

KALC NURSING

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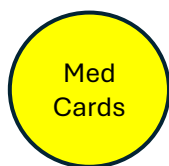
 NURSING KALC

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 THE KEY'S INTO NURSING PRACTICE

PROVIDING THE KEY'S TO NURSING

UNLOCKING NURSING PRACTICE



= Task, Assessment, Assignments to be demonstrated in front of Faculty, Course Chair, Clinical Coordinator or LAB instructors these must be STAMPED AND COMPLETED BY END OF SEMESTER



= LAB Concepts covered in Lab & Clinical

S-SITUATION

Code Status ☐ FC ☐ DNR ☐ DNI ☐ HCP ☐ MOLST ☐ - Admit Date-

Primary Admit Dx Allergies

The Problem I am calling about -

I just assessed the pt personally vitals are

T	P	R	BP	O2
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Previously they were MAP MAP

T	P	R	BP	O2
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I am concerned about the

BP >200 _____ <200 _____ 30mm Diff.

Pulse >130 _____ <50 _____ Pulse OX

Temp <96F/35.5C >103F/39.4C

B-BACKGROUND

CHF	COPD	Asthma	CKD	DM I	II	HD	PD	Seizure	other	Ca	Angina	MI	AFIB	CABG	HTN	ACS
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Patient is Currently – A&O x T PL P Mentation Changed - Yes No

☐ Confused - Cooperative Non Cooperative

☐ Agitated Combative Verbally Abusive Threatening

☐ Lethargic but conversant able to swallow

☐ Stuporous not talking clearly might not be able to swallow

☐ Comatose-Eyes Closed not responding to stimulation

Patient is: ☐ On Oxygen ☐ Not on Oxygen

The patient has been on: (l/p/m) % for _____ Hrs/min o2 Sats _____ NEBS— ☐ ☐ ☐

ABG ☐ Ph PaCo2 HCO3 PaO2 Lactic Acid Troponin

A-ASSESSMENT

IV's-PRN's



This is what I think the problem is that it seems to be:

- ☐ Cardiac ☐ Pulmonary ☐ Infection ☐ Neuro ☐ Meds
☐ I'm not sure what the Problem is but the patient is deteriorating.
☐ The patient seems unstable and may get worse, we need to do something.

R-RECOMMENDATION

I would like to suggest:

- ☐ Transfer to ICU
☐ Come to see the patient
☐ Talk to family about code status
☐ Ask on-call to see pt now
☐ Ask for a consult from:

Are there any test needed:

☐ CXR ☐ ABG ☐ EKG ☐ CBC ☐ BMP _____

Would you like any changes?

How often would you like vitals?

How long do you think this problem will last?

If the patient doesn't get better would you want to be called back? When?



My Nursing Notes

CRITICAL THINKING ON SYMPTOMOLOGY

Objective: The student will critically think through each presented symptom and classify it according to system outline below and base it on an acuity rating.

Primary Classification (though several organs may be involved narrow down to the most likely condition or presentation symptom that would be included in a nclex style question)

Primary System or Specialty Involvement

- P= Pulmonary Symptom
- C= Cardiac Symptom
- R=Renal Symptom
- E=Endocrine Symptoms
- N-Neurological
- L-Labor Deliver Kids Maternal Health
- B-Behavioral Health
- I-Infection

Conceptual Focus

- O- Oxygenation Related
- B- Perfusion Related
- S- Safety Related
- H- Higher Maslow- (ie. Requiring education, teaching)

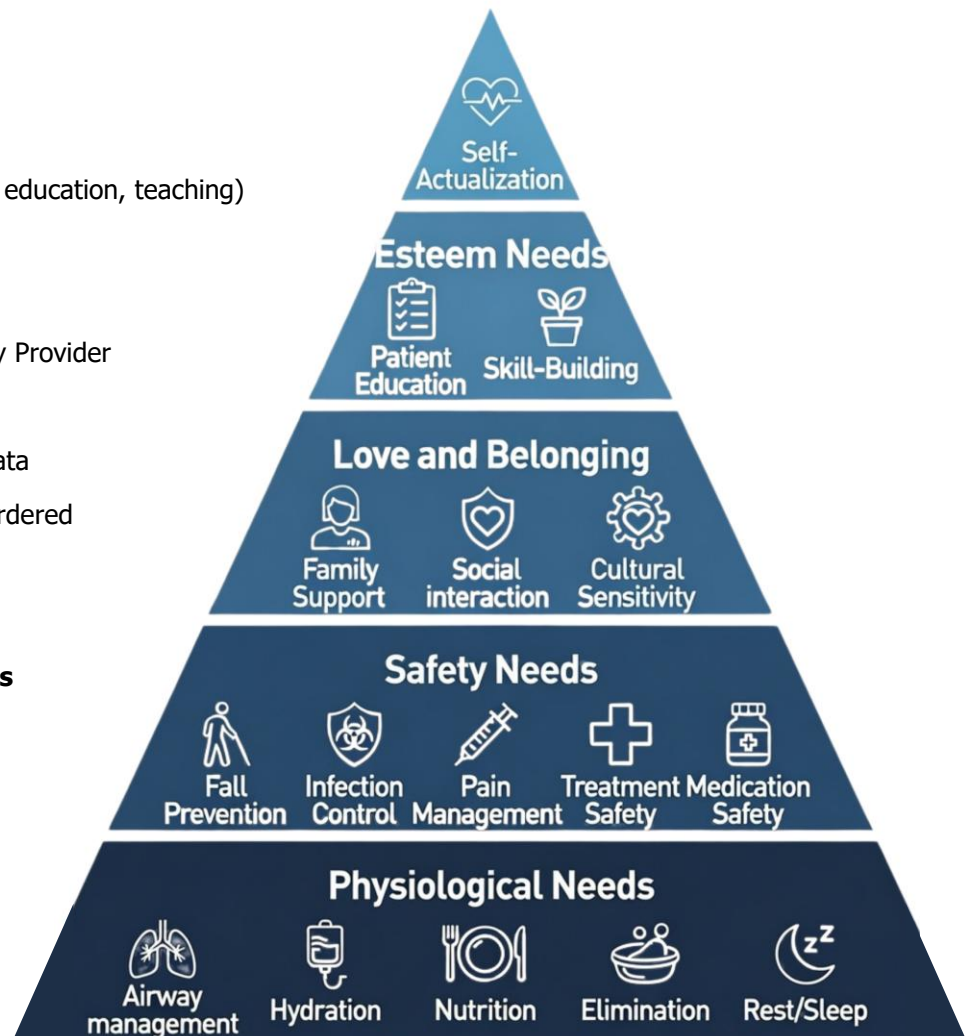
Acuity Rating

- 1- Stay in the room Urgent-Notify Provider
- 2- Intervention Needed
- 3- Assess Patient gather more Data
- 4- Anticipate Medication Being Ordered
- 5- Non Urgent

Complication-

Main complication 3 word or less

NURSING MASLOW HEIRARCHY OF NEEDS



SYMPTOMOLOGY BURN LIST TERMS COVERED THROUGHOUT NURSING			
Abdominal distention	Breast nodule	Deep tendon reflexes (hyper)	Flank pain
Abdominal mass	Breast pain	Deep tendon reflexes (hypo)	Flatulence
Abdominal pain	Breast ulcer	Delirium	Fontanel (bulging)
Abdominal rigidity	Breath odor (ammonia)	Depression	Fontanel depression
Accessory muscle use	Breath odor (fecal)	Diaphoresis	Footdrop
Agitation	Breath odor (fruity)	Diarrhea	Gag reflex abnormalities
Alopecia	Brudzinski sign	Diplopia	Gait (bizarre)
Amenorrhea	Bruit	Dizziness	Gait (propulsive)
Amnesia	Buffalo hump	Doll's eye reflex (absent)	Gait (scissors)
Analgesia	Butterfly rash	Drooling	Gait (spastic)
Anhidrosis	Café-au-lait spots	Dysarthria	Gait (steppage)
Anorexia	Capillary refill time (increased)	Dysmenorrhea	Gait (waddling)
Anosmia	Carpopedal spasm	Dyspareunia	Gallop, atrial (S4)
Anuria	Cat's cry	Dyspepsia	Gallop, ventricular (S3)
Anxiety	Chest expansion (asymmetrical)	Dysphagia	Genital lesions (male)
Aphasia (dysphasia)	Chest pain	Dyspnea	Gum bleeding
Apnea	Cheyne-Stokes respirations	Dystonia	Gum swelling
Apneustic respirations	Chills	Dysuria	Gynecomastia
Apraxia	Chorea	Earache	Halitosis
Arm pain	Chvostek sign	Edema (arm)	Halo vision
Ascites	Clubbing	Edema (face)	Headache
Asterixis	Cogwheel rigidity	Edema (generalized)	Hearing loss
Ataxia	Cold intolerance	Edema (leg)	Heat intolerance
Athetosis	Confusion	Enophthalmos	Heberden nodes
Babinski reflex	Conjunctival injection	Enuresis (nocturnal)	Hematemesis
Back pain	Constipation	Epistaxis	Hematochezia
Barrel chest	Corneal reflex (absent)	Erectile dysfunction	Hematuria
Battle sign	Costovertebral angle tenderness	Eructation	Hemianopsia
Biot respirations	Cough (barking)	Erythema	Hemoptysis
Bladder distention	Cough (nonproductive)	Exophthalmos	Hepatomegaly
Blood pressure decrease	Cough (productive)	Eye discharge	Hiccups
Blood pressure increase	Crackles	Eye pain	Hirsutism
Bowel sounds (absent, silent)	Crepitation (bony)	Facial pain	Hoarseness
Bowel sounds (hyperactive)	Crepitation (subcutaneous)	Fasciculations	Homans sign
Bowel sounds (hypoactive)	Cry (high-pitched, cerebral)	Fatigue	Hyperpigmentation
Bradycardia	Cyanosis	Fecal incontinence	Hyperpnea
Bradypnea	Decerebrate posture	Fetor hepaticus	Hypopigmentation
Breast dimpling	Decorticate posture	Fever	Insomnia

SYMPTOMOLOGY BURN LIST TERMS COVERED THROUGHOUT NURSING

Intermenstrual bleeding	Nuchal rigidity	Pulsus bisferiens	Tachycardia
Intermittent claudication	Nystagmus	Pulsus paradoxus	Tachypnea
Janeway lesions	Ocular deviation	Pupils (nonreactive)	Taste abnormalities
Jaundice	Oligomenorrhea	Pupils (sluggish)	Tearing (increased)
Jaw pain	Oliguria	Purple striae	Throat pain
Jugular vein distention	Opisthotonos	Purpura	Thyroid enlargement
Kehr sign	Orofacial dyskinesia	Pustular rash	Tics
Kernig sign	Orthopnea	Pyrosis	Tinnitus
Leg pain	Orthostatic hypotension	Raccoon eyes	Tracheal deviation
Level of consciousness	Ortolani sign	Rebound tenderness	Tracheal tugging
Lid lag	Osler nodes	Rectal pain	Tremors
Light flashes	Otorrhea	Respirations (grunting)	Trismus
Low birth weight	Pallor	Respirations (shallow)	Tunnel vision
Lymphadenopathy	Palpitations	Respirations (stertorous)	Uremic frost
Masklike facies	Papular rash	Retractions (costal sternal)	Urethral discharge
McBurney sign	Paralysis	Rhinorrhea	Urinary frequency
McMurray sign	Paresthesia	Rhonchi	Urinary hesitancy
Melena	Paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnea	Romberg sign	Urinary incontinence
Menorrhagia	Peau d'orange	Salivation (decreased)	Urinary urgency
Miosis	Pericardial friction rub	Salivation (increased)	Urine cloudiness
Moon facies	Peristaltic waves (visible)	Salt craving	Urticaria
Mouth lesions	Photophobia	Scotoma	Vaginal bleeding (postmen)
Murmurs	Pleural friction rub	Scrotal swelling	Vaginal discharge
Muscle atrophy	Polydipsia	Seizures (focal aware)	Venous hum
Muscle flaccidity	Polyphagia	Seizures (focal awareness)	Vertigo
Muscle spasms	Polyuria	Seizures (generalized absence)	Vesicular rash
Muscle spasticity	Postnasal drip	Seizures (gen. tonic-clonic)	Violent behavior
Muscle weakness	Priapism	Setting sun sign	Vision loss
Mydriasis	Pruritus	Skin (bronze)	Visual blurring
Myoclonus	Psoas sign	Skin (clammy)	Visual Floaters
Nasal flaring	Psychotic behavior	Skin (mottled)	Vomiting
Nasal obstruction	Ptosis	Skin (scaly)	Vulvar Lesions
Nausea	Pulse (absent or weak)	Skin turgor (decreased)	Weight Gain
Neck pain	Pulse (bounding)	Spider angioma	Weight Loss
Night blindness	Pulse pressure (narrowed)	Splenomegaly	Wheezing
Nipple discharge	Pulse pressure (widened)	Stools (clay-colored)	Wrist Drop
Nipple retraction	Pulse rhythm (abnormal)	Stridor	
Nocturia	Pulsus alternans	Syncope	

