**2019 NCLEX-RN Test Plan Categories – Long Form from** [**HealthySimulation.com**](https://www.healthysimulation.com/)

(Check off all areas included in Simulation Scenario)

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| **Scenario Name/Number** |  |
| **Course** |  |
| **Faculty Content Expert** |  |
| **NCLEX Content Review Done By** |  |
| **Date**  |  |

**Safe and Effective Care Environment**

***Management of Care***

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|  |  | Highlight or Circle Area Covered. |
|  | Advanced Directives/Self-Determination/Life Planning | Assess client and/or staff member knowledge of advance directives (e.g., living will, health careagent/proxy, Power of Attorney for Health Care)Integrate advanced directives into client plan of careProvide client with information about advance directives, self-care determination, life planning |
|  | Advocacy | Discuss identified treatment options with client and respect their decisionsProvide information on advocacy to staff membersAct in the role of client advocateUtilize advocacy resources appropriately (e.g., social worker, chain of command, interpreter) |
|  | Assignment, Delegation, Supervision | Identify tasks for assignment or delegation based on client needsDelegate and assign appropriate task based on client’s needs to personnel with competency to perform taskAssign and supervise care of client provided by others (e.g., LPN/VN, assistive personnel, other RNs)Communicate tasks to be completed and report client concerns immediatelyOrganize workload to manage time effectivelyUtilize the rights of delegation (e.g., right task, right circumstances, right person, right direction/communication, right supervision/evaluation)Evaluate delegated tasks to ensure correct completion of activityEvaluate ability of staff members to perform assigned tasks considering personnel’s allowable tasks/duties, competency and ability to use sound judgment and decision-makingEvaluate effectiveness of staff members’ time management skills |
|  | Case Management | Explore resources available to assist the client with achieving or maintaining independenceAssess the client’s need for materials and equipment (e.g., oxygen, suction machine, wound care supplies)Practice and advocate for cost effective carePlan individualized care for client based on need (e.g., client diagnosis, self-care ability, prescribed treatments)Provide client with information on discharge procedures to home or community settingInitiate, evaluate, and update client plan of care |
|  | Client Rights | Recognize the client’s right to refuse treatment/proceduresDiscuss treatment options/decisions with clientProvide education to clients and staff about client rights and responsibilitiesEvaluate client/staff understanding of client rightsAdvocate for client rights and needs |
|  | Collaboration with Interdisciplinary Team | Identify the need for interdisciplinary conferencesIdentify significant information to report to other disciplines (e.g., health care provider, pharmacist, social worker, respiratory therapist)Review plan of care to ensure continuity across disciplinesCollaborate with inter-professional team members when providing client careServe as resource person to other staff |
|  | Concepts of Management | Identify roles/responsibilities of health care team membersPlan overall strategies to address client problemsAct as liaison between client and others (e.g., coordinate or manage care)Manage conflict among clients and health care staffEvaluate management outcomes |
|  | Confidentiality/Information Security | Assess staff member and client understanding of confidentiality requirementsMaintain client confidentiality and privacyIntervene appropriately when confidentiality has been breached by staff members |
|  | Continuity of Care | Provide and receive hand off of care (report) on assigned clientsUse documents to record and communicate client information (e.g., medical record, referral/ transfer form)Use approved abbreviations and standard terminology when documenting carePerform procedures necessary to safely admit, transfer and/or discharge a clientFollow up on unresolved issues regarding client care (e.g., laboratory results, client requests) |
|  | Establishing Priorities | Apply knowledge of pathophysiology when establishing priorities for interventions with multiple clientsPrioritize the delivery of client careEvaluate plan of care for multiple clients and revise plan of care as needed |
|  | Ethical Practice | Recognize ethical dilemmas and take appropriate actionInform client/staff members of ethical issues affecting client carePractice in a manner consistent with a code of ethics for nursesEvaluate outcomes of interventions to promote ethical practice |
|  | Informed Consent | Identify appropriate person to provide informed consent for clientProvide written materials in client’s spoken language, when possibleDescribe components of informed consentParticipate in obtaining informed consentVerify the client receives appropriate education and consents for care and procedures |
|  | Information Technology | Identify appropriate person to provide informed consent for clientProvide written materials in client’s spoken language, when possibleDescribe components of informed consentParticipate in obtaining informed consentVerify the client receives appropriate education and consents for care and procedures |
|  | Legal Rights and Responsibilities | Identify legal issues affecting the client (e.g., refusing treatment)Identify and manage the client’s valuables according to facility/agency policyRecognize limitations of self and others and utilize resourcesReview facility policy and legal considerations prior to agreeing to serve as an interpreter for staff or primary health care providerEducate client/staff on legal issuesReport client conditions as required by law (e.g., abuse/neglect, communicable disease)Provide care within the legal scope of practice |
|  | Performance Improvement (QI) | Identify legal issues affecting the client (e.g., refusing treatment)Identify and manage the client’s valuables according to facility/agency policyRecognize limitations of self and others and utilize resourcesReview facility policy and legal considerations prior to agreeing to serve as an interpreter for staff or primary health care providerEducate client/staff on legal issuesReport client conditions as required by law (e.g., abuse/neglect, communicable disease)Provide care within the legal scope of practice |
|  | Referrals | Assess the need to refer clients for assistance with actual or potential problems (e.g., physical therapy, speech therapy)Assess the need for referrals and obtain necessary orders Identify community resources for the client (e.g., respite care, social services, shelters)Identify which documents to include when referring a client (e.g., medical record, referral form) |

