

The compilation of the following information serves only as a resource and as guidelines to assist candidates in preparing for certification. This is not intended to be taken or used as the sole set of information needed to become a Certified Child and Youth Care Worker.

Group B Basic Care

- 2. choose health issue and discuss structure of environment and include societal and cultural factors (anorexia/bulimia, STD, FAE/FAS, depression, violence)**

The following is an outline for answering this question as points/areas to include

For this question, it would be advisable that individuals focus on and select an area that they are familiar with or have had a great amount of experience in. Some individuals may be working in programs that specialize in any of the above areas and can draw upon their experiences within their respective programs.

Here are some areas to consider if you decide to focus on STDs (now being referred to as Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs))

- provide educational information on universal precautions and define what exactly is universal precautions and how this is practiced in the work place
- include ways you could structure the environment for yourself and others and this includes clients and co-workers. You may include the following in your response; and this may be through educating others, posting signs, following policies, working with a high risk population and ways you can structure the environment in your specific program
- describe how you deal with handling and disposing of body fluids and ways you ensure personal safety awareness
- provide information on similarities/differences between STD's and communicable diseases in relation to HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis B- C
- a question to consider and include in your response is; In structuring the environment how do you educate the clients you work with? I.e. relationships, safe sex, etc.
- the recent influx of immigrants and refugees accessing community services and being placed in residential facilities makes it even more necessary to look at the AIDS epidemic in some countries and how this may impact your agency and the manner in which an agency delivers services. It then becomes necessary to address immigrant risk factors, cultural/society taboos, stigma and secrecy.

A candidate can focus in on any of the above area and construct a response using the same framework above and to include what you may know about emerging and current trends.

For example; **other interesting aspects to note is the recent influx of immigrants and refugees and the many health problems and risks they may present. Specifically refugees that enter the country are not required to undergo or pass a complete medical examination prior to coming into the country.**

- Incorporate the Self Assessment Tool – **A**ttitude, **S**kills, and **K**nowledge: Indicate/comment on how your area of focus is reflected in your day to day work with clients and give examples. For example;
 - Attitude: comment on how your attitude regarding dealing with clients that are or may have contracted an STD comes out in your daily work. Consider some of the following; Confidentiality, health, safety and well being of the client (refer to certification manual in this section for more attitude areas)
 - Skills: refer to the list in the certification manual and select some and comment on your level of performance (as above)
 - Knowledge: comment on any available resources in your community, prevention and management of STD's and communicable diseases. What are your agency's policies around universal precautions?

Some other areas that can be included and expanded on in your response are; diseases that are reportable (by law doctors and other health care professionals are obligated to report any exposure to or detection of communicable diseases to the appropriate health organizations) You can address this in the ways the environment can be structured and what if any is your responsibility and the responsibility of your agency.

Individual care is another area that you can include around available vaccination and your personal and professional views about this being a requirement or individual choice for individuals working with high a risk population.

References:

Google (advanced) search: “body image and anorexia on teens social and cultural factors”

Other websites having direct information related to the answer outline for STD’s

www.ucalgary.ca/egallery/volume2/small.html

<http://www.manitoba.ca/student/handbook/sex.html>

<http://www.region.peel.on.ca/health/hsexual/htmlfiles/stdhepc.hrm>

http://www.aidsalgary.org/pdf/27_Immigrants.pdf

In this area an individual can really expand their learning and have a substantial amount of information to include in the response by visiting a variety of community agencies such as; local health clinics, HIV Edmonton agencies that specialize in working with the immigrant population such as Catholic Social Services or the Multicultural Health Brokers Co-operative Ltd.