MEDICATION CROSS WALK

The medication crosswalk highlights drugs commonly encountered throughout the nursing curriculum—both in lectures and clinical practice. These medications are essential to understand

5-Fluorouracil	Benztropine	Ciprofloxacin	Dopamine	Gentamicin
Acarbose	Bisacodyl	Citalopram	Doxycycline	Gliclazide
Acetaminophen	Bisoprolol	Clindamycin	Duloxetine	Glipizide
Acetazolamide	Bismuth Subsalicylate	Clomipramine	Empagliflozin	Glucagon
Acetylcysteine	Bivalirudin	Clonazepam	Enalapril	Glyburide
Acyclovir	Budesonide	Clopidogrel	Enoxaparin	Guaifenesin
Albuterol	Bumetanide	Clozapine	Epinephrine	Haloperidol
Albumin	Bupropion	Codeine	Epoetin	Heparin
Adalimumab	Buspirone	Cortisone	Erythromycin	Hydralazine
Alendronate	Butorphanol	Cyclosporine	Escitalopram	Hydrochlorothiazide
Allopurinol	Calcium acetate	Dapagliflozin	Esmolol	Hydrocodone
Alprazolam	Calcium Carbonate	Desipramine	Esomeprazole	Hydrocortisone
Alteplase	Canagliflozin	Desvenlafaxine	Exenatide	Hydroxychloroquine
Aluminum Hydroxide	Candesartan	Dexamethasone	Famotidine	Ibuprofen
Amiodarone	Captopril	Dextromethorphan	Fentanyl	Imipramine
Amitriptyline	Carvedilol	Diazepam	Ferrous Sulfate	Indomethacin
Amlodipine	Cefazolin	Diclofenac	Fexofenadine	Infliximab
Amoxicillin	Cefepime	Digoxin	Fluconazole	Insulin (all types)
Ampicillin	Celecoxib	Diltiazem	Fluoxetine	Ipratropium bromide
Amphotericin B	Cephalexin	Diphenhydramine	Fluticasone	Irbesartan
Aspirin	Cetirizine	Diphenoxylate/Atropine	Fluvoxamine	Iron
Atenolol	Chlordiazepoxide	Divalproex	Folic Acid	Isocarboxazid
Atorvastatin	Chlorpromazine	Dobutamine	Formoterol	Isoniazid
Atropine	Chlorthalidone	Docusate	Furosemide	Ketamine
Azithromycin	Cimetidine	Donepezil	Gabapentin	Ketorolac

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Labetalol	Metoclopramide	Oxycodone	Rabeprazole	Tamsulosin
Lactulose	Metoprolol	Oxytocin	Radioactive Iodine	Telmisartan
Lansoprazole	Metronidazole	Pancrelipase	Ramipril	Temazepam
Levofloxacin	Midazolam	Pantoprazole	Ranolazine	Terbutaline
Levothyroxine	Miglitol	Paroxetine	Ranitidine	Tetracycline
Lidocaine	Minocycline	Penicillin G	Repaglinide	Theophylline
Linagliptin	Montelukast	Perindopril	Rifampin	Timolol
Liothyronine	Morphine	Phenazopyridine	Risperidone	Tiotropium
Liraglutide	Moxifloxacin	Phenelzine	Rosiglitazone	Tramadol
Lisinopril	Nadolol	Phenylephrine	Rosuvastatin	Trazodone
Lithium	Nalbuphine	Phenytoin	Salmeterol	Tranylcypromine
Loperamide	Naproxen	Pioglitazone	Sitagliptin	Trimethoprim
Loratadine	Nateglinide	Piperacillin	Semaglutide	Valacyclovir
Lorazepam	Nebivolol	Pitavastatin	Senna	Valsartan
Losartan	Nifedipine	Potassium Iodide	Sertraline	Vancomycin
Lovastatin	Nitroprusside	Pravastatin	Simvastatin	Vasopressin
Magnesium Hydroxide	Norepinephrine	Prednisone	Sitagliptin	Venlafaxine
Magnesium Sulfate	Nortriptyline	Procainamide	Spironolactone	Verapamil
Mannitol	Nystatin	Promethazine	Streptokinase	Vilazodone
Meperidine	Olanzapine	Propofol	Sucralfate	Vincristine
Metformin	Olmesartan	Propranolol	Sulfamethoxazole-Trimethoprim	Vitamin ADEK
Methadone	Omeprazole	Propylthiouracil	Sumatriptan	Vitamin B12
Methimazole	Ondansetron	Protamine Sulfate	Sildenafil	Vitamin C
Methotrexate	Oseltamivir	Quetiapine	Sotalol	Vitamin D2 / D3
Methylprednisolone	Oxacillin / Cloxacillin	Quinapril	Tacrolimus	Warfarin

TOP 100 MEDICATION CROSS-WALK

Acetaminophen	Cefazolin	Epinephrine	Ipratropium bromide	Omeprazole
Acyclovir	Cefepime	Erythromycin	Ketorolac	Ondansetron
Albuterol	Ciprofloxacin	Escitalopram	Labetalol	Oxycodone
Alteplase	Citalopram	Esmolol	Lactulose	Pantoprazole
Amiodarone	Clindamycin	Famotidine	Levofloxacin	Phenylephrine
Amitriptyline	Clonazepam	Fentanyl	Levothyroxine	Phenytoin
Amlodipine	Clopidogrel	Ferrous Sulfate	Lidocaine	Piperacillin–Tazobactam
Amoxicillin	Codeine	Fluoxetine	Lisinopril	Prednisone
Ampicillin	Dexamethasone	Furosemide	Lorazepam	Promethazine
Aspirin	Diazepam	Gabapentin	Losartan	Propofol
Atenolol	Digoxin	Gentamicin	Magnesium Sulfate	Propranolol
Atorvastatin	Diltiazem	Glipizide	Mannitol	Protamine Sulfate
Atropine	Diphenhydramine	Glucagon	Metformin	Ranolazine
Azithromycin	Dobutamine	Haloperidol	Methotrexate	Senna
Bivalirudin	Docusate	Heparin	Metoclopramide	Sotalol
Bumetanide	Dopamine	Hydralazine	Metoprolol	Spironolactone
Bupropion	Doxycycline	Hydrochlorothiazide	Metronidazole	Vancomycin
Buspirone	Duloxetine	Hydrocodone	Midazolam	Vasopressin
Captopril	Enalapril	Ibuprofen	Morphine	Verapamil
Carvedilol	Enoxaparin	Insulin (all types)	Norepinephrine	Warfarin

HIGH RISK HIGH ALERT ACUTE ASSESSMENT MEDICATION

High-alert medications are considered high-risk due to their potential for serious side effects and administration errors.

Nurses must be especially vigilant and prepared when handling these drugs

5-Fluorouracil	Digoxin	Insulin (all types)	Midazolam	Protamine Sulfate
Acetaminophen	Divalproex	Isocarboxazid	Morphine	Radioactive Iodine
Tranylcypromine	Phenelzine	Quetiapine	Risperidone	Trimethoprim
Allopurinol	Dobutamine	Isoniazid	Nitroprusside	Rifampin
Alteplase	Dopamine	Ketamine	Norepinephrine	Sotalol
Amiodarone	Enoxaparin	Lidocaine	Olanzapine	Streptokinase
Amphotericin B	Epinephrine	Lithium	Oxycodone	Sulfamethoxazole
Bivalirudin	Fentanyl	Magnesium Sulfate	Oxytocin	Theophylline
Bupropion	Gentamicin	Meperidine	Phenylephrine	Tramadol
Carbamazepine	Glipizide / Glyburide	Metformin	Phenytoin	Vancomycin
Ciprofloxacin	Haloperidol	Methadone	Promethazine	Vasopressin
Levofloxacin	Moxifloxacin	Methimazole		
Clindamycin	Heparin	Methotrexate	Propofol	Vincristine
Clozapine	Hydrocodone	Metoclopramide	Propylthiouracil	Warfarin

My Nursing Notes



FOOD RELATED MEDICATIONS



Med Name	Food / Diet Related Consideration	Nursing Teaching Point
Acarbose	Take with the first bite of each meal	Prevents post-meal glucose spikes; skipping meals can cause hypoglycemia
Alendronate	Take on empty stomach with full glass of water; remain upright 30 min; no food/drink for 30 min	Reduces risk of esophageal irritation / ulcers; critical patient education for adherence
Allopurinol	Take with food or milk to reduce GI upset	Improves tolerability; gout patients often have stomach sensitivity
Amlodipine	Avoid grapefruit juice (increases drug levels)	Can cause excessive blood pressure drop or edema
Amoxicillin	Can take with or without food (food may reduce GI upset)	Food helps if nausea occurs; does not significantly affect absorption
Ampicillin	Preferably on empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after meals)	Maximizes absorption; food decreases bioavailability
Aspirin	Take with food or milk to reduce GI irritation	Reduces risk of stomach upset and bleeding
Atorvastatin	Avoid large amounts of grapefruit juice	Increases risk of muscle damage (myopathy)
Bisacodyl	Do not take with milk or antacids	Destroys enteric coating → stomach irritation
Calcium acetate	Take with meals (phosphate binder)	Best phosphate control in CKD patients
Calcium Carbonate	Take with meals for best effect	Improves acid neutralization and phosphate binding
Captopril	Take 1 hour before meals (food decreases absorption)	Maximizes blood pressure control
Carvedilol	Take with food (reduces orthostatic hypotension)	Helps prevent dizziness upon standing
Ciprofloxacin	Avoid dairy, calcium, iron, antacids (separate by 2–6 hours)	Significantly reduces drug absorption
Doxycycline	Avoid dairy, calcium, iron, antacids (separate by 2 hours); take with full glass of water	Prevents reduced absorption and esophageal irritation
Esomeprazole	Take 30–60 minutes before meals	Optimal acid suppression
Ferrous Sulfate	Take on empty stomach with vitamin C; avoid dairy, antacids, tea, coffee	Maximizes iron absorption; vitamin C helps
Fexofenadine	Avoid fruit juices (apple, orange, grapefruit) – decreases absorption	Reduces effectiveness for allergy control
Glipizide	Take 30 minutes before meals	Better blood glucose control with meals
Glyburide	Take with meals or 30 min before meals	Reduces risk of hypoglycemia
Ibuprofen	Take with food or milk to reduce GI irritation	Lowers risk of stomach ulcers and bleeding
Indomethacin	Take with food or milk	Reduces GI upset
Iron	Take on empty stomach with vitamin C; avoid dairy, tea, coffee, antacids	Maximizes absorption; common cause of constipation
Isocarboxazid	Avoid tyramine-rich foods (aged cheese, cured meats, wine, etc.)	Risk of life-threatening hypertensive crisis (MAOI)
Isoniazid	Preferably on empty stomach; avoid alcohol	Reduces hepatotoxicity risk
Ketorolac	Take with food or milk	Reduces GI irritation
Lansoprazole	Take 30–60 minutes before meals	Optimal acid suppression
Levofloxacin	Avoid dairy, calcium, iron, antacids (separate 2 hours)	Prevents reduced absorption



