


**Work Health Safety: Safe Work Practice: Support
Walking a dog**

 Risks	Risk rating	Risk Controls
Injury from fall/trip	Likelihood: E Consequence: 4 Rating = LOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff to be attentive to where/how they are walking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow plenty of time, don't be rushed
Sunburn or heat exhaustion due to prolonged sun/heat exposure	Likelihood: E Consequence: 4 Rating = LOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If possible do not walk dog between 10am – 3pm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hats mandatory for staff participating in outside activities during the day. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff to bring and apply sunscreen
Manual handling injury when using lead	Likelihood E Consequence 4 Rating = LOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allow plenty of time - don't be rushed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staff use a squat position to maintain natural curves of the spine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attempt to walk dog to heel rather than allowing dog to pull at end of lead
Bite from dog	Likelihood D Consequence 4 Rating = LOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Only docile dogs to be walked <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Take time for dog to become accustomed to you
Infection from contact with dog faeces	Likelihood D Consequence 4 Rating = LOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use a plastic bag to pick up the dog's droppings

Equipment required:

<i>Mercy Services equipment</i>	<i>Others equipment</i>
Mobile phone Worker to wear <u>footwear</u> that is fully enclosed, slip resistant sole, water repellent/resistant and provides adequate support. Personal Protective Equipment required:	Plastic bag

Activity	Worker behaviour	Client/other's behaviour
1. Preparation	a. Allow dog time to become accustomed to you b. Put harness or lead on dog.	a. Client to tell volunteer/ staff if dog is unwell or likely to be agitated
2. Walk the dog	a. Walk dog keeping tight hold of lead b. Use a squat position to pick up dog droppings	
3. Take dog out of vehicle	a. At end of walk, check it is safe to release the dog (e.g. other people in the area or traffic). b. Remove harness from dog.	
4. Follow-up	a. Document any incident and report it to your Coordinator immediately	

As at 11/05/17 this Safe Work Practice is authorised for use in:

<i>Service</i>	<i>Position</i>
Home Care Packages	Community Care Assistant
Home Support Program/NDIS	Community Care Assistant

Date for review of safe work practice: May 2020 (or if injury or changes require)

COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

Walking a dog

Employee _____

Assessor _____

Date _____

Desired Outcome:

Volunteers/staff to walk a dog without causing harm to self or others

Knowledge required:

Performance Criteria	Competence demonstrated	Comment
Preparation		
a. Allows dog time to become accustomed to you		
b. Puts harness or lead on dog.		
Walk the dog		
a. Walks dog keeping tight hold of lead		
b. Uses a squat position to pick up dog droppings		
Take dog out of vehicle		
a. At end of walk, checks it is safe to release the dog (e.g. other people in the area or traffic).		
b. Removes harness from dog.		
Follow-up		
a. Documents any incident and reports it to your Coordinator immediately		

Is the worker assessed as being competent? YES NO

Any required follow up action/training: _____

Signature of employee Date.....

Signature of assessor Date.....