

Prepared by Department of Health Sciences

Date approved by Department: October 27, 2008

Date approved by Curriculum and Programs: December 10, 2008

Effective: Fall 2009

1. **Course Number:** CNA122
Course Title: Advanced Concepts for Nursing Assistants
2. **Description:** This course is designed to teach advanced skills to nursing assistants and home health aides working with more acutely ill patients in Medicare (sub-acute) units in nursing homes, in home care, and in hospitals.
3. **Student Learning Outcomes:**
Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to do the following:
 - Recognize a variety of conditions and the disease process of the acutely ill patient
 - Identify signs and symptoms associated with various conditions based on an understanding of the anatomy and physiology
 - Demonstrate advanced skills needed in the care of the acute patient
 - Apply the principles of patient safety and infection control in caring for the acute or surgical patient
4. **Credit:** One
5. **Satisfies General Education Requirement:** No
6. **Prerequisites:** CNA117 or permission of instructor
7. **Semester(s) Offered:** Varies
8. **Suggested General Guidelines for Evaluation:** Weekly quizzes, final exam, class project
9. **General Topical Outline (Optional):** Attached

1. Care of the Acutely Ill Patient

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. Describe a variety of common conditions seen in hospitals, sub-acute units and at home that fall into the grouping of 'acutely ill'.
2. Identify advanced skills needed to care for the acutely ill.
3. Recognize the scope of practice and limitations of the nursing assistant/home health aide in caring for the acutely ill.
4. Articulate the importance of competence in the performance of basic care skills to meet the needs of the patient around activities of daily living.
5. Understand the care of the patient during admission, transfer and discharge.
6. Empathize and acknowledge patient's fears during this period.
7. Improve observation skills and ability to document accurately.

2. Care of the Pre and Post Operative Patient and Infection Prevention

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. List the responsibilities of the nursing assistant regarding preoperative preparation.
2. Recognize postoperative responsibilities such as
 - i. Use of Incentive Spirometer and other nursing measures
 - ii. Describe important observations to report following surgery.
 - iii. Application of elastic stockings, venodyne boots and binders.
 - iv. Monitor Vital Signs including Pulse Oximetry and Pain scale
 - v. Intravenous observations including Intake and Output
3. Recognize signs of Infection.
4. Identify techniques to prevent the spread of Infection

3. Care of the patient with Gastrointestinal/Genitourinary Disease

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. Review anatomy and physiology of Gastro-intestinal and Genito-urinary systems and associated diseases
2. Recognize important observations to report about dressings.
3. Understand care of an ostomy.
4. Demonstrate the procedure for testing a stool sample for hidden blood (guaiac).
5. Describe catheter care.
6. Identify various procedures used in specimen collection.

4. Care of the Orthopedic Patient

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. Review anatomy and physiology of muscular-skeletal system and associated conditions
2. Describe observations and care of an extremity in a cast.
3. Explain proper positioning in bed and chair of patients after hip surgery.
4. Recognize proper body alignment of the patient in traction.
5. Articulate the hazards of immobility and ways to prevent complications.

5. Care of the Cardiac and Respiratory Patients

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. Review anatomy and physiology of circulatory and pulmonary systems and associated conditions.
2. Monitor vital signs and signs of circulatory insufficiency.
3. Identify signs of poor oxygenation.
4. Monitor pulse oximetry.
5. Identify elements of oxygen safety.
6. Position patients for maximum lung expansion.

6. Care of the Neurological/Stroke Patient

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. Review anatomy and physiology of neurological system and associated conditions
2. Recognize and report changes in patients' orientation to person, place and time.
3. Explain causes and precautions for swallowing difficulties.
4. Describe techniques to prevent hazards of immobility.
5. Articulate a variety of communication strategies with patients who have aphasia.
6. Explain the importance of the neurological patient doing as much for themselves as possible.

7. Care of the Patient with Diseases of the Endocrine System

Upon completion of this module, the student will be able to:

1. Review anatomy and physiology of endocrine system and associated conditions.
2. Explain the importance of balance between diet, exercise and insulin.
3. Describe procedures for monitoring blood glucose levels.
4. Recognize signs of hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia.
5. Articulate skin and foot care concerns when caring for the diabetic.
6. Recognize Signs and symptoms of selected diseases of the endocrine system.

8. Wrap Up, Review and Final Exam

Student Presentations on Selected Diseases