***Safety and Infection Control***

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|  | Accident/Error/Injury Prevention | Assess client for allergies and intervene as needed (e.g., food, latex, environmental allergies)Determine client/staff member knowledge of safety proceduresIdentify factors that influence accident/injury prevention (e.g., age, developmental stage, lifestyle, mental status)Identify deficits that may impede client safety (e.g., visual, hearing, sensory/perceptual)Identify and verify prescriptions for treatments that may contribute to an accident or injury (does not include medication)Identify and facilitate correct use of infant and child car seatsProvide client with appropriate method to signal staff membersProtect client from injury (e.g., falls, electrical hazards)Review necessary modifications with client to reduce stress on specific muscle or skeletal groups (e.g., frequent changing of position, routine stretching of the shoulders, neck, arms, hands, fingers)Implement seizure precautions for at-risk clientsMake appropriate room assignments for cognitively impaired clientsEnsure proper identification of client when providing care Verify appropriateness and accuracy of a treatment order |
|  | Emergency Response Plan | Determine which client(s) to recommend for discharge in a disaster situationIdentify nursing roles in disaster planningUse clinical decision-making/critical thinking for emergency response planParticipate in emergency response plans (e.g., internal/external disaster, bomb threat, community planning)Participate in disaster planning activities/drills |
|  | Ergonomic Principles | Assess client ability to balance, transfer and use assistive devices prior to planning care (e.g., crutches, walker)Provide instruction and information to client about body positions that eliminate potential for repetitive stress injuriesUse ergonomic principles when providing care (e.g., safe client handling, proper lifting)  |
|  | Handling Hazardous and Infectious Materials | Identify biohazardous, flammable and infectious materialsFollow procedures for handling biohazardous and hazardous materials Demonstrate safe handling techniques to staff and clientEnsure safe implementation of internal radiation therapy |
|  | Home Safety | Assess need for client home modifications (e.g., lighting, handrails, kitchen safety)Apply knowledge of client pathophysiology to home safety interventionsEducate client on safety issues Encourage client to use protective equipment when using devices that can cause injuryEvaluate client care environment for fire/environmental hazard |
|  | Reporting of Incident/Event/Irregular Occurrence/Variance | Identify need/situation where reporting of incident/event/irregular occurrence/variance is appropriateAcknowledge and document practice errors and near misses (e.g., incident report for medication error) Evaluate response to error/event/occurrenceReport unsafe practice of health care personnel and intervene as appropriate (e.g., substance abuse, improper care, staffing practices)  |
|  | Safe Use of Equipment | Inspect equipment for safety hazards (e.g., frayed electrical cords, loose/missing parts)Teach client about the safe use of equipment needed for health careFacilitate appropriate and safe use of equipment Remove malfunctioning equipment from client care area and report the problem to appropriate personnel |
|  | Security Plan | Use clinical decision making/critical thinking in situations related to security planningApply principles of triage and evacuation procedures/protocolsFollow security plan and procedures (e.g., newborn nursery security, violence, controlled access)  |
|  | Standard Precautions/Transmission-Based Precautions/Surgical Asepsis | Assess client care area for sources of infectionUnderstand communicable diseases and the modes of organism transmission (e.g., airborne, droplet, contact)Apply principles of infection control (e.g., hand hygiene, aseptic technique, isolation, sterile technique, universal/standard precautions) Follow correct policy and procedures when reporting a client with a communicable diseaseEducate client and staff regarding infection control measures Utilize appropriate precautions for immunocompromised clientsUse appropriate technique to set up a sterile field/maintain asepsisEvaluate infection control precautions implemented by staff membersEvaluate whether aseptic technique is performed correctly |
|  | Use of Restraints/Safety Devices | Assess appropriateness of the type of restraint/safety device usedFollow requirements for use of restraints Monitor/evaluate client response to restraints/safety device |

