life Without Barriers (LWB) must comply with the NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators to deliver high quality and safe High Intensity Daily Personal Activities (HIDPA) support. In addition, trainers should use the [High Intensity Support Skills Descriptors](#) to ensure the training they offer equips LWB staff with the skills and knowledge expected to provide high-intensity supports.

To support this, on the next page is a table to guide Appropriately Qualified Health Practitioners (AQHP) in the training requirements regarding the provision of oral suctioning.

When training LWB staff in oral suctioning, please include ALL the essential elements relevant to the person's plan and support task.

You will be asked to complete an endorsement following training to confirm:

- you have accessed the NDIS LWB 5619 HIDPA Oral Suctioning - Training Essentials (this document)
- you have accessed the relevant LWB HIDPA Support Procedure
- the names of the staff member/s you trained in the person's plan and support task/s
- that the staff member/s were assessed as competent and effectively demonstrated skills, knowledge and understanding associated with the plan, or whether further training is required.

If you have any additional questions regarding the training and requirements of our staff, please contact our Professional Learning Team at [LearningDMH@lwb.org.au](mailto:LearningDMH@lwb.org.au).

Thank you for working in partnership with LWB to maintain the safety and well-being of the people we support, and assist us in complying with the [NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators](#) related to the provision of oral suctioning.

<b>Essential Training Element</b>	<b>Training Outcome</b> LWB staff members will practically demonstrate:
<b>Understands the anatomy of the upper respiratory tract, the purpose of oral suctioning and complications associated with the procedure</b>	Knowledge of the basic anatomy of the upper respiratory tract.
	An understanding of the need for oral suctioning and the purpose for suctioning.
	An understanding of the person’s Oral Suctioning Plan and when and if suctioning is required.
	An understanding of any complications related to the procedure.
<b>Emergency Response</b>	An understanding of when to stop the procedure and what action to take.
<b>Administer Oral Suctioning as per the person’s plan</b>	How to check the person’s Oral Suctioning Plan before commencing the procedure.
	How to wash hands and put on gloves, an apron and eye protection.
	How to gather equipment and prepare the area.
	How to open the suction catheter and attach it to the suction tubing without contamination.
	How to set up the suction equipment and check that the suction pressure is correct.
	How to place the suction catheter appropriately inside the oral cavity without using suction.
	How to apply suction while withdrawing the suction catheter in a rotating movement.
	An understanding of repeating the procedure as required.
How to monitor the person for distress and complications throughout the procedure.	

Essential Training Element	Training Outcome LWB staff members will practically demonstrate:
	How to flush the suction equipment with water and storing safely on completion of the procedure.
Shows respect for the individual and works with them to make the process comfortable	Ensuring support practice respects the person throughout the process.
	An explanation of each step they take to the person, and seek their consent before performing any tasks.
	Actively involving the person in their support, as outlined in their plan, and to their chosen level.
	How to assist the person into the correct position for the procedure and reassuring them throughout the process.
Health, Safety and Environment	How to follow hygiene and infection control procedures. For example, they wash their hands and put on clean gloves before commencing activities.
	How to clean and dispose of all equipment and waste appropriately.
	Appropriate and accurate documentation, and when it is completed.