FOOD RELATED MEDICATIONS



Medication Name	Food / Diet Related Consideration	Nursing Teaching Point
Levothyroxine	Take on empty stomach 30–60 min before breakfast; avoid calcium, iron, soy, coffee	Critical for consistent thyroid levels
Lithium	Maintain consistent sodium and fluid intake	Prevents toxicity or sub-therapeutic levels
Lovastatin	Take with evening meal; avoid grapefruit juice	Increases risk of muscle toxicity
Metformin	Take with meals to reduce GI side effects	Improves tolerability (nausea/diarrhea)
Metronidazole	Avoid alcohol completely (disulfiram-like reaction); can take with food	Severe nausea, vomiting, headache if alcohol consumed
Miglitol	Take with the first bite of each meal	Prevents postprandial hyperglycemia
Minocycline	Avoid dairy, calcium, iron (separate doses)	Prevents reduced absorption
Naproxen	Take with food or milk	Reduces GI irritation
Nateglinide	Take 1–30 minutes before meals ; skip if no meal	Prevents hypoglycemia if meal skipped
Omeprazole	Take 30–60 minutes before meals	Optimal acid suppression
Pancrelipase	Take with every meal and snack	Ensures proper digestion of fats/proteins/carbs
Pantoprazole	Take 30–60 minutes before meals	Optimal acid suppression
Phenelzine	Avoid tyramine-rich foods (MAOI)	Risk of hypertensive crisis
Phenytoin	Keep consistent timing with meals; avoid alcohol; tube feeds decrease absorption	Maintains stable blood levels
Potassium Iodide	Take with food or milk to reduce GI upset	Improves tolerability
Prednisone	Take with food or milk to reduce GI irritation	Reduces stomach upset and ulcer risk
Rabeprazole	Take before meals	Optimal acid suppression
Ranolazine	Avoid grapefruit juice	Increases drug levels and side effects
Repaglinide	Take 15–30 minutes before meals ; skip if no meal	Prevents hypoglycemia
Rifampin	Preferably on empty stomach; avoid alcohol	Maximizes absorption; hepatotoxicity risk
Simvastatin	Take in the evening; avoid grapefruit juice	Increases risk of muscle damage
Sucralfate	Take on empty stomach 1 hour before meals	Allows proper binding to ulcer sites
Tetracycline	Avoid dairy, calcium, iron, antacids ; preferably empty stomach	Prevents reduced absorption and esophageal irritation
Theophylline	Keep caffeine and diet consistent (high-protein/charcoal-broiled foods may affect levels)	Maintains stable drug levels
Tranylcypromine	Avoid tyramine-rich foods (MAOI)	Risk of hypertensive crisis
Vilazodone	Take with food (improves absorption)	Increases bioavailability
Vitamin ADEK	Take with food containing fat (fat-soluble vitamins)	Improves absorption
Vitamin D2 / D3	Take with food containing fat for better absorption	Improves absorption
Warfarin	Maintain consistent vitamin K intake (leafy greens); avoid large sudden diet changes	Prevents unstable INR and bleeding/clotting risk

VALIDATION COVER SHEET

(Student to retain copy of cover sheet as proof of validation)

Course: NURSING I Semester

Skill Validation: Head to Toe Assessment

Student: _____

This validation must be completed within 60 minutes

Directions: Critical steps will be circled by validating faculty. All critical steps (C) must be performed or verbalized or that part must be repeated.

FIRST ATTEMPT

Date: _____

Start Time: _____ **End Time:** _____

PASS: YES NO (Circle)

Needs to Repeat the Entire Validation: YES NO (Circle)

Needs to Repeat only the Following Parts:_____

Lab Remediation Referral Initiated: YES NO (Circle)

Faculty Evaluator: _____ **Student Signature:** _____

SECOND ATTEMPT

Second Attempt:

Date: _____ **Start Time:** _____ **End Time:** _____

PASS: YES NO (Circle)

Faculty Evaluator: _____ **Student Signature** _____

Name of Validation: Head to Toe Assessment

Completes entire validation in (60) minutes or less (to be determined by Course Chair) CS-		CS	P/V - Y/N	Comments:
Critical Skill – P/V Perform or Visualized		C		
1	Gather supplies. Wash hands. Check client identification Explain procedure to client. Standard precautions	C		
2	Organized. Minimal use of notes.			
3	Good communication; used medical terminology.			
Acute Care Patient PRIMARY ASSESSMENT (all components are required)				
Mental Status				
Introduces self using TIC-Method – Title , Introduce Self, Consent				
Alert and oriented x 4				
Heart and Peripheral Vascular Assessment				
1	Attaches blood pressure cuff above elbow joint on bicep	C		
2	P-Palpates PULSE for 15 seconds x 4 – Verbalizing assessing for RAINBOW (Regular, Absent, Irregular, , Normal, Bounding, 0 not palpable, Weak)	C		
3	E-Palpates EDEMA – Verbalizes PUB DREW (Present Unilateral Bilateral Dry Rebounds Erythema Warm)	C		
4	P-Palpates PEDAL pulses for PAD (Present, Absent states if absent would get a Doppler)	C		
5	P-Palpates PEDAL pulses for PAD (Present, Absent states if absent would get a Doppler)	C		
6	E-Palpates EDEMA – Verbalizes PUB READ (Present Unilateral Bilateral & Rebounds Erythema Absent Diaphoretic)	C		
7	R-Palpates RADIAL PULSE opposite side for 5 seconds with other radial at same time for RUB -(Regular, Unilateral, Bilateral)	C		
8	A-Auscultates – APICAL impulse (in 5th intercostal space, midclavicular line) for 1 minute (Notes Listening for S1 –Tricuspid and Mitral Valves closing, S2 Pulmonic and Aortic Valves Closing - Murmurs)	C		
9	B- Assesses BLOOD PRESSURE (Converts mean arterial pressure-3-DDS Diastolic + Diastolic +Systolic / 3)	C		
10	C- Palpates CAPILLARY REFILL < 3 seconds	C		
Thorax and Lung & PAIN Assessment				
1	P-Attached PULSE OXIMETRY	C		
2	O-Observe BATCH (Bradypenic, Apneic, Tachypneic, Clubbing, Hyperventilation)	C		
3	L-Auscultate LUNGS Anterior in right to left noting intercostal spaces with diaphragm (1-1, 4-4, 5-5, 6-6) DRAWS CRACKLES- (Diminished, rhonchi, absent, wheezes, stridor, crackles)	C		
4	A-ASSESES patient for any pain or discomfort prior to listening to posterior	C		
5	R-Counts RESPIRATIONS for 30 seconds and time it by 2- Notes if in distress count for 1 full minute.	C		
6	L-Auscultate LUNGS Posterior in right to left noting intercostal spaces with diaphragm (1-1, 4-4, 5-5, 6-6) DRAWS CRACKLES- (Diminished, rhonchi, absent, wheezes, stridor, crackles)	C		
Temperature & Abdominal Assessment				
1	T- TEMPERATURE assessment takes appropriate temp	C		
2	B- BOWEL SOUNDS abdominal assessment- Starts with the RLQ,RUQ/LUQ, LLQ then assess the aortic area-states they would listen for up to 2 minutes or until bowel sounds are auscultated.	C		

PASS

PASS

Instructor _____ Date _____ Time _____

BURN LIST OF TERMS FOR 101 - 204 TERMS



WHEEZES	PERTUSSIS	DYSPNEA	AIRBORNE	BRADYPNEA	NA
BRACHIAL	AORTIC	CONTACT	TEMPORAL	S1	ASTHMA
GLUCOSE	BRONCHIAL	HGB	SOB	APICAL	MEASLES
CHF	DOFFING	POST TIBIAL	CRANIAL NERVES	HYPEREXIA	EDEMA
ACS	CLUBBING	C-DIFF	CL	HDL	K
S4	CVA	NGT	CRP	TACHYCARDIA	SYSTOLIC
BVM	NG	TRACHEAL	NI	CRACKLES	GRV
CHEYNE STOKES	CAP REFILL	MUMPS	HTN	TB	FEMORAL
HEMOPTYSIS	RHONCH	MITRAL	PLT	CHEST TUBE	NPO
HYPERTROPHY	FEVER	S3	NRB	VESICULAR	DESATURATION
CLEAR LIQUID	KIDNEY DIET	STANDARD	DROPLET	FLANG	PH-STOMACH
CAD	BUN	PEDAL	PEG	HCT	PULMONIC
ND	LDL	ILEOSTOMY	HOB	G-TUBE	BELL
INCENTIVE SPRIOMETRY	TRANSVERSE COLOSTOMY	SIGMOID COLOSTOMY	FLATTENED DIAPHRAGM	DESCENDING COLOSTOMY	ASCENDING COLOSTOMY
DIAPHRAM	SEMI-FOWLERS	RUQ	TRACH	DASH DIET	TROPONIN
HYPOTHERMIA	5 TH ICS-MCL	MRSA	ASPIRATION	VARICELLA	SOMNOLENT
BRUIT	NA RESTRICTED	SPECIFIC GRAVITY	TACHYPNEA	WBC	BRADYCARDIA
POC	DIASTOLIC	COLOSTOMY	ORTHOPNEA	S2	AUSCULTATION
STOMA	RUBEOLA	EMPHYSEMA	BORGOBORGMY	FOLEY	NC
CAROTID	CO2	HEMIANOPSIA	YANKAUER	RADIAL	LLQ
HYPERGLYCEMIA	CLEAN CATCH	APNEUSTIC	HGA1C	BS	PALPATION
INFLUENZA	95-100%	UA	J-TUBE	TRYGLYCERIDES	HYPOGLYCEMIA
RLQ	ML	DONNING	VRE	RALES	BRADEN SCALE
DIABETES 1	WALKER	STRIDOR	POPLITEAL	CAUTI	TRICUSPID
BLADDER SCAN	FBS	BEFAST	STERILE	AKINESIA	3-POINT
SUPINE	CR	HYPOTENSION	NITRATES	DIABETES 2	GERD
KUSSMAUL	PH	HEMIPLEGIA	COMATOSE	BROCAS	CANE
LATERAL POSITION	CRUTCHES	EXPRESSIVE APHASIA	4 – POINT	PRONE	CKD
O2	ASEPTIC	ORTHOPNEIC	GCS	LITHOTOMY	PERRLA
CUP	LOC	SIDE LYING SIMS	STAGE 5	PARKINSONS	ISCHEMIC
WERNICKE'S	MMSE	MEDICAL ASEPSIS	CVA	OBTUNDED	OUNCE
STUPUROUS	NJ	RECEPTIVE APHASIA	LUQ	AVPU	MS
SWING THROUGH	HIGH FOWLERS	KETONES	MINI-COG	GAIT BELT	WHEELCHAIR
24 HOUR URINE	2 POINT GAIT	CARDIOMYOPATHY	ALS	TRENDELENBURG	GFR

My Nursing Notes

MEDS TO KNOW N1-N2 SIM MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

These are the medications that are included within the required simulations for 101. Each medication should be made into a medication card and hand written.

NAME _____

CLASS - ROUTE _____

Circle what organ it is related to


















Action _____
 Indication/Diagnosis _____

Medication	Drug Class	Primary Use	Most Likely Diagnosis
Hydromorphone HCl	Opioid analgesic	Severe pain	Post-op orthopedic pain
Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen	Opioid + analgesic	Moderate pain	Post-op pain
Cefazolin sodium	1st-gen cephalosporin antibiotic	Surgical prophylaxis, skin infections	Pre-op antibiotic
Naloxone	Opioid antagonist	Opioid overdose	Opioid-induced respiratory depression
Metoprolol succinate	Beta-blocker	HTN, HF, rate control	HTN, stable HF
Atorvastatin	Statin	Hyperlipidemia	CAD, Cardiac Risk
Donepezil	Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor	Dementia	Alzheimer’s disease
Cyanocobalamin	Vitamin B12	B12 deficiency	Pernicious anemia
Pyridoxine	Vitamin B6	Deficiency, neuropathy	Chronic alcohol use, INH therapy
Vitamin E	Fat-soluble vitamin	Deficiency, antioxidant	Neuropathy / general supplementation
Folic acid	Vitamin B9	Deficiency, anemia, pregnancy	Macrocytic anemia
Ibuprofen	NSAID	Pain, fever, inflammation	Musculoskeletal pain
Hydrochlorothiazide	Thiazide diuretic	HTN, mild edema	Hypertension
Amlodipine	Calcium channel blocker	Hypertension, angina	HTN
Regular Insulin	Short-acting insulin	Hyperglycemia, DKA	Type 1 or 2 diabetes
Dextrose 50%	Hypertonic glucose	Hypoglycemia	Hypoglycemic event
Glucose tablet	Oral glucose	Mild hypoglycemia	Diabetes with low BS
Glucagon	Hyperglycemic hormone	Severe hypoglycemia	Hypoglycemic unresponsive patient
Nitroglycerin (SL)	Nitrate vasodilator	Angina	Acute chest pain
Furosemide	Loop diuretic	Fluid overload	CHF exacerbation
Glipizide	Sulfonylurea	Type 2 diabetes	Type 2 Diabetes
Losartan	ARB (angiotensin receptor blocker)	Hypertension, diabetic, HF	HTN, Heart Failure
Simvastatin	Statin (lipid-lowering)	Hyperlipidemia	CAD, Atherosclerosis prevention
0.9% NS Flush	Isotonic crystalloid	Maintain IV patency	Any inpatient admission
Docusate Sodium	Stool softener	Constipation	Post-op bowel immobility
Albuterol inhaler	Short-acting β2 agonist	Bronchospasm, asthma, COPD	Asthma or COPD exacerbation
Insulin Glargine	Long-acting insulin	Basal glucose control	Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes
0.9% NS Infusion	Isotonic crystalloid	Hydration, hypovolemia	Dehydration, shock
Influenza Vaccine	Immunization	Infection prevention	Community health / Pre-op
Enoxaparin	Low-molecular-weight heparin	DVT/PE prophylaxis	Post-op immobility, orthopedic surgery
Tuberculin PPD	Diagnostic agent	TB screening	Occupational testing
0.45% Sodium Chloride	Hypotonic crystalloid	Hypernatremia, dehydration	Hypernatremia
Budesonide (inhaled)	Inhaled corticosteroid	Airway inflammation	Asthma, COPD
Morphine sulfate	Opioid analgesic	Moderate–severe pain	Acute post-op pain
Acetaminophen	Antipyretic / analgesic	Mild pain, fever	Viral illness, post-op discomfort
Lisinopril	ACE inhibitor	HTN, HF, post-MI	Hypertension, LV dysfunction
Celecoxib	COX-2 NSAID	Pain, arthritis	Osteoarthritis
Senna	Stimulant laxative	Constipation	Opioid-related constipation
Metoclopramide	Prokinetic antiemetic	Nausea, gastroparesis	Post-op nausea, diabetic gastroparesis
Zolpidem	Sedative hypnotic	Insomnia	Sleep disturbance in hospitalized pt