**Health Promotion and Maintenance**

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|  | Aging Process | Assess client’s reactions to expected age-related changesProvide care and education for the newborn, infant and toddler client from birth through 2 years Provide care and education for the preschool, school age and adolescent client ages 3 through 17 years Provide care and education for the adult client ages 18 through 64 years Provide care and education for the adult client ages 65 years and over  |
|  | Ante/Intra/Postpartum and Newborn Care | Assess client’s psychosocial response to pregnancy (e.g., support systems, perception of pregnancy, coping mechanisms)Assess client for symptoms of postpartum complications (e.g., hemorrhage, infection)Recognize cultural differences in childbearing practicesCalculate expected delivery dateCheck fetal heart rate during routine prenatal examsAssist client with performing/learning newborn care (e.g., feeding)Provide prenatal care and education Provide care and education to an antepartum client or a client in labor Provide postpartum care and education Provide discharge instructions (e.g., postpartum and newborn care)Evaluate client’s ability to care for the newborn |
|  | Developmental Stages and Transitions | Developmental Stages and TransitionsIdentify expected physical, cognitive and psychosocial stages of developmentIdentify expected body image changes associated with client developmental age (e.g., aging, pregnancy)Identify family structures and roles of family members (e.g., nuclear, blended, adoptive)Compare client development to expected age/developmental stage and report any deviationsAssess impact of change on family system (e.g., one-parent family, divorce, ill family member)Recognize cultural and religious influences that may impact family functioningAssist client to cope with life transitions (e.g., attachment to newborn, parenting, puberty, retirement)Modify approaches to care in accordance with client developmental stage (use age appropriate explanations of procedures and treatments)Provide education to client/staff members about expected age-related changes and age-specific growth and development (e.g., developmental stages)Evaluate client’s achievement of expected developmental level (e.g., developmental milestones)Evaluate impact of expected body image changes on client and family |
|  | Health Promotion/Disease Prevention | Identify risk factors for disease/illness (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, lifestyle)Assess and educate clients about health risks based on family, population, and/or community characteristics Assess client’s readiness to learn, learning preferences and barriers to learning Plan and/or participate in community health education Educate client on actions to promote/maintain health and prevent disease (e.g., smoking cessation, diet, weight loss)Inform client of appropriate immunization schedulesIntegrate complementary therapies into health promotion activities for the well clientEducate client about health promotion and maintenance recommendations (e.g., physician visits, immunizations) Provide follow up to the client following participation in health promotion program (e.g., diet counseling)Assist client in maintaining an optimum level of healthEvaluate client understanding of health promotion behaviors/activities (e.g., weight control, exercise actions) |
|  | Health Screening | Apply knowledge of pathophysiology to health screeningIdentify risk factors linked to ethnicity (e.g., hypertension, diabetes)Perform health history/health and risk assessments (e.g., lifestyle, family and genetic history)Perform targeted screening assessments (e.g., vision, nutrition) Utilize appropriate procedure and interviewing techniques when taking the client health history |
|  | High Risk Behaviors | Assess client lifestyle practice risks that may impact health (e.g., excessive sun exposure, lack of regular exercise)Assist client to identify behaviors/risks that may impact healthEducate client about prevention and treatment of high risk health behaviors (e.g., smoking cessation, safe sexual practices, needle exchange) |
|  | Lifestyle Choices | Assess client’s lifestyle choicesAssess client’s attitudes/perceptions on sexualityAssess client’s need/desire for contraceptionIdentify contraindications to chosen contraceptive method (e.g., smoking, compliance, medical conditions)Identify expected outcomes for family planning methodsRecognize client who is socially or environmentally isolatedEducate client on sexuality issues (e.g., family planning, safe sexual practices, menopause, impotence)Evaluate client alternative or homeopathic health care practices (e.g., massage therapy, acupuncture, herbal medicine and minerals) |
|  | Self-Care | Assess client ability to manage care in home environment and plan care accordingly Consider client self-care needs before developing or revising care planAssist primary caregivers working with the client to meet self-care goals |
|  | Techniques of Physical Assessment | Techniques of Physical AssessmentApply knowledge of nursing procedures and psychomotor skills to techniques of physical assessmentChoose physical assessment equipment and technique appropriate for the client (e.g., age of client, measurement of vital signs)Perform comprehensive health assessments  |

