

## Assessment of the Child/Family Structures/Socioeconomic Issues

### **I. Communicating with Children**

- Talk to parent and child
- Use play to help child feel more comfortable
- Get down to eye level with child
- Be honest
- Considerations for age groups

### **II. Assessment of the Child**

#### A). General Survey

- Establish relationship with child and family
- Use open ended questions-why is child being seen/admitted?
- Looking at interaction between child and family
- Looking at child's general appearance
- Developmentally appropriate?

#### B). Health History

- Family hx, Past Medical History of child
- Immunization status
- Exposure to recent illness/sick siblings/school

#### C). Physical Exam

#### D). Assess Growth Measurements

- Length-for children up to 24 months old
- Height-standing upright with shoes off when able to stand on request
- Weight-for all children, no exceptions, no estimates
- Head circumference-up to 36 mths unless otherwise indicated

#### E). Vital Signs

### **III. Body System Assessment**

A). Skin

B). Head

C). Eyes

D). Ears

- E). Mouth
- F). Nose
- G). Heart
- H). Respiratory
- I). GI/GU
- J). Genitalia
- K). Neurovascular/Musculoskeletal

#### **IV. Nursing Care of the Hospitalized Child**

##### **A). Pediatric Room**

- keep as a safe room
- try to do painful procedures in a separate procedure room

##### **B). Child Life Specialists**

- help child and family prepare for procedures, can do activities/support

#### **V. Family Structures**

A). Family- two or more members who interact and are dependent on each other for social/emotional/financial support.

##### **B). Different family structures**

- Nuclear family- typical husband, wife, and child or children
- Extended- multiple generations living together
- Blended- remarried parents and children of former marriages/partnerships
- Single parent- single parent and child/children make up the family
- Same sex- same sex partners and their child/children

##### **C). Family centered care**

- Family is the constant in the child's life. Need to consider whole family

#### **VI. Socioeconomic Issues**

- The #1 influence on health is the socioeconomic status of the patient
- Is healthcare accessible?
- Is preventative health maintenance done?