NAME



CLASS - ROUTE

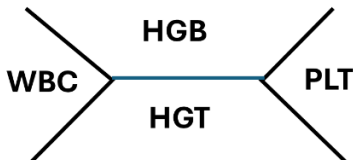
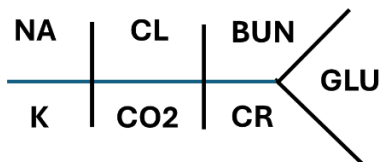
Circle what organ it is related to

Action

Indication/Diagnosis

Circle lab or assessment to monitor other LABS

Side Effects/Adverse REACTIONS



TOP 3 MONITORING OR THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW



SIMULATION REQUIREMENT 101

Nursing I—Boot SIM I – Medications- CARDS REQUIRED

Losartan

Simvastatin

0.9 NS Flush

ORIENTATION TO SIMULATION

This first sim is the chance to get acclimated within the environment these are the task requirements.

This is an immersive experience, and the sim should last less than 30 Minute

Tutorial Steps

Welcome!	Measure oxygen saturation
Review EHR	Remove gown
Perform hand hygiene	Apply 5 lead ECG
Review supplies on top of cart	Auscultate anterior: heart, carotid, lung, and bowel sounds
Raise and lower side rails	Re-position patient: sitting
Operate bed controls	Auscultate posterior: lung sounds
Identify patient	Re-position patient: semi Fowler's
Select hand gestures	Palpate abdomen
Palpate radial pulse	Assess capillary refill
Count respirations	Replace gown
Select cart tabs	Assess edema
Pick up equipment and supplies	Assess skin temperature
Interact with equipment/ supplies	Assess ankle clonus
Measure temperature	Assess pupils
Teleport: Room navigation	Locate phone
Place call light within reach	Review seizure pad placement
Review monitor features	Practice additional skills as desired
Measure blood pressure	End simulation

My Nursing Practice

Med
Cards

sims



SIMULATION REQUIREMENT 101

Nursing I—Boot Sim II Medications MED CARDS REQUIRED

0.9 NS Flush

Docusate
Sodium

Albuterol Inhaler

Insulin Glargine

0.9 NS InF

ORIENTATION TO SIMULATION SKILLS

This Second sim is the chance to get acclimated within the environment these are the task requirements should last less than 30 Minute

Tutorial Steps

Welcome!	Locate collection port on urinary catheter tubing
Tip: Selecting cart tabs	Collect urine sample from indwelling urinary catheter
Tip: Interacting with equipment	Obtain sputum sample
Perform hand hygiene & don gloves	Locate suction regulator & turn on: setting 'medium regular'
Clean site for IV insertion	Suction nares with suction catheter
Insert IV catheter	Assess secretions
Remove IV catheter	Reposition patient: Fowler's, 60 degrees
Apply bandage to IV site	Insert nasogastric (NG) tube
Clean site for venipuncture	Assess placement of NG tube & gastric contents
Perform venipuncture	Locate NG suction regulator & turn on: setting 'low intermittent'
Apply gauze dressing to venipuncture site	Attach NG tube to suction
Send blood sample to lab	Assess stomach contents
Review results in EHR	Apply nasal cannula
Blood glucose assessment: clean finger & perform puncture	Administer oxygen
Blood glucose assessment: clear first drop of blood & obtain BG	Reposition patient: supine, 0 degrees
Apply bandage to finger	Perform head tilt/chin lift maneuver
Implement the incentive spirometer	Practice additional skills as desired
Insert indwelling urinary catheter	End simulation
Assess urine in drainage bag	

My Nursing Practice

Med
Cards

sims



SIMULATION REQUIREMENT 101

Nursing I—Boot Sim III Medications 3 Sims

0.9 NS Flush	Docusate Sodium	Influenza Vaccine	Enoxaparin	Tuberculin PPD
0.45 sodium chloride inf.	Morphine Sulfate	Acetaminophen	Albuterol Inhaler	Budesonide

ORIENTATION TO MED ADMINISTRATION

This sim is the chance to get acclimated within the environment these are the task requirements should last less than 30 Minute

Tutorial Steps	
Tip: Interacting with equipment	Gather, verify, administer, & document: enoxaparin, subcutaneous route
Perform hand hygiene & don gloves	Gather, verify, administer, & document: tuberculin PPD, intradermal route
Review medication drawer	Clean IV hub
Review EHR	Verify patency: flush IV
Review MAR	Gather, verify, administer & document: morphine sulfate, IV push
Identify patient: name & date of birth	Gather & verify: 0.45% sodium chloride, IV infusion
Gather: docusate sodium	Hang infusion bag on IV pole
Verify: docusate sodium	Connect infusion to patient
Administer: docusate sodium	Program, start infusion, & document: 0.45% sodium chloride
Document administration: docusate sodium	Gather & verify: budesonide, inhalation
Clean site for intramuscular injection	Administer & document: budesonide, inhalation
Gather & verify: influenza virus vaccine	Practice additional skills as desired
Administer & document: influenza virus vaccine, intramuscular route	End simulation

My Nursing Practice

Med
Cards

sims



SIMULATION REQUIREMENT 101

Nursing I—Boot Sim III Medications 3 Sims

0.9 NS Flush

ORIENTATION TO PPE

This sim is the chance to get acclimated within the environment these are the task requirements should last less than 30 Minute

Tutorial Steps

Review precaution sign	Tip: Doffing and discarding PPE
Review EHR for precaution information	Doff gown
Perform hand hygiene	Doff gloves
Tip: Donning PPE	Doff face shield
Don gown	Doff N95 mask
Don N95 mask	Perform hand hygiene
Don face shield	Practice additional skills as desired
Don gloves	End simulation
Teleport: Enter patient room	
Teleport: Exit patient room	
Alternate method: Enter patient room	

My Nursing Practice

Med
Cards

sims



SIMULATION REQUIREMENT 101

Nursing I—Boot Sim III Medications 3 Sims

0.9 NS Flush

ORIENTATION TO PPE

This sim is the chance to get acclimated within the environment these are the task requirements should last less than 30 Minute

Tutorial Steps

Review precaution sign	Tip: Doffing and discarding PPE
Review EHR for precaution information	Doff gown
Perform hand hygiene	Doff gloves
Tip: Donning PPE	Doff face shield
Don gown	Doff N95 mask
Don N95 mask	Perform hand hygiene
Don face shield	Practice additional skills as desired
Don gloves	End simulation
Teleport: Enter patient room	
Teleport: Exit patient room	
Alternate method: Enter patient room	

My Nursing Practice

Med
Cards

sims



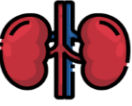
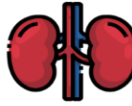
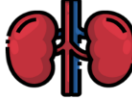
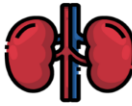
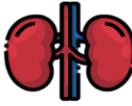


NURSINGKAMP BMP Basic Metabolic Panel Chem7 Chemistry 7 Level 1

The Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP) is a set of lab tests used to evaluate a patient's electrolyte balance and kidney function. These tests are typically performed daily for inpatients, during acute situations, or before diagnostic procedures or surgeries. It's important to note that lab values can vary between institutions, so always refer to your agency's policy for interpreting results. The NCLEX exam will provide reference ranges for these labs, but it's crucial for nurses to understand the underlying causes of any abnormalities, as well as the appropriate assessments and interventions. Units of measurement (such as mEq/L, mmol/L, etc.) are not emphasized here because the focus is on understanding the reference ranges.



Plasma is 55% of the blood tube indicating the fluid portion of blood. When considering the labs included in the Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP), it's helpful to remember that all of these tests measure components found in the fluid portion of the blood, known as plasma. Therefore, changes in these lab results are often linked to fluid imbalances in the body. Such imbalances can occur due to illness that causes dehydration, the use of diuretics that increase urine output, or any medical procedures that remove fluids from the body.

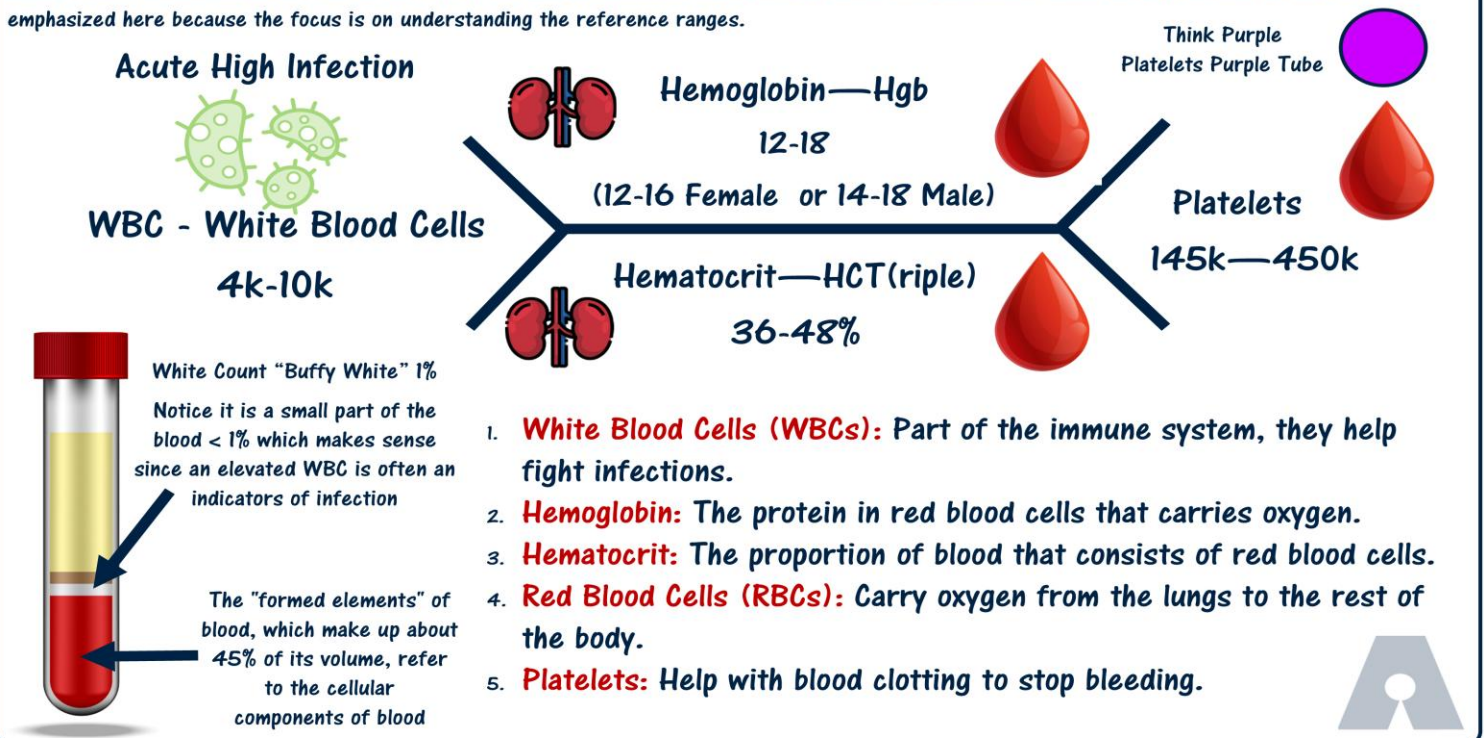
High is Dry!   Na - Sodium 135-145	Respiratory Metabolic?   Cl - Chloride 95-105	Kidney Issues - Diabetic?   BUN - Blood Urea Nitrogen 8-22	  GLU - Glucose 70-110 Low Acute Think BS 
3.5-5.1 K - Potassium   High & Low Acute!	22-26 CO2-Carbon Dioxide   Respiratory or Metabolic?	0.7-1.4 Cr- Creatinine   Kidney Issues - Diabetic?	