**Psychosocial Integrity**

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|  | Abuse/Neglect | Assess client for abuse or neglect and intervene as appropriate Identify risk factors for domestic, child, elder abuse/neglect and sexual abusePlan interventions for victims/suspected victims of abuseCounsel victims/suspected victims of abuse and their families on coping strategiesProvide a safe environment for the abused/neglected clientEvaluate client response to interventions |
|  | Behavioral Interventions | Assess client’s appearance, mood and psychomotor behavior and identify/respond to inappropriate/abnormal behaviorAssist client with achieving and maintaining self-control of behavior (e.g., behavior modification)Assist client to develop and use strategies to decrease anxietyOrient the client to realityParticipate in group sessions (e.g., support groups)Incorporate behavioral management techniques when caring for a client Evaluate client’s response to treatment plan |
|  | Coping Mechanisms | Assess client’s support systems and available resourcesAssess client’s ability to adapt to temporary/permanent role changesAssess client’s reaction to a diagnosis of acute or chronic mental illness (e.g., rationalization, hopefulness, anger)Assess client’s ability to cope with life changes and provide support Identify situations which may necessitate role changes for a client (e.g., spouse with chronic illness, death of parent)Provide support to the client with unexpected altered body image (e.g., alopecia, amputation, burns)Evaluate the constructive use of defense mechanisms by a clientEvaluate whether the client has successfully adapted to situational role changes (e.g., accept dependency on others) |
|  | Crisis Intervention | Assess the potential for violence and use safety precautions Identify the client in crisisUse crisis intervention techniques to assist the client in copingApply knowledge of client psychopathology to crisis interventionGuide the client to resources for recovery from crisis (e.g., social supports) |
|  | Cultural Awareness/Cultural Influences on Health | Assess the importance of client culture/ethnicity when planning/providing/evaluating careRecognize cultural issues that may impact the client’s understanding/acceptance of psychiatric diagnosisIncorporate client cultural practices and beliefs when planning and providing care Respect cultural background/practices of the clientEvaluate and document how client language needs were met |
|  | End-of-Life Care | Assess client’s ability to cope with end-of-life interventionsIdentify end-of-life needs of the client (e.g., financial concerns, fear, loss of control, role changes)Recognize the need for and provide psychosocial support to the family/caregiverAssist client in resolution of end-of-life issuesProvide end-of-life care and education to clients |
|  | Family Dynamics | Assess barriers/stressors that impact family functioning (e.g., meeting client care needs, divorce)Assess family dynamics to determine plan of care Assess parental techniques related to disciplineEncourage the client’s participation in group/family therapyAssist client to integrate new members into family structure (e.g., new infant, blended family)Evaluate resources available to assist family functioning |
|  | Grief and Loss | Provide care for a client experiencing grief or loss Support the client in anticipatory grievingInform the client of expected reactions to grief and loss (e.g., denial, fear)Provide the client with resources to adjust to loss/bereavement (e.g., individual counseling, support groups)Evaluate the client’s coping and fears related to grief and loss |
|  | Mental Health Concepts | Identify signs and symptoms of impaired cognition (e.g., memory loss, poor hygiene)Recognize signs and symptoms of acute and chronic mental illness (e.g., schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder)Recognize client use of defense mechanismsAssess client adherence to treatment planAssess client for alterations in mood, judgment, cognition and reasoningApply knowledge of client psychopathology to mental health concepts applied in individual/ group/family therapyProvide care and education for acute and chronic psychosocial health issues (e.g., addictions/ dependencies, depression, dementia, eating disorders) Evaluate client’s ability to adhere to treatment planEvaluate client’s abnormal response to the aging process (e.g., depression) |
|  | Religious and Spiritual Influences on Health | Identify the emotional problems of client or client needs that are related to religious/spiritual beliefs (e.g., spiritual distress, conflict between recommended treatment and beliefs)Assess psychosocial, spiritual, and/or occupational factors affecting care and plan interventions Assess and plan interventions that meet the client’s emotional and spiritual needsEvaluate whether the client’s religious/spiritual needs are met |
|  | Sensory/Perception Alterations | Identify time, place, and stimuli surrounding the appearance of symptomsAssist client to develop strategies for dealing with sensory and thought disturbancesProvide care for a client experiencing visual, auditory and/or cognitive distortions Provide care in a nonthreatening and nonjudgmental mannerProvide reality-based diversions |
|  | Stress Management | Recognize nonverbal cues to physical and/or psychological stressors Assess stressors, including environmental, that affect client care (e.g., noise, fear, uncertainty, change, lack of knowledge)Implement measures to reduce environmental stressors (e.g., noise, temperature)Provide information to client on stress management techniques (e.g., relaxation techniques, exercise, meditation)Evaluate client’s use of stress management techniques |
|  | Substance Use and Other Disorders and Dependencies | Assess client’s reactions to the diagnosis/treatment of substance-related disorderAssess client for substance abuse, dependency, withdrawal, or toxicities and intervene as appropriate Plan and provide care to clients experiencing substance-related withdrawal or toxicity (e.g., nicotine, opioid, sedative)Educate client on substance use diagnosis and treatment planProvide care and/or support for a client with non-substance-related dependencies (e.g., gambling, sexual addiction)Provide symptom management for clients experiencing withdrawal or toxicityEncourage client to participate in support groupsEvaluate client’s response to a treatment plan and revise as needed |
|  | Support Systems | Assist family to plan care for client with impaired cognition (e.g., Alzheimer’s disease)Encourage client’s involvement in the health care decision-making processEvaluate client’s feelings about the diagnosis/treatment plan |
|  | Therapeutic Communications | Assess verbal and nonverbal client communication needsRespect the client’s personal values and beliefsAllow time to communicate with the clientUse therapeutic communication techniques Encourage client to verbalize feelings (e.g., fear, discomfort)Evaluate the effectiveness of communications with the client |
|  | Therapeutic Environment | Identify external factors that may interfere with client recovery (e.g., stressors, family dynamics)Make client room assignments that support the therapeutic milieuPromote a therapeutic environment |

