

**School Nurse Webinar: Vision Screening**

Janet Song

Lakeview College of Nursing

Professor Marion

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1. How does this assignment relate to the course material?

This assignment is related to the course material by providing information about a child's eye care. Eye exams and screenings are essential to assess eye problems in pediatrics. It is hard to find eye problems, especially if they are young and did not complain about eye problems to the caregiver. In addition, the disease may not have any signs and symptoms until it gets serious. According to Loh and Chiang (2018), vision screening can prevent and promptly detect pediatric vision loss. The webinar presenters are composed of Professionals in ophthalmology and pediatrics, so this information is a reliable source for the pediatrics and their caregivers. Also, it is informative for the nursing students because they inform us of the causes, signs, and symptoms of different eye diseases.

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

The roles of school nurses not only to evaluate and educate the students but also to provide health services at school for students (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2021). This webinar contains information on risk factors in the eye, such as autism, family history of eye diseases, maternal infection during pregnancy, and more. The school nurses should be aware of those risk factors when assess and evaluate the students. If the students cannot go to the hospital due to their family financial status, the school nurse may be the first person to screen and detect eye diseases during routine health exams. Therefore, knowing and understanding the information in the webinar is important to assess the students at school. Moreover, the school nurse can support the student and family members by communicating with health care providers and also help caregivers access health insurance (CDC, 2021).

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

This activity affects nursing practice when caring for the pediatric population, especially during the assessment. Because of this information in the webinar, the nurse will know the importance of eye screening. Not only focusing on cardiac and respiratory, but they may be able to remind the assessing eyes. Second, as nursing students, we will be able to recognize eye diseases by their signs and symptoms. For example, eyes are aligned by their 2-3 months of age, and if not, we will be noticed whether the kids have esotropia or hypertropia. Lastly, we can make the best intervention for the pediatric population. For example, amblyopia will cause vision loss without treatment. By detecting early during the child vision screening, we can plan for treatment as soon as possible.

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.

First, vision screening can assess amblyopia. Amblyopia is also called lazy eye, and it is caused by poor visual development. The eye and brain are not functioning well together, leading to vision loss (Ricci, 2021). For nursing management, eye safety is essential. Also, use the patch on better eyes to improve the visual development of the affected eye (Ricci, 2021). This nursing management is also applied to the caregiver. They should help to use the eye patch on their child and prevent eye injury.

Second, strabismus can be found during vision screening. Strabismus is also called crossed eyes. According to Capriotti (2020), often time, amblyopia can be caused by strabismus. The patient

with strabismus can have blurred vision, tired eyes, and bumping into objects (Ricci, 2021).

Nursing management should include attaching the patch to the stronger eye or doing eye surgery.

The caregiver should help their kids using the patch as prescribed.

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

The information that I learned from the webinar helps me think about the importance of eye screening in the pediatric population. Also, I noticed that early detection is essential to prevent advanced eye diseases. Some kids might have signs and symptoms of abnormal eye structure, but I learned that their eyes might look normal even they have amblyopia. Moreover, this information could be helpful for the caregiver because they can detect their child's signs when they are at home. So, as a nursing student, it is essential to keep in mind that educate the caregivers and suggest performing vision screening for their child.

## Reference

Capriotti, T. (2020). *Pathophysiology: Introductory concepts and clinical perspectives*. (2nd ed.)

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). *Recognizing school nurses*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/features/school\\_nurse.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/features/school_nurse.htm).

Loh, A. R., & Chiang, M. F. (2018). Pediatric vision screening. *Pediatrics in Review*, 39(5), 225–234. <https://doi.org/10.1542/pir.2016-0191>

Ricci, S. S., Kyle, T., & Carman, S. (2021). *Maternity and pediatric nursing* (4th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.