

## **NURN 160**

### **Nursing Concepts I**

6 credits: 3.5 credits lecture and 2.5 credits lab/clinical

## Community College of Baltimore County Common Course Outline

### **Description**

**NURN 160 – Nursing Concepts I:** students examine the role of the nurse generalist in the care of patients in acute care settings. NURN 160 is the first in a sequence of three Medical-Surgical courses in the Nursing Program. Students build upon their knowledge from previous health-related courses such as anatomy and physiology, chemistry, microbiology, and Fundamentals of Nursing. Emphasis is placed on the nursing program concepts of fluid and electrolytes, acid-base balance, perfusion, gas exchange, and metabolism. Supervised simulations and clinical are designed to increase students' knowledge and experience in adult patient care and to develop clinical reasoning skills.

**Pre-requisites:** NURN 153 (with a grade of C or higher) and NURN 155 (with a grade of C or higher)

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. apply clinical judgment while using the nursing process to meet the needs of acute care clients with emphasis on fluid and electrolytes, acid-base balance, perfusion, gas exchange, and metabolism;
2. identify abnormalities when performing focused client assessments;
3. communicate information interprofessionally using both oral and written/electronic methods;
4. design client-centered health promotion and disease management teaching plans for those with alterations in fluid and electrolytes, acid-base balance, perfusion, gas exchange, and metabolism;
5. apply principles of fluid and acid-base balance in the provision of quality client care;
6. use the nursing process to develop a plan of care for clients with abnormalities in fluid and electrolytes, acid-base balance, perfusion, gas exchange, and metabolism;
7. demonstrate safe administration of intravenous fluids and medications for multiple clients;
8. apply pharmacodynamic principles when administering medications;
9. provide safe and effective nursing care, using evidence-based practice, for clients with alterations in fluid and electrolytes, acid-base balance, perfusion, gas exchange, and metabolism; and
10. evaluate the overall progress of the client in achieving desired outcomes.

### **Major Topics**

- I. Acid-base balance
  - a. Metabolic

- i. Acidosis
    - ii. Alkalosis
  - b. Respiratory
    - i. Acidosis
    - ii. Alkalosis
- II. Caring interventions
  - a. Pharmacology
  - b. Psychomotor skills
    - i. Intravenous infusions – crystalloids, colloids, nutrition
    - ii. Intravenous medication administration
    - iii. Intramuscular and subcutaneous medication administration
    - iv. Blood transfusion
    - v. Tracheostomy care and suctioning
    - vi. Airways
    - vii. Chest tube management
- III. Clinical judgment
  - a. Assessment and management of care for multiple patients
  - b. Pharmacology related to course concepts
- IV. Fluid and electrolytes
  - a. Fluid volume
    - i. Deficit
    - ii. Excess
  - b. Electrolyte balance
- V. Gas exchange
  - a. Related to infection
    - i. Pneumonia
    - ii. Tuberculosis
  - b. Chronic issues
    - i. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
    - ii. Asthma
- VI. Metabolism
  - a. Diabetes mellitus
  - b. Thyroid function issues
    - i. Hypothyroidism
    - ii. Hyperthyroidism
  - c. Adrenal function issues
    - i. Adrenal insufficiency
    - ii. Adrenal hyperfunction
- VII. Safety
  - a. Medication administration for multiple patients
  - b. Safe administration of intravenous therapies
- VIII. Perfusion
  - a. Hypertension (HTN)
  - b. Heart Failure (HF)
  - c. Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)
  - d. Peripheral Vascular Disease (PVD)

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.

For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- e. Atherosclerosis
- f. Endocarditis
- g. Anemia

### **Course Requirements**

Grading will be determined by the individual faculty member, but shall include the following, at minimum:

- 4 theory examinations
- 4 quizzes/assignments
- 1 proctored standardized exam
- 2 writing assignments, such as a nursing process assignment and a patient teaching project

Written assignments and research projects: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources in their research and cite sources according to the style selected by their professor.

### **Other Course Information**

The following are required for satisfactory completion of this course:

- attendance at all assigned clinical/laboratory experiences
- satisfactory completion of all assignments
- satisfactory performance in the clinical experience
- satisfactory performance on all nursing skills tests
- an exam average of 75.00% or higher
- an overall grade of C (75.00%) or higher

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