**Physiological Integrity**

***Basic Care and Comfort***

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|  | Assistive Devices | Assess the client for actual/potential difficulty with communication and speech/vision/hearing problemsAssess the client’s use of assistive devices (e.g., prosthetic limbs, hearing aid)Assist client to compensate for a physical or sensory impairment (e.g., assistive devices, positioning, compensatory techniques)Manage the client who uses assistive devices or prostheses (e.g., eating utensils, telecommunication devices, dentures)Evaluate the correct use of assistive devices by the client |
|  | Elimination | Assess and manage client with an alteration in elimination Perform irrigations (e.g., of bladder, ear, eye) Provide skin care to clients who are incontinent (e.g., wash frequently, barrier creams/ointments)Use alternative methods to promote voidingEvaluate whether the client’s ability to eliminate is restored/maintained |
|  | Mobility/Immobility | Identify complications of immobility (e.g., skin breakdown, contractures)Assess the client for mobility, gait, strength and motor skillsPerform skin assessment and/or implement measures to maintain skin integrity and prevent skin breakdown Apply knowledge of nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when providing care to clients with immobilityApply, maintain or remove orthopedic devices Educate the client regarding proper methods used when repositioning an immobilized clientMaintain the client’s correct body alignmentMaintain/correct the adjustment of client’s traction device (e.g., external fixation device, halo traction, skeletal traction)Implement measures to promote circulation (e.g., active or passive range of motion, positioning and mobilization)Evaluate the client’s response to interventions to prevent complications from immobility |
|  | Non-Pharmacological Comfort Interventions | Assess the client’s need for alternative and/or complementary therapyAssess the client’s need for palliative care/symptom management or non-curative treatmentsAssess client for pain and intervene as appropriate Recognize differences in client perception and response to painApply knowledge of pathophysiology to non-pharmacological comfort/palliative care interventionsIncorporate alternative/complementary therapies into client plan of care (e.g., music therapy, relaxation therapy)Recognize complementary therapies and identify potential contraindications (e.g., aromatherapy, acupressure, supplements)Counsel client regarding palliative/symptom management, non-curative treatments or careRespect client palliative care/symptom management or non-curative treatment choicesAssist client in receiving appropriate end-of-life physical symptom managementPlan measures to provide comfort interventions to clients with anticipated or actual impaired comfortProvide non-pharmacological comfort measures Evaluate the client’s response to non-pharmacological interventions (e.g., pain rating scale, verbal reports)Evaluate the outcomes of alternative and/or complementary therapy practicesEvaluate outcome of palliative care/symptom management or non-curative treatments |
|  | Nutrition and Oral Hydration | Assess client ability to eat (e.g., chew, swallow)Assess client for actual/potential specific food and medication interactionsConsider client choices regarding meeting nutritional requirements and/or maintaining dietary restrictions, including mention of specific food itemsMonitor client hydration status (e.g., edema, signs and symptoms of dehydration)Initiate calorie counts for clientsApply knowledge of mathematics to client nutrition (e.g., body mass index)Monitor the client’s nutritional status Promote the client’s independence in eatingProvide/maintain special diets based on the client diagnosis/nutritional needs and cultural considerations (e.g., low sodium, high protein, calorie restrictions)Provide nutritional supplements as needed (e.g., high protein drinks)Provide client nutrition through tube feedings Evaluate side effects of client tube feedings and intervene as needed (e.g., diarrhea, dehydration)Evaluate client intake and output and intervene as needed Evaluate the impact of disease/illness on nutritional status of a client |
|  | Personal Hygiene | Assess the client for personal hygiene habits/routineAssess and/or intervene in client performance of activities of daily living Provide information to the client on required adaptations for performing activities of daily living (e.g., shower chair, hand rails)Perform postmortem care |
|  | Rest and Sleep | Assess client sleep/rest pattern and intervene as needed Apply knowledge of client pathophysiology to rest and sleep interventionsSchedule client care activities to promote adequate rest |

***Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies***

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|  | Adverse Effects/Contraindications/Side Effects/Interactions | Identify a contraindication to the administration of a medication to the clientIdentify actual and potential incompatibilities of prescribed client medicationsIdentify symptoms/evidence of an allergic reaction to medicationsAssess the client for actual or potential side effects and adverse effects of medications (e.g., prescribed, over-the-counter, herbal supplements, preexisting condition)Provide information to the client on common side effects/adverse effects/potential interactions of medications and inform the client when to notify the primary health care providerNotify the primary health care provider of side effects, adverse effects and contraindications of medications and parenteral therapyDocument side effects and adverse effects of medications and parenteral therapyMonitor for anticipated interactions among the client’s prescribed medications and fluids (e.g., oral, topical, subcutaneous, IM, IV)Evaluate and document the client’s response to actions taken to counteract side effects and adverse effects of medications and parenteral therapy |
|  | Blood and Blood Products | Identify the client according to facility/agency policy prior to administration of red blood cells/ blood products (e.g., prescription for administration, correct type, correct client, cross matching complete, consent obtained)Check the client for appropriate venous access for red blood cell/blood product administration (e.g., correct gauge needle, integrity of access site)Document necessary information on the administration of red blood cells/blood productsAdminister blood products and evaluate client response |
|  | Central Venous Access Devices | Educate the client on the reason for and care of a venous access deviceAccess central venous access devices Provide care for client with a central venous access device |
|  | Dosage Calculation | Perform calculations needed for medication administration Use clinical decision making/critical thinking when calculating dosages |
|  | Expected Actions and Outcomes | Obtain information on a client’s prescribed medications (e.g., review formulary, consult pharmacist)Use clinical decision making/critical thinking when addressing expected effects/outcomes of medications (e.g., oral, intradermal, subcutaneous, IM, topical)Evaluate the client’s use of medications over time (e.g., prescription, over-the-counter, home remedies)Evaluate client response to medication |
|  | Medication Administration | Educate client about medications Educate client on medication self-administration proceduresPrepare and administer medications using rights of medication administration Review pertinent data prior to medication administration (e.g., contraindications, lab results, allergies, potential interactions) Mix medications from two vials when necessaryAdminister and document medications given by common routes (e.g., oral, topical)Administer and document medications given by parenteral routes (e.g., intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous)Participate in medication reconciliation process Titrate dosage of medication based on assessment and ordered parameters Dispose of unused medications according to facility/agency policyHandle and maintain medication in a safe and controlled environment Evaluate appropriateness and accuracy of medication order for client Handle and/or administer high-risk medications |
|  | Parenteral/Intravenous Therapies | Identify appropriate veins that should be accessed for various therapiesEducate client on the need for intermittent parenteral fluid therapyApply knowledge and concepts of mathematics/nursing procedures/psychomotor skills when caring for a client receiving intravenous and parenteral therapyPrepare the client for intravenous catheter insertionMonitor the use of an infusion pump (e.g., IV, patient-controlled analgesia device)Monitor intravenous infusion and maintain site Evaluate the client’s response to intermittent parenteral fluid therapy |
|  | Pharmacological Pain Management | Assess client need for administration of a PRN pain medication (e.g., oral, topical, subcutaneous, IM, IV)Administer and document pharmacological pain management appropriate for client age and diagnoses (e.g., pregnancy, children, older adults)Administer medications for pain management Handle and/or administer controlled substances within regulatory guidelines Evaluate and document the client’s use and response to pain medications |
|  | Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) | Identify side effects/adverse events related to TPN and intervene as appropriate (e.g., hyperglycemia, fluid imbalance, infection)Educate client on the need for and use of TPNApply knowledge of nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when caring for a client receiving TPNApply knowledge of client pathophysiology and mathematics to TPN interventionsAdminister parenteral nutrition and evaluate client response |