My Nursing Notes



NURSINGKAMP CBC Complete Blood Count Level 1

A Complete Blood Count (CBC) is a common blood test that measures several components of blood that is used to assess overall health and detect a variety of conditions, such as anemia, infection, and other blood disorders. These tests are typically performed daily for inpatients, during acute situations, or before diagnostic procedures or surgeries. It's important to note that lab values can vary between institutions, so always refer to your agency's policy for interpreting results. The NCLEX exam will provide reference ranges for these labs, but it's crucial for nurses to understand the underlying causes of any abnormalities, as well as the appropriate assessments and interventions. Units of measurement (such as mEq/L, mmol/L, etc.) are not emphasized here because the focus is on understanding the reference ranges.



Nursing Kamp—All laboratory values are different per organization the values listed are for guidance of methods of illustration—

StickEnotes © nursingkkamp.com

My Nursing Notes



Unit 1

Concepts Covered

Nursing Process: Assessment vs. Implementation
 Data Collection: Subjective vs. Objective
 Acute vs. Chronic Illness
 Cardiovascular Disorders (CAD, HTN, CHF)
 Respiratory Disorders (COPD)
 Endocrine Disorders (Diabetes Mellitus)
 Renal Disorders (CKD)
 Gastrointestinal Disorders (GERD)
 Neurological Disorders (CVA)

Clinical Skills In the Lab

Professional uniform
 BLS overview
 ADLs
 Practice with handling patients
 Handwashing validation
 PPE Validation
 VS Headset: orientation to simulation room



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW- MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Med
Cards

Medication	System	Drug Class	Primary Use	Most Likely Diagnosis / Indication
0.9% NS Flush	Fluid & Electrolyte	Isotonic Crystalloid (IV Fluid)	IV line flushing, medication dilution	IV patency maintenance, hydration
0.9% NS Infusion	Fluid & Electrolyte	Isotonic Crystalloid (IV Fluid)	Fluid replacement, hydration	Dehydration, hypovolemia, maintenance fluids
0.45% Sodium Chloride	Fluid & Electrolyte	Hypotonic Crystalloid (IV Fluid)	Fluid replacement (hypotonic)	Hypernatremia, maintenance fluids, diabetic ketoacidosis
Influenza Vaccine	Immune System	Inactivated Vaccine	Prevention of influenza infection	Seasonal influenza prophylaxis
Tuberculin PPD	Immune System	Diagnostic Agent	Tuberculosis screening (skin test)	Tuberculosis exposure / latent TB screening
Cyanocobalamin	Hematologic / Nervous	Vitamin B12	Vitamin B12 supplementation	Vitamin B12 deficiency, Pernicious anemia
Pyridoxine	Neurologic / Hematologic	Vitamin B6	Vitamin B6 supplementation	Vitamin B6 deficiency, peripheral neuropathy, sideroblastic anemia
Vitamin E	Multiple (Antioxidant)	Fat-soluble Vitamin	Antioxidant, vitamin supplementation	Vitamin E deficiency, antioxidant support
Folic Acid	Hematologic	Vitamin B9 (Folate)	Folate supplementation	Folic acid deficiency, Megaloblastic anemia, Pregnancy (neural tube defect)

CONCEPT MAPS TO KNOW

CARDIAC	CAD	HTN	CHF
RESPIRATORY	COPD	EMPHYSEMA	ASTHMA
ENDOCRINE	Diabetes Type I	Diabetes Type 2	
RENAL	Chronic Kidney Disease		
GASTROINTESTINAL	GERD (Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease)		
NEUROLOGICAL	CVA (Cerebral Vascular Accident)		

Unit 1

ACUTE VS CHRONIC

ACUTE: Definition: A sudden, short-term, and often rapidly changing condition that represents a new problem or deviation from the patient's previous baseline. Acute issues typically require immediate assessment, timely intervention, and close monitoring because they can worsen quickly.

Key Features:

Onset: Rapid, hours to days

Course: Unpredictable, may deteriorate fast

Priority: High—frequently triggers STAT assessment or escalation

Assessment Goal: Identify what changed, when it changed, how severe the change is

Examples: Acute pain spike, new onset confusion, shortness of breath, hypotension, bleeding, fever, new abnormal lab value

Acute findings are always assessed first during the "Assessment & Prioritization" step because they directly impact immediate safety.

CHRONIC: Definition A long-standing, persistent, or recurring condition that has been present for weeks, months, or years, with symptoms that are generally stable, predictable, or part of the patient's baseline health status.

Key Features:

Onset: Slow, develops over time **Course:** Stable or gradually progressive

Priority: Lower than acute issues unless the chronic condition becomes unstable or exacerbated

Assessment Goal: Determine baseline, trend, and whether there is any acute change on top of chronic illness

Examples: COPD baseline dyspnea, chronic back pain, diabetes, heart failure, dementia baseline behaviors

Chronic findings help determine what is normal for the patient so the nurse can detect acute deviations from baseline.

The Core Rule

Acute = New problem → unstable → requires immediate nursing action

Chronic = Existing condition → stable baseline → requires long-term management

ASSESSMENT = ACUTE OR CHRONIC

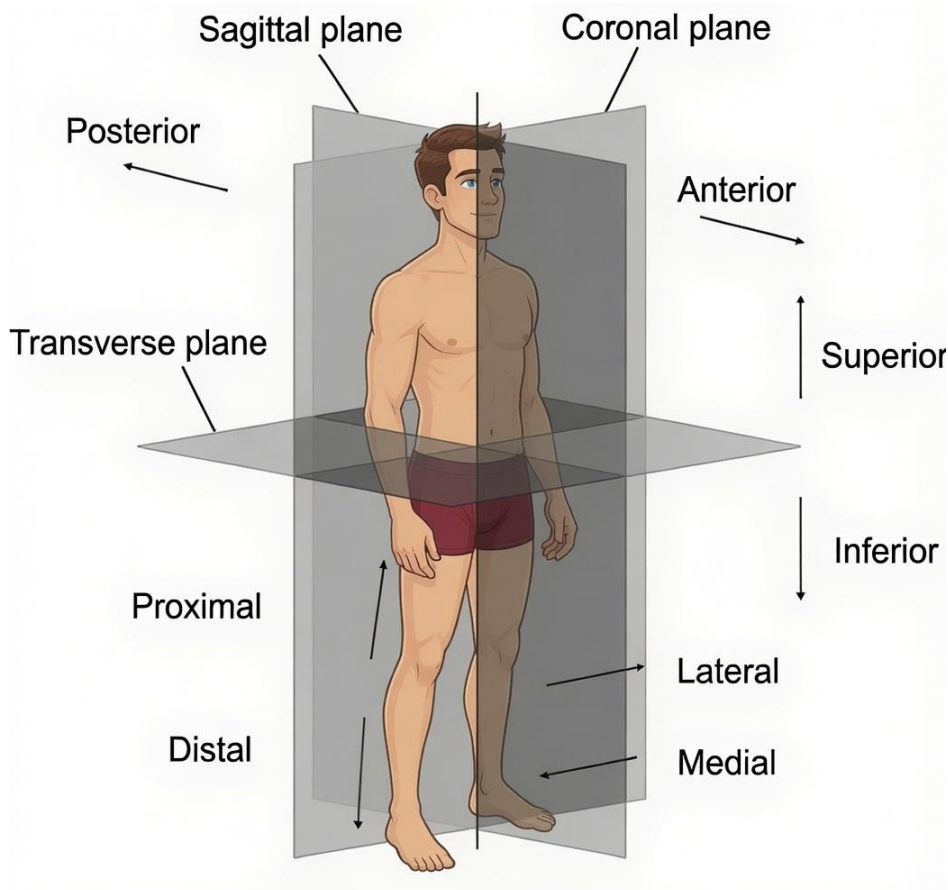
Category	Acute	Chronic
Onset	Sudden or recent	Slow or progressive
Pain	Sharp, severe, new	Dull, persistent, managed
Vital Signs	Unstable (e.g., ↑HR, ↓BP, ↑RR, fever)	Often within baseline or compensated
Oxygenation	Sudden desaturation, dyspnea at rest	Dyspnea on exertion, baseline SpO ₂ managed w/home oxygen
Neuro Status	New confusion, change in LOC, slurred speech	Stable cognitive changes (e.g., dementia baseline)
Skin	Warm, flushed, cyanosis, acute rash, diaphoresis	Chronic ulcers, scarred tissue
Labs	Rapid changes (H&H drop, troponin rise, sudden hyperkalemia)	Mild to moderate ongoing abnormalities (anemia of CKD)
Pain Meds Needed	Immediate, high doses for control	Controlled with routine analgesics
Functional Status	New weakness, falls, inability to perform ADLs	Gradual decline; uses assistive devices
Red Flags	New symptoms, unstable vitals, altered mental status	Longstanding, documented history

Unit 1

Good to know on Unit Meds

Medication	Top 3 Things You Should Know
0.9% NS Flush / Infusion	1. Generally, very safe, but large volumes can cause fluid overload. 2. Watch for swelling, shortness of breath, or high blood pressure (fluid overload). 3. Can cause electrolyte imbalances if used excessively.
0.45% Sodium Chloride	1. Hypotonic – can lower sodium levels too quickly. 2. Major risk: Hyponatremia (low sodium) → confusion, seizures. 3. Use with caution in patients with heart failure or brain conditions.
Influenza Vaccine	1. Common side effects: soreness at injection site, mild fever, tiredness (1–2 days). 2. Rare but serious: severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). 3. Safe for most people; cannot cause the flu (it's inactivated).
Tuberculin PPD	1. Main side effect: local skin reaction (redness, swelling) at test site. 2. False positives possible in people previously vaccinated with BCG. 3. Not a vaccine – it's only a diagnostic skin test.
Cyanocobalamin (B12)	1. Very safe; side effects are rare. 2. Can cause mild diarrhea, itching, or rash. 3. Important: Must be monitored in patients with low potassium levels.
Pyridoxine (B6)	1. High doses/long-term use can cause nerve damage (sensory neuropathy). 2. Usually well tolerated at normal doses. 3. Can interfere with levodopa (Parkinson's medication).
Vitamin E	1. High doses increase risk of bleeding (blood thinning effect). 2. May raise risk of prostate cancer and heart failure with very high doses. 3. Generally safe at recommended doses.
Folic Acid	1. Very safe for most people. 2. Can mask Vitamin B12 deficiency if taken alone. 3. High doses may cause nausea, bloating, or sleep disturbances.

