Unit 1: Overview of Critical Care Nursing
ONLINE CONTENT (1H)

Unit Objectives:
- Select appropriate nursing interventions to manage common problems and needs of critically ill patients. (1,6,)*
- Develop strategies to manage issues related to caregivers of critically ill patients. (1,2,6)*
- Apply the principles of hemodynamic monitoring to the nursing and interprofessional management of patients receiving monitoring. (1,2,6,7)*

*Course Objectives

Assignment:
Review- Unit 1: Overview of Critical Care Nursing PowerPoint.
Read the case study, then answer the case study questions below.

CASE STUDY

▶ Margaret Mayfield is a 62 year old female who has been admitted from the ED to the critical care unit, after calling 911 due to severe fatigue, weakness, and fever. Her past medical history includes: dwarfism, HTN, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus, and has a chronic Foley catheter due to urinary retention. She lives alone in an apartment and has no family members. Her friend is her POA for healthcare, and is the only contact listed. She has a home health aide visit once a week to assist her with bathing and all of her meals are delivered from local take-out restaurants. She utilizes a walker at home, however reports she hasn't been out of bed for the last several days due to weakness and fever. She uses a private ambulance service to go to physician appointments; this is the only time she gets out of her apartment for the last three years. Home medications include carvedilol, simvastatin, aspirin, and insulin. She does not have her medications with her and does not know the doses.

Case Study Questions

▶ As the critical care nurse caring for her, what overall concerns do you have?
   ▶ I am concerned about this patients overall health. I am concerned about her overall health due to the fact that she has not been out of bed much in the past several days, and not much in the last three years. I am concerned about her nutrition due to the fact that all of her meals are deliver from take-out restaurants. I am concerned that she has a fever with the possibility of having an infection due to having a chronic foley. I am also concerned that she is unaware of her medications.

▶ Describe ways in which you would communicate with her and her POA for healthcare. Include what topics you would discuss at this time in her hospitalization.
   ▶ There are many topics that I would like to discuss with this patient and her POA. I would discuss topics on better nutrition meals, the importance of moving around and getting out of bed more, the importance of knowing what medications you are taking. I would also like to discus with her options that are available to her for better health care needs.

▶ Discuss the ethical issues this case presents.
   ▶ I would be sure to practice the principle of beneficence with this patient by making sure all of my actions are intended to benefit the patient.

▶ Discuss the legal issues this case presents.
   ▶ The legal issue that this case may present is that she is not getting the proper care that she needs, there is a form of neglect happening with this patient means a healthcare member is only seeing her once a week to bath her along with the fact that no one is there to take better care of her.

▶ In what ways will you serve as an advocate for Margaret?
   ▶ I would advocate for Margaret by reaching out to some better places for her to possibly stay to get better help. I would also advocate for her by helping her see what options are available for her.

▶ What other departments would you involve in her care, and why?
   ▶ I would involve a social worker, a dietitian, a physical therapist and possibly a pharmacist to come talk to her about her medications so she knows what she is taking and why.

Place your answers to these questions in the **"Unit 1: Overview CC dropbox" by 1/10/2024 at 0800.** Be prepared to share and discuss your thoughts in class.

In order to receive full credit (1 hour class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety will result in missed class time.