***Reduction of Risk Potential***

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|  | Changes/Abnormalities in Vital Signs | Assess and respond to changes and/or trends in client vital signs Apply knowledge needed to perform related nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when assessing vital signsApply knowledge of client pathophysiology when measuring vital signsEvaluate invasive monitoring data (e.g., pulmonary artery pressure, intracranial pressure) |
|  | Diagnostic Tests | Apply knowledge of related nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when caring for clients undergoing diagnostic testingCompare client diagnostic findings with pre-test resultsPerform diagnostic testing (e.g., electrocardiogram, oxygen saturation, glucose monitoring) Perform fetal heart monitoringMonitor results of maternal and fetal diagnostic tests (e.g., non-stress test, amniocentesis, ultrasound)Monitor the results of diagnostic testing and intervene as needed |
|  | Laboratory Values | Identify laboratory values for ABGs (pH, PO2, PCO2, SaO2, HCO3), BUN, cholesterol (total), creatinine, glucose, glycosylated hemoglobin (HgbA1C), hematocrit, hemoglobin, INR, platelets, potassium, PT, PTT & APTT, sodium, WBCCompare client laboratory values to normal laboratory valuesEducate client about the purpose and procedure of prescribed laboratory testsObtain blood specimens (e.g., venipuncture, venous access device, central line) Obtain specimens other than blood for diagnostic testing (e.g., wound, stool, urine) Monitor client laboratory values (e.g., glucose testing results for the client with diabetes)Notify primary health care provider about laboratory test results |
|  | Potential for Alteration in Body Systems | Identify client potential for aspiration (e.g., feeding tube, sedation, swallowing difficulties)Identify client potential for skin breakdown (e.g., immobility, nutritional status, incontinence)Identify client with increased risk for insufficient vascular perfusion (e.g., immobilized limb, post- surgery, diabetes)Educate client on methods to prevent complications associated with activity level/diagnosed illness/disease (e.g., contractures, foot care for client with diabetes mellitus)Compare current client data to baseline client data (e.g., symptoms of illness/disease)Monitor client output for changes from baseline (e.g., nasogastric tube, emesis, stool, urine |
|  | Potential for Complications of Diagnostic Tests/Treatments/Procedures | Potential for Complications of Diagnostic Tests/Treatments/ProceduresAssess client for an abnormal response following a diagnostic test/procedure (e.g., dysrhythmia following cardiac catheterization)Apply knowledge of nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when caring for a client with potential for complicationsMonitor the client for signs of bleedingPosition the client to prevent complications following tests/treatments/procedures (e.g., elevate head of bed, immobilize extremity)Insert, maintain, or remove a nasal/oral gastrointestinal tube Insert, maintain, or remove a urinary catheter Insert, maintain, or remove a peripheral intravenous line Maintain tube patency (e.g., nasogastric tube for decompression, chest tubes)Maintain percutaneous feeding tube Apply and/or maintain devices used to promote venous return (e.g., anti-embolic stockings, sequential compression devices) Use precautions to prevent injury and/or complications associated with a procedure or diagnosis Provide care for client undergoing electroconvulsive therapy (e.g., monitor airway, assess for side effects, teach client about procedure)Intervene to manage potential circulatory complications (e.g., hemorrhage, embolus, shock)Intervene to prevent aspiration (e.g., check nasogastric tube placement)Intervene to prevent potential neurological complications (e.g., foot drop, numbness, tingling)Evaluate responses to procedures and treatments  |
|  | Potential for Complications from Surgical Procedures and Health Alternations | Apply knowledge of pathophysiology to monitoring for complications (e.g., recognize signs of thrombocytopenia)Evaluate the client’s response to postoperative interventions to prevent complications (e.g., prevent aspiration, promote venous return, promote mobility |
|  | System Specific Assessments | Assess the client for abnormal peripheral pulses after a procedure or treatmentAssess the client for abnormal neurological status (e.g., level of consciousness, muscle strength, mobility)Assess the client for peripheral edemaAssess the client for signs of hypoglycemia or hyperglycemiaIdentify factors that result in delayed wound healingRecognize trends and changes in client condition and intervene as needed Perform a risk assessment (e.g., sensory impairment, potential for falls, level of mobility, skin integrity)Perform focused assessments  |
|  | Therapeutic Procedures | Assess client response to recovery from local, regional or general anesthesiaApply knowledge of related nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when caring for clients undergoing therapeutic proceduresEducate client about treatments and procedures Educate client about home management of careUse precautions to prevent further injury when moving a client with a musculoskeletal condition (e.g., log-rolling, abduction pillow)Monitor the client before and after a procedure/surgery (e.g., casted extremity)Monitor effective functioning of therapeutic devices (e.g., chest tube, drainage tubes, wound drainage devices, continuous bladder irrigation)Provide preoperative or postoperative education Provide preoperative care Manage client during a procedure with moderate sedation Manage client following a procedure with moderate sedation |