My Nursing Notes



Unit 1

Safety & Devices to Know

Device	What It Is	Why It's Used	Top 3 Things You Should Know
Transdermal Patch	Medicated adhesive patch applied to skin	Delivers medication slowly over time	1. Rotate sites to prevent skin irritation. 2. Do not cut patches unless approved. Do not remove 3. Remove old patch before applying new one.
Sequential Compression Devices (SCDs)	Inflatable sleeves on legs that squeeze intermittently	Prevent blood clots (DVT)	1. Must be on except during ambulation. 2. Check skin every shift for breakdown. 3. Ensure proper fit – too loose = ineffective.
Wound Vac	Vacuum-assisted device with foam dressing	Promotes wound healing in complex wounds	1. Assess for proper seal and pressure settings. 2. Monitor output (drainage) and document. 3. Never turn off without provider order.
Chest Tube	Tube inserted into pleural space	Remove air or fluid from chest (pneumothorax, hemothorax)	1. Keep system below chest level at all times. 2. Check for tidaling and bubbling. 3. Never clamp without order
IV Fluids	Fluids infused through a vein	Hydration, medication delivery, electrolyte balance	1. Know fluid type (NS, LR, D5W, etc.) and rate. 2. Monitor for fluid overload (especially in heart failure). 3. Assess IV site every shift for infiltration.
Tracheostomy	Surgical opening in trachea with tube	Maintains airway in patients who can't breathe normally	1. Always have spare trach and obturator at bedside. 2. Keep inner cannula clean. Assess lung sounds 3. Suction as needed using sterile technique.
Foley Catheter	Indwelling urinary catheter	Accurate urine output, urinary retention	1. Use aseptic insertion technique. 2. Secure catheter to prevent pulling. 3. Monitor for CAUTI (Catheter-Associated UTI) – remove ASAP.
Central Line	Catheter in large vein (PICC, IJ, Subclavian)	Long-term IV access, TPN, chemo, critical meds	1. Strict central line dressing changes (sterile). 2. Monitor for infection (redness, fever). 3. Use Scrub the Hub before every access.
Hemodialysis Catheter	Large-bore central line (usually tunneled)	Provides access for dialysis	1. Do NOT use for routine IV meds unless ordered. 2. High infection risk – protect at all costs. 3. Check blood return and patency before use.
Fistula	Surgically created connection between artery and vein	Permanent access for hemodialysis	1. Assess thrill and bruit every shift. 2. Never take BP or draw blood on fistula arm. 3. Protect from injury – no tight clothing or IVs.
Dressings	Various wound coverings	Protect wound, absorb drainage, promote healing	1. Know when to change (wet-to-dry, dry-to-dry, etc.) 2. Document wound appearance and drainage. 3. Maintain sterile technique for new dressings.
Colostomy	Surgical opening from colon to abdomen	Diverts stool when normal bowel route is not possible	1. Monitor stoma color (should be pink/red & moist). 2. Empty pouch when ⅓–½ full. 3. Identify location of stoma and type of ostomy
NG Tube	Tube from nose to stomach	Decompression, feeding, medication administration	1. Verify placement before every use (X-ray or pH test). 2. Check residuals if on feeding. 3. Secure properly to prevent dislodgement.
Enteric Tube (e.g., PEG, NJ Tube)	Feeding tube into stomach or small intestine	Long-term nutrition when oral intake is not possible	1. Confirm placement before feeding. 2. Keep head of bed elevated ≥30° during feeds. 3. Monitor for aspiration risk.



Unit 2

VITAL SIGNS

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Vital Signs - Temperature Heart Rate Blood Pressure Respiratory Rate Oxygen Saturation Pain Assessment Normal vs. Abnormal Findings Infection and Fever Oxygenation and Perfusion Hypertension Assessment Techniques Use of Assessment Equipment Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Scope of Practice	PPE Donning and Doffing Hand Hygiene Temperature Assessment Apical Pulse Assessment Radial Pulse Assessment Manual Blood Pressure Measurement Respiratory Rate Assessment Oxygen Saturation Assessment Pain Assessment Proper Use of Stethoscope Proper Use of Vital Sign Equipment Identification of Normal and Abnormal Values ? Vital Signs Case Study Application Scope of Practice



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW- MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Med
Cards

Medication	System	Drug Class	Primary Use	Likely Diagnosis / Indication
Acetaminophen	Nervous System Pain	Non-Opioid Analgesic / Antipyretic	Pain relief and fever reduction	Mild to moderate pain, Fever, Headache
Ibuprofen	Musculoskeletal Inflammatory	NSAID (Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug)	Pain, inflammation, fever	Arthritis, Muscle pain, Menstrual cramps, Fever
Amlodipine	Cardiovascular	Calcium Channel Blocker	Lower blood pressure, treat angina	Hypertension, Coronary Artery Disease
Hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ)	Cardiovascular / Renal	Thiazide Diuretic	Reduce blood pressure, decrease fluid	Hypertension, Edema (fluid retention), Heart Failure

Good to Know on Unit Medications

Medication	Top 3 Important Things to Know
Acetaminophen	1. Maximum daily dose is 4,000 mg (3,000 mg for elderly/chronic liver disease). 2. Major risk: Liver toxicity (especially with alcohol). 3. Does not reduce inflammation (unlike NSAIDs).
Ibuprofen	1. Take with food to protect stomach. 2. Risks: GI bleeding , kidney damage, increased blood pressure. 3. Avoid in patients with heart failure, ulcers, or kidney disease.
Amlodipine	1. Common side effect: Peripheral edema (swelling in ankles/feet). 2. Can cause dizziness or flushing. 3. Monitor blood pressure regularly; do not stop suddenly.
Hydrochlorothiazide	1. Major risk: Electrolyte imbalance (especially low potassium). 2. Increases urination – give in the morning. 3. Monitor for dehydration, dizziness, and gout flares.

Unit 2

VITAL SIGNS-TEMPERATURE

Temperature Classification		
HYPOTHERMIA	<36.0 °C (95.0°F)	
NORMAL	36.0 °C - 37.5 °C (97.7 °F—99.5 °F)	
FEVER	>38.0—39.0°C (100.4-102.2 °F)	
HYPERTHERMIA	39.0 °C - 39.9°C (102.2 °F—103.9 °F)	
HYPEREXIA	40.0 °C - 41.5 °C (104.0 °F—106.7 °F)	
Temperature Ranges Variations		
Oral	36.4- 37.2 °C	97.6-99.6 °F
Tympanic	35.9- 37.6 °C	96.6-99.7 °F
Axillary	35.2- 36.9 °C	95.3-98.4 °F
Rectal	37.0- 38.1 °C	98.6-100.6 °F
Forehead	35.8- 36.9 °C	96.5-99.6 °F

Meds that Increase Temp: Amphotericin, Antihistamines, Methyldopa, PCN, Phenytoin, Salicylates, Sulfonamides

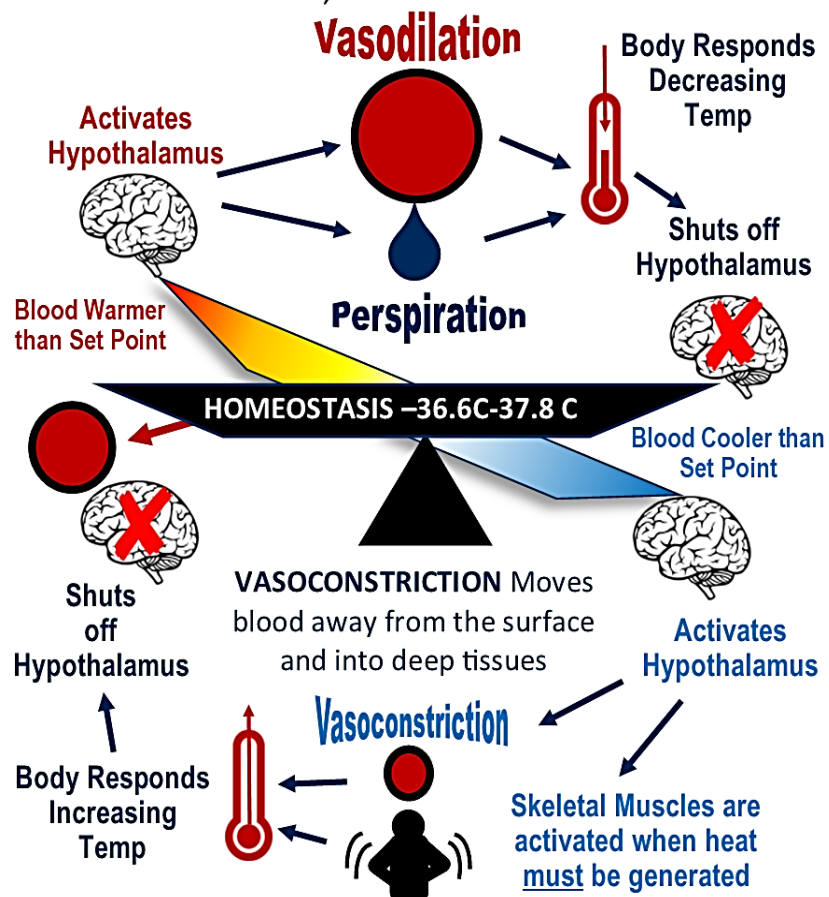
Conditions that Increase Temp: Virus, Infection, Tumors Rheumatoid Arthritis, ETOH Withdrawal, Antibiotics, Hyper-Thyroid. Recent vaccinations

Thermoregulation is managed by the Hypothalamus which resides in the brain. This manages temperature changes in the body the hypothalamus has a trigger “set point” that turns on and off in relation to changes of temperature in the blood or sensory receptors of the skin. Once turned on the compensatory mechanisms of the autonomic system become active in the management of temperature as heat is lost and gained through the skin with vasodilation, vasoconstriction sweating and muscle contraction (shivering)

°f	°C	Variations in Assessments
104	40	Fainting, dehydration, weakness, vomiting h/a, sweating starts to be life threatening
102	39	Severe sweating, flushed, red, tachycardia
100	38	Feeling hot, sweating, thirsty
98.6	37	NORMAL
97	36	Feeling Cold shivering
95	35	Intense shivering, numbness blue/gray skin dysrhythmias
93	34	Severe Shivering, Loss of finger movement, blueness confusion

VASODILATION of SKIN BLOOD VESSELS

Skin becomes Flushed, Warm—Radiates Heat from Skin



My Nursing Notes



Unit 2

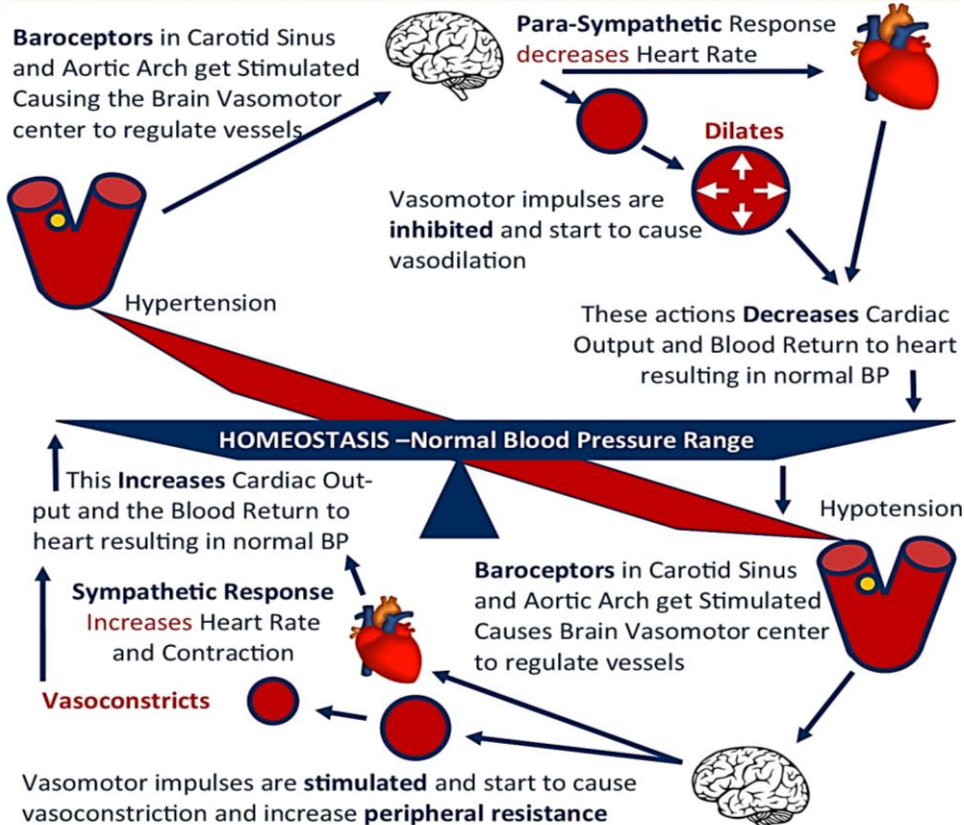
VITAL SIGNS-BLOOD PRESSURE

Blood Pressure is the pressure of the blood in the circulatory system, often measured for diagnosis since it is closely related to the force and rate of the heartbeat and the diameter and elasticity of the arterial walls.

