

Management of Care

Client Rights: Grief & loss

- Anticipatory loss is experienced before the loss happens
- Anticipatory grief implies the letting go of an object or person before the loss, as in terminal illness.
- Individuals have the opportunity to start the grieving process before the actual loss.

Information Technology: telephone prescription

- Have a second nurse listen to a telephone prescription.
- Repeat it back, making sure to include the medication's name (spell if necessary), dosage, time, and route.
- Make sure the provider signs the prescription in person within the time frame and question any prescription that seems inappropriate for the client.

Safety and Infection Control

Accident/Error/Injury Prevention: Client identifiers

- The client's full name and date of birth.
- The date and time of the prescription.
- The strength and dosage of the medication. (generic or brand)

Safe Use of Equipment: Electrical Equipment Safety

- A decrease in tactile sensitivity can place the client at risk for burns and other types of tissue injury.
- Ensure that the number and placement of fire extinguishers and smoke alarms are adequate, functional, and that family members understand how to operate them.
- Follow general measures for fire safety in the home (having a fire extinguisher readily available and an established exit route if a fire occurs)

Standard Precautions/Transmission-Based Precautions/Surgical Asepsis: Sterile Field

- Advise clients to avoid sudden movements; refrain from touching supplies, drapes, or the nurse's gloves and gown; and avoid coughing, sneezing, or talking over a sterile field.
- Touch sterile materials only with sterile gloves.
- Consider any object held below the waist or above the chest contaminated.

Use of Restraints/Safety Devices: Prescription for Restraints

- In general, use restraints for the shortest duration necessary and only if less restrictive measures are not sufficient.
- Restraints should never interfere with treatment.
- They should fit properly and be discrete as possible.

Health Promotion and Maintenance

Aging Process: Health Promotion Guidelines

- Young adults should follow age-related guidelines for screening.
- Encourage selecting a primary care provider for ongoing, routine medical care.
- Provide education about contraception and regular physical activity.

Health Promotion/Disease Prevention: Bathing a client who has dementia

- Partial baths are useful when clients cannot tolerate a complete bath, need particular cleansing of odorous or uncomfortable areas, or can perform part of the bath themselves.
- Identify hygiene preferences to understand how clients perform hygiene at home and what additional education and care to provide.
- Bathe clients whose health problems have exhausted them or limited their mobility.

Health Screening: Snellen chart

- The client stands 20 feet from the Snellen chart.
- Evaluate both eyes and then each eye separately with and without correction.
- Ask the client to read the smallest line of print possible.

Techniques of Physical Assessment: assessing a client's blood pressure

- Systolic blood pressure occurs during ventricular systole, when the ventricles force blood into the aorta and pulmonary artery.
- Diastolic blood pressure occurs during ventricular diastole when the ventricles relax.
- BP reflects the force the blood exerts against the walls of the arteries.

Psychosocial Integrity

End-of-Life-Care: Grief, Loss, and palliative care

- Normal grief is considered uncomplicated; some acceptance should be evident by 6 months after loss.
- Complicated grief includes chronic, exaggerated, masked, and delayed grief.
- Allow time for grieving process, identify expected grieving behaviors.

Basic Care and Comfort

Assistive Devices: Client's use of walker

- A two-point gait requires the client to have partial weight bearing on both feet. The client moves a crutch while moving the opposite leg.
- Three-point gait requires the client to bear all weight on one foot while using both crutches. The affected leg should never bear weight.
- A four-point gait requires the client to bear weight on both legs.

Mobility/Immobility: prevent skin breakdown

- Immobility can be temporary, permanent, sudden, or slow onset.

- Body mechanics involves coordination between the musculoskeletal and nervous systems, balance, and friction.
- Turning patients every 2 hours and cleaning their incontinence can prevent skin breakdown.

Personal Hygiene: instruction about foot care

- Foot care prevents skin breakdown, pain, and infection.
- Foot care is extremely important for clients who have diabetes.
- A qualified professional must perform foot care on diabetic patients.

Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Medication Administration: safe medication administration and error reduction

- The client's full name and date of birth.
- The name of the medication along with the route of administration need verified.
- The strength and dosage of the medication is also important.

Pharmacological Pain Management: safe administration

- Uncontrolled medications require monitoring by a provider, but don't generally pose a risk for misuse or addiction.
- Medications that have a potential for misuse have a schedule classification.
- Interactions between other drugs is crucial to identify prior to administration.

Reduction of Risk Potential

Potential for Complications of Diagnostic Tests/Treatments/Procedures: fluid volume overload

- Distended neck veins, increased blood pressure, tachycardia, SOB, crackles, and edema are signs of volume overload.
- Stop the infusion, raise the HOB, and measure vital signs.
- Adjust the rate after correcting fluid overload and administer diuretics.

Physiological Adaptation

Alterations in Body Systems: performing a dressing change

- Note the color of open wounds (red, yellow, black)
- Assess the length, width, and depth and any redness or swelling,
- Use a clock face with 12:00 toward the client's head to document the location of sinus tracts.