***Physiological Adaptation***

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|  | Alterations in Body Systems | Assess adaptation of a client to health alteration, illness and/or diseaseAssess tube drainage during the time the client has an alteration in body systems (e.g., amount, color)Assess client for signs and symptoms of adverse effects of radiation therapyIdentify signs of potential prenatal complicationsIdentify signs, symptoms and incubation periods of infectious diseasesApply knowledge of nursing procedures, pathophysiology and psychomotor skills when caring for a client with an alteration in body systemsEducate client about managing health problems (e.g., chronic illness)Assist with invasive procedures (e.g., central line, thoracentesis, bronchoscopy) Implement and monitor phototherapy Implement interventions to address side/adverse effects of radiation therapy (e.g., dietary modifications, avoid sunlight)Maintain optimal temperature of client Monitor and care for clients on a ventilator Monitor wounds for signs and symptoms of infectionMonitor and maintain devices and equipment used for drainage (e.g., surgical wound drains, chest tube suction, negative pressure wound therapy) Perform and manage care of client receiving peritoneal dialysis Perform suctioning Perform wound care and/or dressing change Promote client progress toward recovery from an alteration in body systemsProvide ostomy care and/or education (e.g., tracheal, enteral) Provide care to client who has experienced a seizureProvide care to a client with an infectious diseaseProvide pulmonary hygiene (e.g., chest physiotherapy, incentive spirometry) Provide care for client experiencing complications of pregnancy/labor and/or delivery (e.g., eclampsia, precipitous labor, hemorrhage)Provide care for client experiencing increased intracranial pressureProvide postoperative care Remove sutures or staplesEvaluate client response to surgeryEvaluate achievement of client treatment goalsEvaluate client response to treatment for an infectious disease (e.g., acquired immune deficiency syndrome [AIDS], tuberculosis [TB])Evaluate and monitor client response to radiation therapy |
|  | Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalances | Identify signs and symptoms of client fluid and/or electrolyte imbalanceApply knowledge of pathophysiology when caring for the client with fluid and electrolyte imbalancesManage the care of the client with a fluid and electrolyte imbalance Evaluate the client’s response to interventions to correct fluid or electrolyte imbalance |
|  | Hemodynamics | Assess client for decreased cardiac output (e.g., diminished peripheral pulses, hypotension)Identify cardiac rhythm strip abnormalities (e.g., sinus bradycardia, premature ventricular contractions, ventricular tachycardia, atrial fibrillation, ventricular fibrillation)Apply knowledge of pathophysiology to interventions in response to client abnormal hemodynamicsProvide client with strategies to manage decreased cardiac output (e.g., frequent rest periods, limit activities)Intervene to improve client cardiovascular status (e.g., initiate protocol to manage cardiac arrhythmias, monitor pacemaker functions)Monitor and maintain arterial lines Manage the care of a client with a pacing device Manage the care of a client on telemetry Manage the care of a client receiving hemodialysis or continuous renal replacement therapy Manage the care of a client with alteration in hemodynamics, tissue perfusion and/or hemostasis |
|  | Illness Management | Identify client data that needs to be reported immediatelyApply knowledge of client pathophysiology to illness managementEducate client regarding an acute or chronic condition Educate client about managing illnessImplement interventions to manage the client’s recovery from an illnessPerform gastric lavagePromote and provide continuity of care in illness management activitiesManage the care of a client with impaired ventilation/oxygenation Evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment plan for a client with an acute or chronic diagnosis |
|  | Medical Emergencies | Apply knowledge of pathophysiology when caring for a client experiencing a medical emergencyApply knowledge of nursing procedures and psychomotor skills when caring for a client experiencing a medical emergencyExplain emergency interventions to a clientNotify primary health care provider about unexpected client response/emergency situationPerform emergency care procedures Provide emergency care for wound disruption (e.g., dehiscence)Evaluate and document the client’s response to emergency interventions (e.g., restoration of breathing, pulse) |
|  | Pathophysiology | Identify pathophysiology related to an acute or chronic condition Understand general principles of pathophysiology (e.g., injury and repair, immunity, cellular structure) |
|  | Unexpected Response to Therapies | Assess the client for unexpected adverse response to therapy (e.g., increased intracranial pressure, hemorrhage)Recognize signs and symptoms of client complications and intervene Promote recovery of the client from unexpected response to therapy (e.g., urinary tract infection) |