

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Nurse Aide II-Acute Care Environment**

#### **Course Description**

AH 125. Nurse Aide II-Acute Care Environment. 3 hours credit. Prerequisite: Current Certified Nurse Aide for Kansas Nursing Homes. This course will enable the student to build upon basic nursing skills to provide competent care to the acutely ill. The student will learn to communicate effectively, apply legal and ethical principles while providing care in the hospital environment.

#### **Course Relevance**

The student will learn basic nursing care as a Certified Nurse Aide, with an emphasis on patient care in hospital settings. Because of the critical shortage of health care professionals in acute care, well educated nurse aides are needed to assist licensed nursing staff in providing care. This course will build on previously learned skills.

#### **Required Materials**

Sorrentino, S. A. (2008): *Mosby's textbook for nursing assistants* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). St. Louis, MO; Mosby Inc., an Affiliate of Elsevier Inc.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

The intention is for the student to be able to:

1. Performing nursing skills compatible with the job description for a nurse aide in the acute care setting.
2. Communicate effectively with the patient and health care team in the acute care setting.
3. Apply ethical, legal, and confidentiality principles.
4. Make appropriate observations of patients and report to charge nurse.

#### **Learning PACT Skills that will be developed and documented in this course**

Through involvement in this course, the student will develop ability in the following PACT skill area(s):

##### **Analytical Thinking Skills**

1. Problem solving
  - By demonstrating basic nursing skills in the laboratory and/or acute care setting, the student will learn to solve problems.

##### **Personal Development Skills**

1. Interpersonal interaction
  - By working as part of a health care team in the acute care setting, the student will develop a knowledge and appreciation of interpersonal skills.

##### **Technology Skills**

1. Discipline-specific technology

- Through return demonstrations in the acute care setting, the student will demonstrate critical elements of selected advanced health care skills.

### **Major Summative Assessment Task(s)**

These learning outcome(s) and the Learning PACT skill(s) will be demonstrated by:

1. The student will be able to apply problem solving skills in a simulated clinical environment (A and P skills).
2. The student will observe selected demonstrations of skills/procedures in laboratory and/or clinical setting and be able to successfully do return demonstrations of these skills/procedures (T skill).

### **Course Content**

- I. Skills or Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
  - A. Reading
  - B. Writing
  - C. Listening
  - D. Problem solving
  - E. Application of concepts
  - F. Communication
  - G. Legal and ethical responsibilities
    1. Patient rights
    2. Confidentiality
    3. Ethical practices
    4. Institutional policies
  - H. Caring for personal needs of patients
  - I. Assist with special procedures as delegated by licensed nurse
- II. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
  - A. Safety
  - B. Sensitivity to patients as culturally diverse individuals
  - C. Work ethics
  - D. Ethical aspects
  - E. Legal aspects
  - F. Confidentiality
- III. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
  - A. Work ethic
  - B. Scope of practice
  - C. Time management
- IV. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
  - A. Awareness of and understanding of the stressful work environment of acute care
  - B. Respect for patients as physical, social, psychological, and spiritual beings with basic needs and protected rights
  - C. Understanding of body structure and function for the safe and competent performance of skills
  - D. Recognition of the role of cultural heritage in the illness practices
  - E. Respecting importance of delegation from licensed nurse in giving care

## **Learning Units**

- I. Acute care environment (tertiary care)
  - A. Organizational chart of hospital and nursing services
  - B. The hospitalized patient
  - C. Health care delivery systems
  - D. Scope of practice and job description for nurse aide in acute care
  - E. Patient bill of rights
  - F. Cultural sensitivity
  - G. Admission, transfer and discharge of hospitalized patient
  
- II. Orthopedics
  - A. Joint replacement
  - B. Traction
  - C. Cast care
  - D. Orthopedic devices
  - E. Fractures
  - F. Post op amputations
  
- III. Nervous system disorders
  - A. Acute head injury and spinal cord injury
  - B. Stroke: the first week
  
- IV. The person having surgery
  - A. Pre-op care
  - B. Post-op care
  - C. Effects of anesthesia
  - D. Elastic stockings, elastic bandages
  
- V. Respiratory support and therapies
  - A. Artificial airways
  - B. Suctioning
  - C. Mechanical ventilation
  - D. Chest tubes
  
- VI. Cancer, Immune System, Skin Disorders
  - A. What is cancer
  - B. Cancer treatment
  - C. Immune system disorders
  - D. Skin disorders
  
- VII. Cardiovascular and respiratory system disorders
  - A. Hypertension
  - B. Coronary artery disease
  - C. Myocardial infarction
  - D. Heart failure

- E. Treatment
- F. Caring for children with cardiac, respiratory conditions
- G. COPD
- H. Bronchitis, asthma, pneumonia, influenza
- I. Tuberculosis

VIII. Digestive and endocrine system disorders

- A. GERD
- B. Diverticular disease
- C. Gallstones
- D. Hepatitis
- E. Diabetes

IX. Urinary and reproductive system disorders

- A. UTI
- B. Prostate enlargement
- C. Urinary diversions
- D. Renal stones
- E. Renal failure
- F. Sexually transmitted diseases

X. Caring for mothers and newborns

- A. Infant safety
- B. Breast feeding
- C. Bottle feeding
- D. Umbilical cord, circumcision
- E. Postpartum care of mother

XI. Assigned duties in acute care

- A. Assisting with the physical examination
- B. Collecting and testing specimens
- C. Wound care
- D. Heat and cold applications
- E. Oxygen needs
- F. Patients with tubes: catheter, IV, PICC, central line, epidural, drainage tube
- G. Review: Vital signs
- H. Helping with ECG

**Learning Activities**

Independent and collaborative learning activities will be assigned within and outside the classroom to assist the student to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The following teaching/learning activities will assist students to achieve course outcomes: lecture, audio-visual aids, class discussion, study guides, unit tests, demonstration, return demonstration, and supervised clinical experience.

**Grade Determination**

The student must achieve an average score of 70% or above on unit exams and a comprehensive final to achieve a grade of C or above. The student must hand in assignments as directed by instructors. The student is required to participate in all classroom and clinical sessions.