Blood Pressure Classification

CLASSIFICATION	SYSTOLIC-mm hg		DIASTOLIC mmHg
Hypotension	Less than 100	or	Less than 60
NORMAL	100-120	and	60-80
ELEVATED	120-129	and	Less than 80
Hypertension Stage 1	130-139	an	80-89
Hypertension Stage 2	140 or Higher	OR	90 or Higher
HYPERTENSIVE CRISIS	More than 180	and/or	120 or Higher

Baroreceptors in Carotid Sinus and Aortic Arch get Stimulated Causing the Brain Vasomotor center to regulate vessels



My Nursing Notes

Taking a Manual Blood Pressure Step-by-Step Procedure

1. Position the cuff

- Place cuff on upper arm, 1–2 inches (2–3 cm) above the elbow crease.
- Align the artery marker over the brachial artery.

2. Find the brachial pulse

- Palpate the brachial pulse with your fingertips.

3. Inflate the cuff

- Inflate quickly to 30 mmHg **above** where the brachial pulse disappears.

4. Auscultate (Listen)

- Place stethoscope over the brachial artery (below the cuff).
- Deflate the cuff slowly (2–3 mmHg per second).

5. Record the reading

- Systolic** = First clear tapping sound
- Diastolic** = Sound disappears

Example: 120/80 mmHg.

6. Complete the procedure

Fully deflate and remove the cuff. Document the results.

Good to Know!

- Always use the **same arm** for consistency unless contraindicated.
- If reading is high or low, **wait 1–2 minutes** and retake.
- Never take BP on an arm with a **fistula, mastectomy, or IV**.
- Common error: Deflating too fast → inaccurate reading.

My Nursing Practice

B/P

B/P

B/P

ORTHO



Unit 2

VITAL SIGNS-PULSE (Heart Rate) HR

Heart Rate is the speed of the heart contraction that is normally counted for 15 seconds and multiplied by four. The normal adults heart rate is 60-100 beats per minute (bpm) and regulated by the Autonomic Nervous System.

The heart rate can vary according to the body's physical needs, including the need to absorb oxygen and excrete carbon dioxide. It is usually equal or close to the pulse measured at any peripheral point. Activities that can provoke change include physical exercise, sleep, anxiety, stress, illness, and ingestion of drugs.

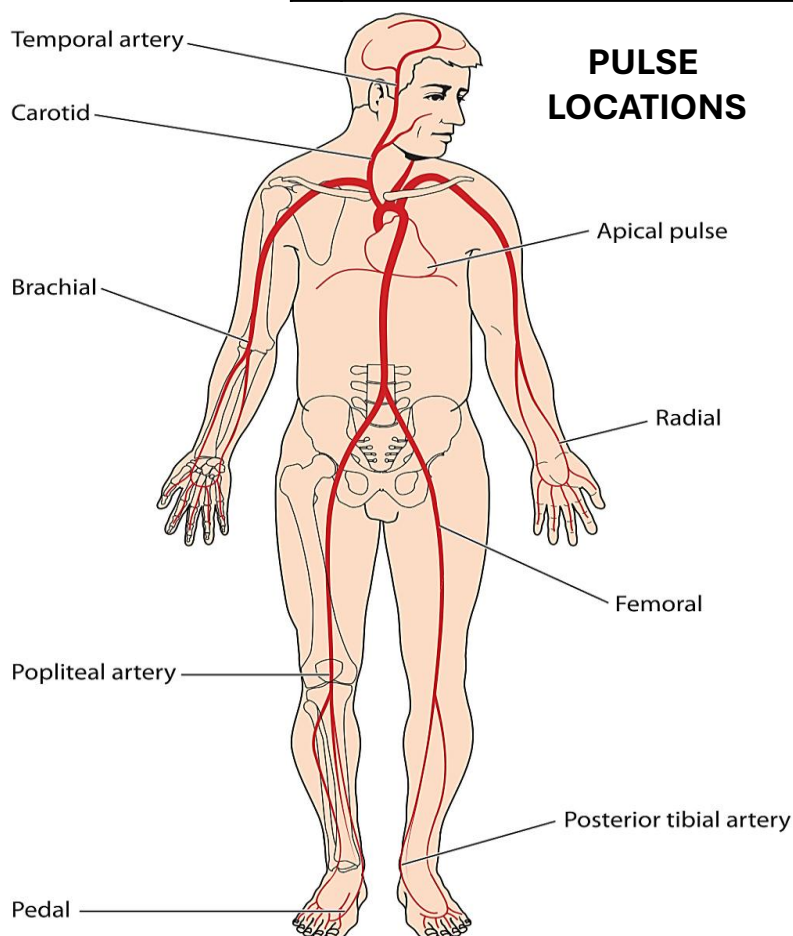
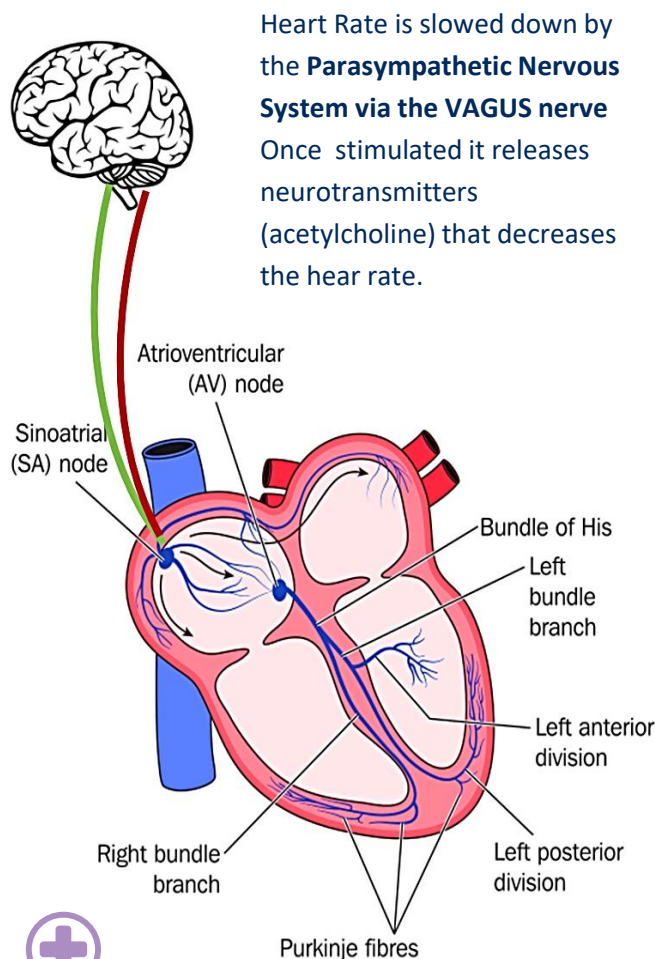
Heart Rate Classification	Peripheral Pulses
Bradycardia – Less than 60 bpm	Rate: BPM Minute—60-100
Normal Heart Rate – 60 bpm- 100bpm	Rhythm: Regular or Irregular
Tachycardia – Greater than 100bpm	Symmetry: Even Uneven
Heart Rate is controlled by the Sympathetic Nervous System which controls the SA– Node (Accelerator Nerve) Once stimulated it releases neurotransmitters (ACH-Nicotinic, Nor-epinephrine) that increase the hear rate, also contractility in the ventricles.	Amplitude: 4 = Bounding 3 = Increased 2 = Normal 1 = Weak 0 = Absent or No palpable
	Capillary Refill: <3 Seconds Normal

Cause of Tachycardia

T	Temperature(Fever)
A	Anxiety / Anemia
C	Cardiac(CHF,MI)
H	Hypovolemia
Y	"Your drugs"
C	Compensation-Shock
A	Acidosis(DKA)
R	Respiratory(PE,COPD
D	Dehydration / Drugs withdrawal
I	Infection(SEPSIS)
A	Arrhythmias(AFIB,SVT)

Causes of Bradycardia

A	Athlete
B	Beta-Blockers (metoprolol)
C	Ca-Blockers (diltiazem)
D	Digoxin
E	Electrolytes (Potassium Low)



Unit 2

VITAL SIGNS-RESPIRATIONS LUNG SOUNDS & PULSE OXIMETRY

Respirations are counted for 30 seconds and multiplied by 2 if normal and 1 minute if they appear abnormal

Normal Respirations are 12-20

RESPIRATION REGULATION

Respiration is the body's automatic process of controlling **how fast** and **how deep** we breathe to maintain normal oxygen (O₂), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and blood pH levels.

The Main Goal

The purpose of respiration is to:

Deliver **oxygen (O₂)** to the body's cells.

Remove **carbon dioxide (CO₂)**, a waste product of metabolism.

Maintain a normal blood pH (7.35–7.45).

Abnormal Breath Sounds Classification

Hyperventilation > 24 Breaths a Minute

Tachypnea > 20 Breaths a Minute

Bradypnea < 12 Breaths per minute

Apneustic– deep gasping and pause in inspiration then breathing

Cheyne Stokes–progressively deeper, and sometimes faster, *breathing* followed by a gradual decrease that results in a temporary stop in *breathing* called an apnea.

Kussmaul: Rapid Deep, labored, Hyperventilate

Adventitious Breath Sounds

Crackles Rales Best heard on inspiration, unrelieved by coughing

Wheezes Best heard on expiration, not cleared with coughing

Rhonchi Best heard on expiration, relieved by coughing

Stridor High Pitched on Inspiration

Diminished low amplitude at generally at bases with COPD

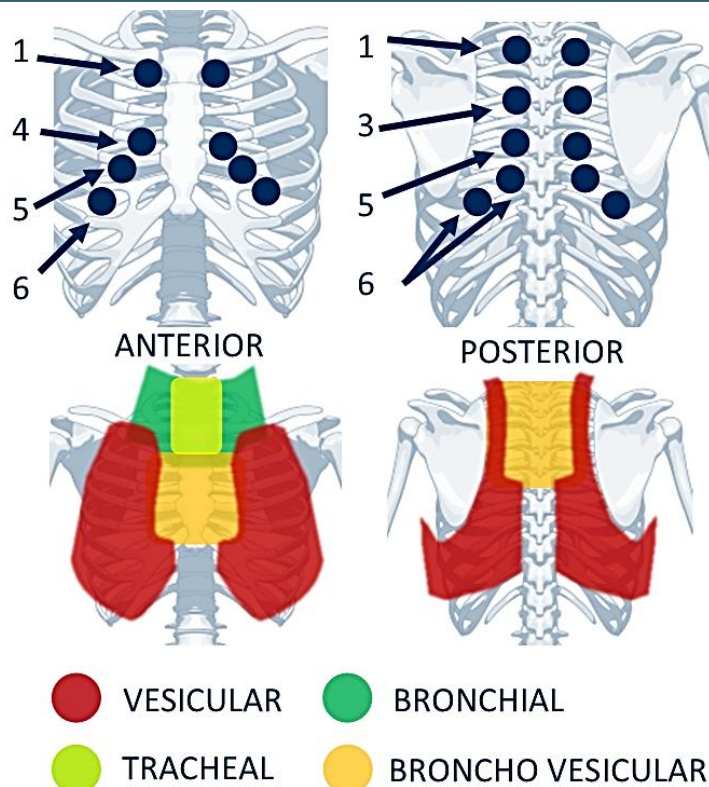
Absent are acute and need intervention

PULSE OXYMETRY— SpO₂

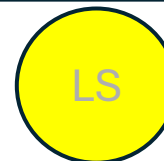
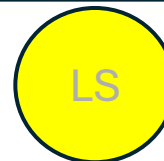
Pulse oximetry is a non-invasive method used to estimate the percentage of hemoglobin in the blood that is carrying oxygen. It tells us how well oxygen is being transported to the body's tissues, it does not measure how well a patient is breathing.

SPO ₂	Nursing Interventions
>95 %	Considered normal and requires no invasive intervention.
91%-94	Considered borderline, Assess probe placement, Assess patient, Elevate bed, Encourage turn cough deep breath
85-90	Immediate intervention needed. Assess patient, Elevate bed, Encourage turn cough deep breath assess airway.

