



**General Certificate of Education (A-level) Applied
January 2011**

Health and Social Care

HC15

**(Specification
8621/8623/8626/8627/8629)**

Unit 15: Clients with Disabilities

Report on the Examination

Further copies of this Report on **the Examination** are available from: aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2011 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

Copyright

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered centres for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

The Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 3644723) and a registered charity (registered charity number 1073334).
Registered address: AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

General Comments

Candidates were generally well-prepared for this examination and there was evidence that the best candidates were able to access all four questions equally and secure 60 or more of the 80 available marks.

Question 1

01 All candidates achieved some marks here, mostly for identifying, smoking, lack of exercise, a diet high in fats/carbohydrates/salt and/or excessive consumption of alcohol. Few candidates gained full marks as the technical detail of how these choices lead to a stroke was not widely evident. Candidates should also be precise in their use of language since, 'drinking alcohol' or 'poor diet' alone cannot secure marks.

02/03 Candidates need to know the technical detail to secure full marks. It was encouraging to see that many candidates did.

04 There was a surprisingly poor response to this question with only very few candidates able to gain full marks. Candidates are required to know 'Caring skills' for HC01 1 as well as HC15 and this type of question regularly appears on this paper. Candidates are required to name three caring skills correctly and apply them to the scenario. Many candidates simply did not know the caring skills.

Question 2

05/06 Many candidates knew at least two common signs and symptoms of cerebral palsy and over 80% of candidates were able to give correct detail about how cerebral palsy is caused. This was very encouraging.

07 Most candidates gained some marks here, many achieving over half marks, as they were able to identify relevant practitioners and knew how the practitioner provided care. However, far fewer candidates tackled the aspect of the question which required them to 'outline how this might affect the individual's quality of life' Equally, they struggled to think of different ways in which the practitioners can affect quality of life and repeated 'improve independence' of the individual, for example.

Question 3

08/09/10/11 The majority of candidates were able to give at least one cause of spina bifida, knew that an operation could be provided straight after birth and over half were able to describe a test to detect the presence of spina bifida before birth. Few candidates were able to explain how spina bifida leads to the inability to walk.

12 Many candidates were able to gain half marks on this more stretching question about barriers faced by Kamil. Several candidates discussed problems with physical access, even though the question required **other** types of barriers. The best candidates used their knowledge of the DDA (this was required to secure 7 marks or above). Many candidates suggested Kamil would be better off in a special school. In this instance, candidates would do better to prepare how mainstream education can work for Kamil, showing knowledge of special educational needs provision. Employment and transport barriers were generally discussed well.

Question 4

13 Candidates were well-prepared for this question with the majority securing over half marks showing a sound knowledge of the care planning cycle.

14 This question proved the most difficult with only very few candidates showing any knowledge of the NHS and Community Care Act.

15 In contrast, candidates were very well prepared for this question for which many gained full marks and 70% over half marks). Candidates were able to discuss both the advantages and disadvantages of a disabled person directly employing their own personal care assistant and contrast this arrangement with domiciliary care provided by the local authority.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.