

NURN 160

Nursing Concepts I

6 Credits (3.5 credits lecture and 2.5 credits lab)

Community College of Baltimore County
Common Course Outline

Description

NURN 160 – Nursing Concepts I: is a course in which 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 perfusion, gas exchange, and metabolism with fluid and electrolytes and acid-base balance integrated throughout the course. Supervised simulations and clinicals are designed to increase students' knowledge and experience in adult patient care and to develop clinical reasoning skills.

Pre-requisites: NURN 153; NURN 155; BIOL 221; PSYC 103 (all pre-requisites must be completed with a grade of C or higher)

Co-requisites: BIOL 230

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. demonstrate nursing care which encompasses the client's diversity and spirituality;
4. communicate with the interprofessional team using both oral and written/electronic methods;
5. 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;
6. apply principles of fluid and acid-base balance in the provision of quality client care;
7. 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;
8. demonstrate safe administration of intravenous fluids and medications for multiple clients;
9. apply pharmacodynamic principles when administering medications;
10. 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
11. evaluate the overall progress of the client in achieving desired outcomes.

Major Topics

The Common Course Outline (CCO) determines the essential nature of each course.
For more information, see your professor's syllabus.

- I. Caring interventions
 - a. Pharmacology
 - b. Psychomotor skills medications
 - 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
- II. Clinical judgment
 - a. Assessment and management of care for multiple clients
 - b. Pharmacology relating to course concepts
- III. Gas exchange
 - a. Respiratory: acidosis/alkalosis
 - b. Related to infection
 - i. Pneumonia
 - ii. Tuberculosis
 - c. Chronic issues
 - i. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
 - ii. Asthma
- IV. Metabolism
 - a. Metabolic: acidosis/alkalosis
 - b. Diabetes mellitus
 - c. Thyroid/Parathyroid function issues
 - i. Calcium balance
 - ii. Hypothyroidism
 - iii. Hyperthyroidism
 - d. Adrenal function issues
 - i. Addison's Disease
 - ii. Cushing's Disease
- V. Safety
 - a. Medication administration for multiple clients
 - b. Safe administration of intravenous therapies
- VI. Perfusion
 - a. Fluid volume: deficit/excess
 - b. Electrolyte balance
 - i. Sodium
 - ii. Potassium
 - iii. Magnesium
 - c. Hypertension (HTN)
 - d. Heart Failure (HF)
 - e. Deep Vein Thrombosis/Pulmonary Embolism (DVT/PE)
 - f. Peripheral Vascular Disease (PVD)
 - g. Iron Deficiency Anemia

Course Requirements

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

- three theory examinations
- four quizzes/assignments
- one proctored standardized exam
- two 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 APA style.

Other Course Information

The following are required for satisfactory completion of this course:

- attendance at all assigned clinical/laboratory experiences
- 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

Date Revised: 2/6/2024

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