

School Nurse Webinar: Vision Screening

Watch this [webinar](#) on vision screenings in school-age children and answer the following questions.

1. How does this assignment relate to the course material?
 - a. This assignment discusses why school vision screenings are essential for today's youth. Unfortunately, many students may come from homes with no insurance leaving them without the ability to have a proper vision screening. The vision screenings at school provide an in-depth analysis of the history, relevance, and importance of visual screening, even from the child's perspective. It also carries essential and relevant information on amblyopia, visual development, deprivation, strabismus, and even refractive errors. It also gives expert reviews on detecting vision problems early and provides methods for increasing vision potential. Unfortunately, vision screening is often overlooked even in households that do have proper vision insurance. In addition, vision is often overlooked for children of pre-school age. As a result, nearly 40% of children nationwide have not had a vision screening (*Nearly 40% of Young Children Missing Out on Vision Screenings*, 2020).
2. How does this webinar assist you in understanding the role of the school nurse?
 - a. This webinar outlines various developmental visual problems and outlines methods for their detection. It gives relevance to the activity of visual screening and ultimately proves how important the activity is for a child's normal development. This webinar makes the school nurse bear the role of identifying visual problems as early as possible in the child's life for proper rehabilitation and preventing cortical blindness. The webinar points out the essential duties of why having a school nurse is vital for every school district. Some schools may think that employing a nurse is nonessential and unnecessary because parents and school district officials envision the school nurse handing out an icepack. However, school nurses do much more such as mental health. This vision screening helps solidify why every school district should employ a school nurse (Carnes, 2020).
3. Identify **three** ways this activity affects nursing practice when caring for the pediatric population.
 - a. This activity affects nursing practice when caring for the pediatric population. Some schools across the United States do not have a school nurse on staff to help detect these issues. Therefore, the parents are responsible for taking their children to an eye doctor for yearly checkups.

The lack of a school nurse could affect the child because some parents do not take their children for regular eye doctor appointments due to insurance issues. Perhaps if they do have public aid, the state they live in only allows particular providers to see patients. Therefore, not attending regular vision screenings could pose a problem for those families. In addition, some families rely on public transportation or do not have reliable transportation to travel far for an appointment. Another way this activity affects nursing practice is that sometimes amblyopia and strabismus are not detected early enough. As Dr. Ramsey pointed out, early detection and diagnosis before attending elementary school could make a difference. Dr. Ramsey states, "we could do a lot before the child becomes school-age and had better prepare a child for kindergarten and grade school if we can start treatment before the kids become school age." Finally, the last way this activity affects nursing practice is that it helps to identify children who are at high risk for these disorders. As a result, early intervention programs can begin at an earlier time. Children who have siblings or parents who wear glasses should be monitored closely for both strabismus and amblyopia. Undiagnosed vision problems could lead to vision loss, leading to developmental issues at school and home for these children.

4. What are 2 potential health risks that the vision screening assesses for? Provide a brief description of these health risks, including nursing management and caregiver education.
 - a. Two potential health risks that vision screening assesses for is amblyopia which is Poor vision development in the brain because of an abnormality in one or both eyes. Early nursing management might involve patching the strong eye so that the weak eye can become stronger in vision, atropine eye drops, glasses for the child, or surgery. The second health risk that the vision screen assesses for is called strabismus. Strabismus occurs with misalignment of the eyes. This vision issue may lead to overlapping images due to the child constantly squinting to see objects, especially on the board, if they sit far away from the front of the classroom. The brain uses visual suppression, allowing the child to focus on only one of the overlapping images. Strabismus may result in amblyopia in a section of the brain if unrehabilitated.
5. How will the information you learned in this activity influence your nursing practice?
 - a. This information has made me think about my nursing practice and why school nurses play an essential role in the public and private school system. In addition, the information learned from this activity will keep me on my toes as a nurse during visual screening and provide me with

methods of identifying possible visual problems and refer them to a physician for proper diagnosis and early intervention. Finally, knowing the signs and symptoms of amblyopia and strabismus can help keep our children healthy while learning in the classroom. In addition, early detection and prevention can help save a child from further eye damage in the future.

References

Carnes, J. (2020, August 5). *Why is there a national shortage of school nurses?* 11Alive.com. <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/why-is-there-a-shortage-of-school-nurses/85-0a53d3af-280b-4625-9839-90e30f49578f>

Nearly 40% of young children missing out on vision screenings. (2020, January 22). Connecticut Health Investigative Team. <http://c-hit.org/2020/01/22/nearly-40-of-young-children-missing-out-on-vision-screenings/>

Debriefing Journal Rubric

Minimum Words: 100 per question

CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD
Concise and Complete	Content is incomplete.	Content is not comprehensive	Content is comprehensive,

	Major points are not clear and /or persuasive	and /or persuasive. - Major points are addressed, but not well supported. - Research is inadequate or does not address course concepts.	accurate, and persuasive. - Major points are stated clearly and are well supported. - Content and purpose of the writing are clear.
Total: 3 points	1 point	2 points	3 points
Thoughtful Reflection- How will this affect your practice?	- Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting. - Paragraphs are inadequate or excessive in length. - Unspecific as to how simulation meets learning objectives.	- Paper follows most guidelines. - Paper is under word length. - Lacks some specifics as to how simulation meets learning objectives.	- Paper follows designated guidelines. - Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment. - States clearly as to how simulation meets learning objectives.
Total: 10 points	1 point	5 points	10 points
APA Format Correct spelling/Grammar. At least 1 scholarly reference required. Each question is answered with at least 100 words	- Lack of APA format. - Paper contains numerous grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors. - Language uses jargon or conversational tone - Lack of APA citation use and Reference page if references used. 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement	- Inappropriate APA format. - Paper contains few grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors. - Language lacks clarity or includes the use of some jargon or conversational tone. - Inappropriate APA citation use and reference page if references used. 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement	- Correct APA format - Use of 1 scholarly reference - Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed; spelling is correct. - Language is clear and precise; sentences display consistently strong, varied structure - Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. - All questions meet the 100-word requirement
	1 point		10 points

Total: 10 points		5 points	
Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience.			Paper submitted to Dropbox on time.
Total: 2 points			2 points

Total Points: _____