

Capital Area School of Practical Nursing
PN Clinical III Syllabus
Third Quarter

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Clinical Hours: 1/3 PN MHN Clinical III and 2/3 PN Clinical III

Course Description:

During the clinical experience, students will integrate knowledge of drug action, nursing process and client teaching with actual administration of medications. Medication administration, including legal aspects, safety measures, administrative techniques and calculations are the key focus during this quarter. Administered drugs are reviewed, describing the classifications, action, dosage, side effects and interventions.

Prerequisite courses are those taught in First and Second Quarters. Clinical III is taught concurrently with Pharmacology, Mental Health Nursing and PN MHN Clinical III.

TEXTBOOKS:

1. Kee, J., Hayes, E., & McCuiston, L. (2006) Pharmacology: A Nursing Process Approach, 5th Edition. St. Louis, MO Saunders/Elsevier.
2. Kee, J., Hayes, E., & McCuiston, L. (2006) Pharmacology: A Nursing Process Approach Study Guide. 5th Edition. St. Louis, MO Saunders/Elsevier
3. Current Drug Handbook

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the definition, name, standards, and sources of drugs. Drug cards will be completed and submitted by students according to individual instructor's discretion.
2. Describe common drug actions and interactions.
3. Relate the nursing process to pharmacology.
4. Follow the "5 Plus 5" rights pertaining to the administration of medications.
5. Describe the classification, action, dosage, side effects, toxic effects and nursing interventions of drugs administered in clinical setting.
6. Compute medication dosages accurately.
7. Describe and follow legal/ethical and safety measures pertinent to the administration of medications.
8. Safely and accurately administer oral, ear, eye, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intradermal, and transdermal medications.

9. Insert peripheral intravenous lines.
10. Discuss principles and risks of intravenous (IV) therapy.
11. Calculate intravenous (IV) rates with correct formulas.
12. Discuss common drugs and solutions administered intravenously (IV).
13. Administer intravenous fluids per current interpretation of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act.
14. Effectively complete patient teaching of administered drugs.
15. Evaluate client care through reflection, nursing process, and post conference processing and effectively communicate with peers, facility staff, and instructor.
16. Communicate with facility health care team and instructor regarding nursing care, interventions, and changes in patient condition in a timely manner.
17. Chart in a descriptive, clear style all pertinent assessments, interventions, and evaluations, a complete written patient assessment will be due at the end of each week of clinicals (2 per rotation).
18. Give accurate and effective change of shift report.
19. Collect pertinent objective and subjective data from patient chart.
20. Identify patient actual and potential nursing diagnoses supported by assessment data.
21. State nursing diagnoses in appropriate terminology and format. A Nursing Process with a minimum of four nursing diagnosis will be completed with each PN Clinical III rotation. Each process should include the client's medications with implications. The Nursing Process will be due on the last clinical day of each rotation.
22. Prioritize nursing diagnosis accurately, according to patient acuity.
23. Plan appropriate, independent nursing interventions/actions based on cause and outcome criteria.
24. Recognize change in patient acuity and take appropriate action.
25. Use theoretical and empirical knowledge to make sound judgments based on assessment data and patient needs, consistent with standards of practice.
26. Written assignments must be complete and satisfactory to receive "S" for the clinical rotation.

INSTRUCTOR PHILOSOPHY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Individual students have unique strengths and weaknesses. It is the responsibility of the instructor to work with each individual to develop methods which enable the student to work to full potential. The instructor should consistently set a professional example in the clinical setting by being on time and prepared, offering help and understanding, and supporting student growth.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. All policies including Clinical Performance, Clinical Standards, and Clinical Attendance are to be followed as documented in the CASPN STUDENT HANDBOOK.
2. Students are to adhere to policies of clinical sites.
3. Students are to provide own transportation to clinical sites.
4. Students are expected to bring all books, papers and forms requested by the instructor to facilitate the clinical learning experience.

5. Students should be prepared to participate actively at clinical setting without physical, emotional, or mental distractions or impairments.
6. Students may be sent home at the instructor's discretion for any violations in above listed student responsibilities and/or policies in the CASPN STUDENT HANDBOOK.

Students are assigned to clinical sites over third quarter by instructors who have arranged for patient experiences in a variety of health care settings. Clinical provides hands on experience and helps students integrate medication administration principles learned in the classroom into the clinical setting. Pre-conference prepares students for daily clinical expectations. Post-conference enables students to process the daily clinical experience, sharing knowledge gained with instructor and fellow students. Students are expected to actively participate in both pre-and post-conferences.

***Note: This syllabus is not a contract between the instructor and student enrolled. Content is subject to change. Students will be given a written copy of any changes made in content, course policies or grading as they may occur.**