

ESSENTIAL SKILLS - CRITICAL CRITERIA
NURSING 202 – NURSING PRACTICE II

In addition to the critical criteria identified for each skill, the following will be used in the evaluation of the student's performance:

*Denotes individual faculty check-off.

General Principles

1. Standard precautions must be utilized and appropriate asepsis must be maintained.
2. Correct supplies/equipment must be assembled and organized.
3. The nursing process must be used.
4. Client instruction must be provided.
5. The client must not be placed in physical jeopardy.
6. The client must not be placed in emotional jeopardy.
7. Pertinent information must be reported and/or documented.

*Safety Practices

1. Verifies care/order for client.
2. Washes hands before and after performing any client care or gathering supplies.
3. Assembles appropriate equipment or supplies.
4. Identifies client and assesses overall condition.
5. Explains procedure to client.
6. Elevates bed to appropriate working level.
7. Practices standard precautions.
8. Places call system within reach, lowers bed and raises side rails as appropriate..
9. Reassesses any abnormal reading and if still abnormal, reports and records immediately.

The student is expected to utilize safety practices and provision for privacy when performing all essential skills. Documentation for all skills must include date, time, signature and other appropriate data. Any action or inaction on the part of the student which jeopardizes the emotional or physical well being of the client will result in an unsatisfactory grade for the skill.

*Intravenous Therapy - IV (Blood, Fluids and Medications)

Initiation and Maintenance

1. Correctly assembles intravenous system.
2. Expels air from tubing.
3. Applies tourniquet when appropriate.
4. Selects appropriate vein.
5. Releases tourniquet.
6. Prepares site.
7. Reapplies tourniquet when appropriate and distends vein.
8. Inserts needle/catheter in vein.
9. Releases tourniquet.
10. Connects tubing to intravenous device.
11. Initiates IV flow to maintain patency of line.

12. Secures intravenous device to skin.
13. Applies sterile dressing.
14. Regulates and maintains intravenous flow at prescribed rate.
15. Monitors.

Central Line Dressing

1. Wears mask and instructs client on head position (or places a mask on the client).
2. Uses clean gloves to remove the soiled dressing toward catheter insertion.
3. Discards soiled dressing.
4. Assesses site and/or dressing for appearance and drainage.
5. Cleans site in circular motion from catheter site to outer areas.
6. Applies and secures air occlusive sterile dressing.

Intravenous Medication

1. Prepares medication based on five rights.
2. Verifies pharmacological compatibility.
3. Verifies patency and placement of intravenous device.
4. Administers intravenous medication at appropriate rate.
 - a. I.V. Piggyback/Additives
 - b. I.V. Push Medications.
5. Provides adjunctive assessment and interventions as indicated.
6. Maintains patency of intravenous device.

Infusion Devices

1. Sets up infusion.
2. Inserts IV tubing into infusion device.
3. Sets dials for required rate.
4. Initiates infusion.
5. Monitors infusion hourly as needed.

Blood Administration

1. Assembles blood administration set and primes with normal saline.
2. Starts IV with large gauge access device.
3. Obtains baseline vital signs.
4. Confirms blood's label, compatibility tag, and client's lab results with RN according to policy.
5. Gently agitates unit of blood.
6. Initiates infusion (slowly per policy).
7. Remains with the client for the first 15 minutes and observes for reaction.
8. Increases flow rate to deliver blood within 4 hours.
9. Routinely checks vital signs according to policy.

NOTE: Follows the manufacturer's instructions for use.

*Tracheostomy Care

1. Maintains patency of airway.
2. Removes, cleans, and replaces inner cannula, when applicable using sterile technique.
3. Cleans stomal area.
4. Applies sterile dressing.
5. Replaces tracheostomy ties.

Basic Electrocardiograph (EKG) Strip Interpretation

1. Determines heart rate, regularity and rhythm.
2. Identifies each wave from of cardiac cycle.
3. Checks configuration and placement of P wave, QRS complex, ST segment and T wave.
4. Measure PR interval, QRS durational.
5. Analyzes the ST segment.
6. Identifies normal sinus rhythm.
7. Recognizes the following dysrhythmias.
 - a. sinus tachycardia
 - b. sinus bradycardia
 - c. PVC's
 - d. V-tachycardia
 - e. V-fibrillation
 - f. 3rd degree heart block
 - g. asystole

*Suctioning (oropharyngeal, nasotracheal, nasopharyngeal and tracheobronchial)

1. Positions patient appropriately.
2. Selects correct vacuum setting.
3. Uses appropriate aseptic technique.
4. Inserts lubricated catheter to correct depth.
5. Applies suction and rotates catheter as it is withdrawn.
6. Reoxygenates client when appropriate.
7. Rinses catheter and tubing.

*Gastrointestinal Intubation

1. Positions client appropriately
2. Measures tube for placement in stomach.
3. Inserts lubricated tube into oral or nasal orifice.
4. Advances tube to pre-determine distance and stabilizes.
5. Verifies placement of tube in stomach.
6. Secures tube.

Gavage

1. Positions client appropriately.
2. Verifies placement of tube.
3. Assesses gastric residual.

4. Instills prescribed feeding and flushes with water.
5. Clamps tube appropriately.

Lavage

1. Positions client appropriately.
2. Verifies placement of tube.
3. Instills solution.
4. Aspirates fluid.
5. Measures and assesses return.

Suctioning (Gastric)

1. Connects tubing to appropriate suctioning device.
2. Selects correct vacuum setting.
3. Measures and assesses return.

Teaching – Learning

1. Clarifies desired outcome with client.
2. Assesses client's level of understanding.
3. Utilizes correct content.
4. Demonstrates and/or explains techniques to client.
5. Allows for client feedback.
6. Provides positive re-enforcement.
7. Evaluates effectiveness of session.

Maintenance of Traction

1. Assesses neurovascular status of affected limbs.
2. Identifies skin irritation and breakdown.
3. Maintains client in appropriate traction position.
4. Ensures maintenance of effective traction.

Cast Care

1. Assesses neurovascular status of affected extremity daily.
2. Evaluates casted extremity for underlying skin problems daily.
3. Maintains integrity of cast.
4. Identifies self-care, comfort and safety measures.

Crutch/Walker Ambulation

1. Utilizes proper equipment for ambulation.
2. Demonstrates proper stance for crutch/walker foot sequence.
3. Practices safe crutch/walker maneuvering techniques.
4. Identifies comfort and safety measures.

*Management of Care

1. Applies the nursing process to clinical decision-making and the management of care for a minimum of two clients.

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2. Documents assessment of individual needs and establishes nursing care priorities based on the individual needs of a minimum of two clients.
3. Constructs a plan and implements nursing care to meet individual needs of the assigned clients.
4. Communicates appropriately with team members in the clinical setting.
5. Evaluates effectiveness of nursing care of assigned clients.