

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?**

This assignment focused on early screening and intervention for eye disorders such as amblyopia and strabismus. Without early screening and intervention for eye-related disorders, a child may experience delayed growth and development. For example, a child may not be able to stack blocks by age three or master the pincer grasp in infancy because they cannot see the objects clearly (Ricci et al., 2017). Furthermore, as children age, they may have difficulties reading if they have visual disturbances. It is crucial to screen children in early childhood to identify if interventions are needed. Interventions should occur before any significant developmental delays occur.

2. **How does this webinar assist you in understanding the role of the school nurse?**

complete screenings, how to identify high risk students, when to refer for full comprehensive exam.

The webinar did not fully cover the role of a school nurse but focused more on the importance of early screening and interventions for eye-related disorders. School nurses are typically responsible for completing vision screenings, identifying high-risk students, and using the collected information to refer the student to a provider for a complete comprehensive exam. Screenings are considered secondary prevention and aim to reduce the impact of diseases. School nurses might also be involved in prescribed interventions such as applying or removing an eye patch or administering atropine drops during school hours if a child has an eye-related disorder such as amblyopia.

3. **Identify three ways this activity affects nursing practice when caring for the pediatric population.**

When caring for the pediatric population, nurses need to pay attention to the small details, practice proactive care, and know when further interventions should occur. Small details such as crossing the eyes, even if infrequently, should be reported to a provider immediately. Understanding what things make a child high-risk when it comes to eye-related disorders is crucial so that proper referrals and interventions occur. Things such as cerebral palsy or maternal drug use or infection make a child high-risk, meaning they can skip vision screening and require a complete comprehensive exam. It is also crucial for pediatric nurses to practice proactive care and fully explain eye safety to children and their caregivers to understand how pencils, sticks, bikes, and other recreational activities may threaten vision.

- 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.**

Amblyopia is considered poor visual development in an otherwise structurally normal eye. It occurs when the brain and eye do not work together well, causing unequal focus between two eyes. Therefore one is stronger, and the other appears 'lazy.' Nursing management includes patching or atropine drops in the strong eye (Ricci et al., 2017). Patching the good eye makes the weak eye work harder. Atropine drops in the strong eye result in blurred vision, making the lazy eye focus and work harder. Caregivers need to understand how both of these interventions work, how and when to use them, along eye safety. Without intervention, amblyopia results in vision loss, so it is crucial to keep both eyes safe. If trauma occurs to the strong eye, the child can become blind in both eyes.

Color blindness is often assessed on vision screenings and results in a child having difficulty distinguishing colors or abnormally seeing colors. Color blindness is congenital and often genetic (Turbert, 2021). Management of this disorder is often supportive as most people who suffer from this disorder can adapt later in life. People who suffer from this disorder can purchase glasses or contact lenses that help distinguish colors, but ultimately this disorder is incurable.

- 5. How will the information you learned in this activity influence your nursing practice?**

Nurses need to look for small details. As mentioned several times in the webinar, abnormalities in vision may not be consistent and prominent. Eye injuries can happen anywhere. Dog bites, sticks, pencils, furniture, sports, or recreational activities can all result in eye injuries, leading to vision loss. Suppose a patient admits to an inpatient unit for eye trauma. In that case, nurses must look for small details or changes in a client's vision and ensure that a provider is notified of any changes to prevent further injury or damage to the eyes. Nurses should also look at somatic complaints such as frequent headaches to assess for eye-related disorders. These complaints may come from school-aged children or older and could indicate hyperopia, myopia, or astigmatism (Ricci et al., 2017).

References

Ricci, S. S., Ricci, S., Kyle, T., & Carman, S. (2017). *Maternity and pediatric nursing* (3rd ed.).

Wolters Kluwer.

Turbert. (2021, April 6). *What Is Color Blindness?* American Academy of Ophthalmology.

<https://www.aao.org/eye-health/diseases/what-is-color-blindness>

Debriefing Journal Rubric

Minimum Words: 100 per question

CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD
<p>Concise and Complete</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total: 3 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is incomplete. • Major points are not clear and /or persuasive <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is not comprehensive and /or persuasive. • Major points are addressed, but not well supported. • Research is inadequate or does not address course concepts. <p style="text-align: center;">2 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is comprehensive, accurate, and persuasive. • Major points are stated clearly and are well supported. • Content and purpose of the writing are clear. <p style="text-align: center;">3 points</p>
<p>Thoughtful Reflection- How will this affect your practice?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total: 10 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting. • Paragraphs are inadequate or excessive in length. • Unspecific as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper follows most guidelines. • Paper is under word length. • Lacks some specifics as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p style="text-align: center;">5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper follows designated guidelines. • Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment. • States clearly as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p style="text-align: center;">10 points</p>
<p>APA Format Correct spelling/Grammar.</p> <p>At least 1 scholarly reference required.</p> <p>Each question is answered with at least 100 words</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

<p style="text-align: center;">Total: 10 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<p>page if references used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. • All questions meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">10 points</p>
<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total: 2 points</p>			<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox on time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 points</p>

Total Points: _____