AUSCULTATION OF BREATH SOUNDS



My Nursing Practice



My Nursing Notes



Unit 2

PPE & HANDWASHING



	Standard	Contact	Droplet	Airborne
Clinical Situation	Everyone	Resistant Organism, Diarrhea, Wound Drainage	Upper Respiratory Infections Unknown	TB, Measles, Chicken Pox, Laryngeal Disease
Room	Private, Semi Pvt	Private Cohorting	Private or Cohorting 3 ft	Private Negative pressure Door Closed
Gloves	ⓘ		ⓘ	ⓘ
Mask	ⓘ	ⓘ		N-95
Gown	ⓘ		ⓘ	ⓘ

Donning Order
Wash First

Doffing Order
Wash Last

ⓘ **Any unknown risk wear Gloves, Mask, Gown**

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ● AIDS/HIV | ● CMV-Cytomegalovirus | ● Measles |
| ● Adenovirus | ● Corona –Covid-19 | ● Meningitis (Bacterial) |
| ● Anthrax ● (Lesions) | ● Hepatitis B,C,D,E,G | ● Mumps |
| ● Aspergillosis | ● Herpes Zoster ● (Lesions) | ● Parainfluenza |
| ● Babesiosis | ● Histoplasmosis | ● Parvovirus B19 |
| ● Botulism | ● Impetigo | ● Pertussis |
| ● Bronchiolitis | ● Influenza | ● RSV |
| ● Chicken Pox (Varicella) | ● Lice (scabies) | ● Rota Virus |
| ● Clostridium difficile (C-Diff) | ● MRSA | ● TB Tuberculosis |
| ● Colorado Tick Fever' | ● MDRO-VRSA | ● VRE |

MTV
Measles
TB
Varicella

CRIMP
Covid-19
Rubeola
Influenza
Mumps
Pertussis

MRS VRE WEE
MRSA
RSV -VRE
Scabies
Wounds
Enteric (C. diff)
Eye infections



Areas Most Often Missed During Hand Washing

- Most Often Missed
- Often Missed
- Less Often Missed

My Nursing Practice

H/W

PPE

GLOVES

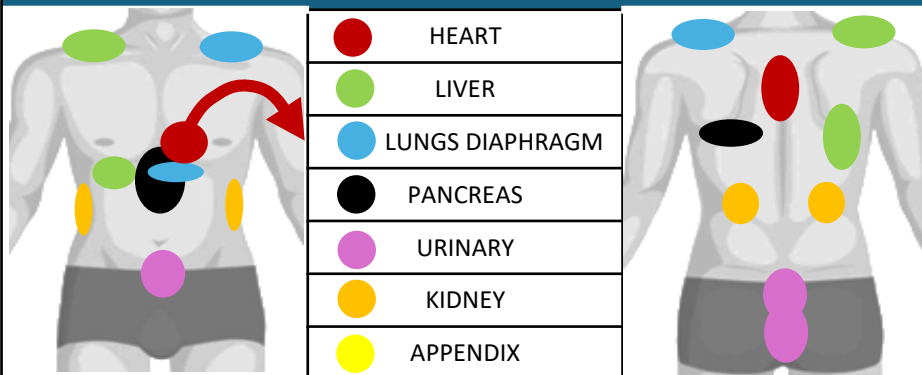
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Unit 2

VITAL SIGNS-PAIN ASSESSMENT

Nociception is the response to harmful stimuli. The pain pathway travels from the stimulus to the brain. When assessing pain in a patient always look underlying cause of the pain and interventions where appropriate.

REFERRED PAIN LOCATIONS



OPQRST

PAIN ASSESSMENT

Onset: When did the pain Begin?

Provokes: What provokes the pain? (exertion, spontaneous, onset, stress) What makes it better? (position, being still) What makes it worse? (inspiration, palpation)

Quality: Characteristic. Dull, achy, stabbing, pressure, deep, surface? Similar to previous?

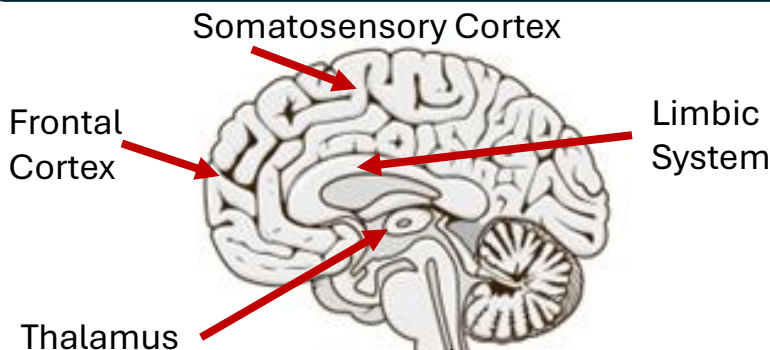
Radiation, Related: Does it radiate? (jaw, back arms etc.) Any related symptoms(nausea, dyspnea, indigestion, fever)

Severity: Explain Pain scale(0 being no pain and 10 being worse) Have patient rate pain.

Time: Constant, intermittent, Duration, Frequency

4

The pain signal reaches the **Thalamus** which relays the signal to the **somatosensory cortex**(sensation) **Frontal Cortex** (Thinking) and **Limbic System** (emotional response)



The PAIN Pathway

3

The pain signal reaches the **spinal cord** releasing neurotransmitters which activate other neuro pathways to signal the brain

2

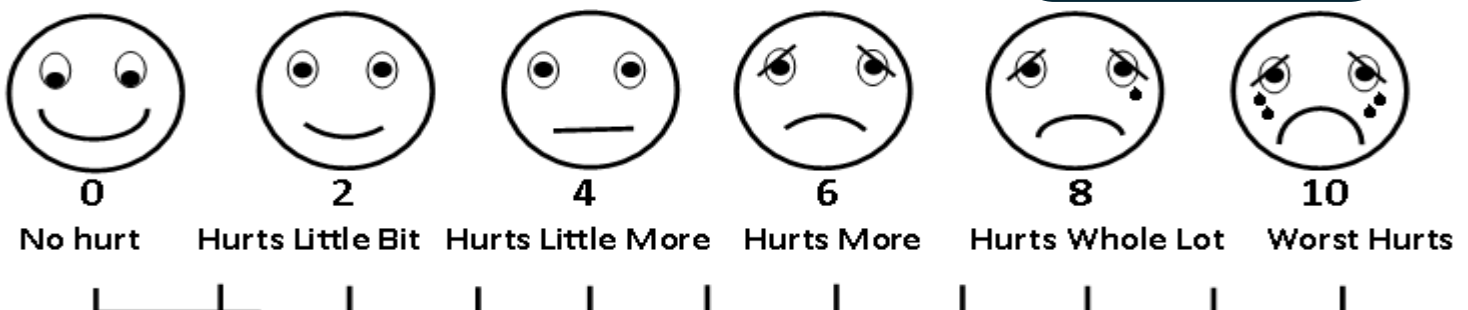
The pain signal then travels up the **primary afferent neurons** to the spinal cords

Pain receptors in the skin are activated by tissue damage



1

PAIN SCALE



My Nursing Notes

Unit 3

CARDIOVASCULAR ASSESSMENT

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Cardiovascular System Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) Cardiac Assessment Perfusion Circulation Cardiac Anatomy and Physiology Heart Sounds Pulse Assessment Edema Assessment Oxygenation and Tissue Perfusion	Focused Cardiac Assessment Apical Pulse Pulse Locations Heart Sound Identification Edema Assessment Capillary Refill Assessment Cardiac Case Study

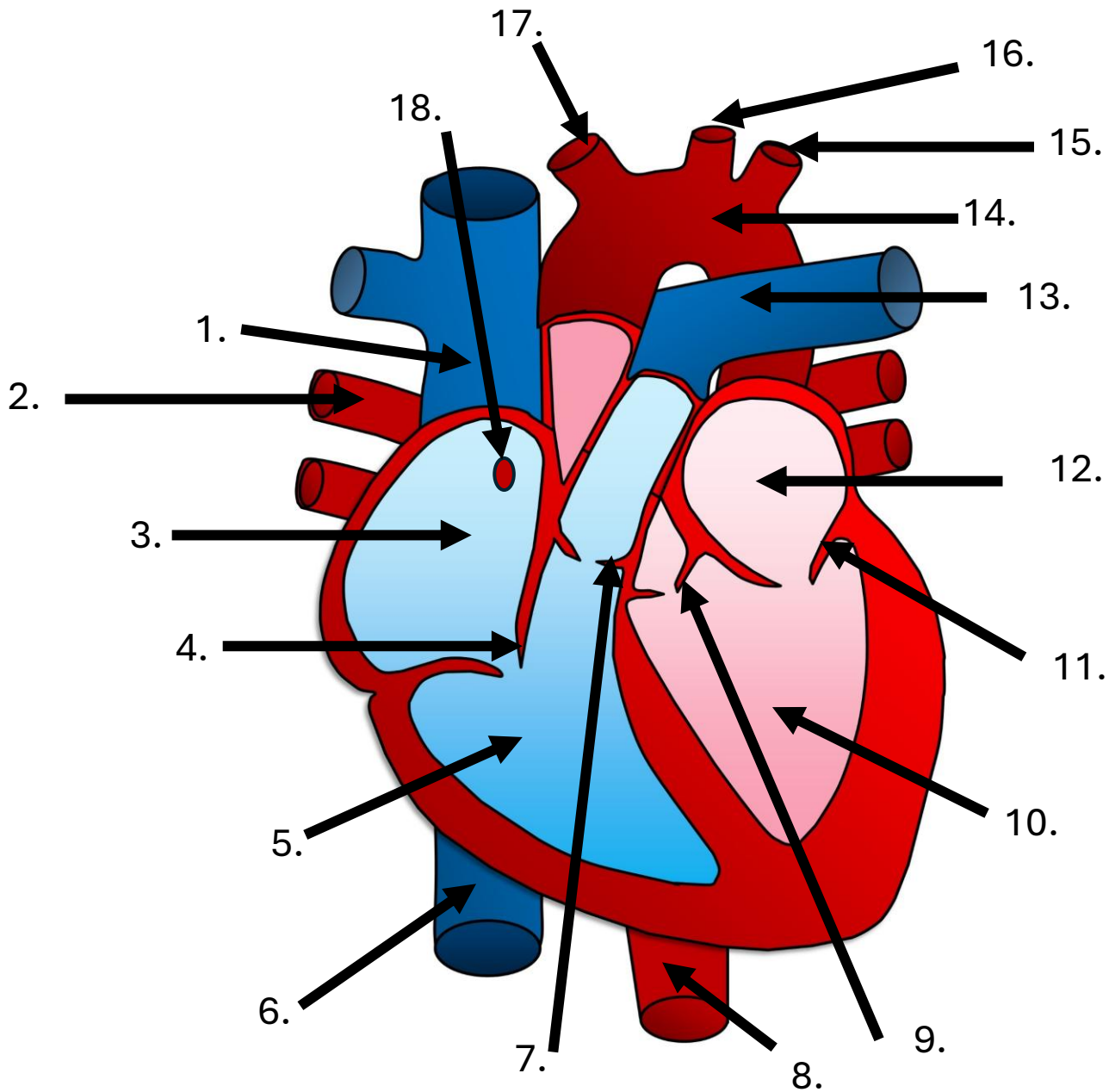


MEDICATIONS TO KNOW- MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Med
Cards

Medication	Drug Class	Primary Indications	Key Nursing Considerations & Monitoring
Metoprolol Succinate	Beta-1 Blocker (Cardioselective)	Hypertension, Angina, Heart Failure, Post-MI	Monitor for B's Bradycardia HR (hold if <60) BP Systolic < 100 , fatigue, worsening HF; do not crush ER form. May mask hypoglycemia
Lisinopril	ACE Inhibitor	Hypertension, Heart Failure, Post-MI	Monitor BP, renal function, potassium; watch for dry cough, angioedema, hyperkalemia.
Losartan	Angiotensin II Receptor Blocker (ARB)	Hypertension, Heart Failure, Diabetic Nephropathy	Monitor BP, renal function, potassium; fewer cough issues than ACEIs; good alternative if cough occurs.
Nitroglycerin (SL)	Nitrate (Vasodilator)	Acute Angina, Chest Pain	Administer SL for acute relief; monitor for headache, hypotension, dizziness; store properly; avoid with PDE5 inhibitors.
Furosemide	Loop Diuretic	Edema (HF, etc.), Hypertension	Monitor electrolytes (esp. K+), fluid status, renal function; watch for dehydration, ototoxicity with high doses.
Atorvastatin	Statin (HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitor)	Hyperlipidemia, CVD Prevention	Monitor liver enzymes & lipids; advise evening dosing; watch for muscle pain (myopathy/rhabdomyolysis).
Simvastatin	Statin (HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitor)	Hyperlipidemia, CVD Prevention	Similar to atorvastatin; more drug interactions (e.g., with certain antibiotics); evening dosing preferred.
Enoxaparin	Low Molecular Weight Heparin (Anticoagulant)	DVT/PE Prevention & Treatment, ACS	Monitor for bleeding; SC administration; check platelets (HIT risk); renal dosing adjustments.

My Nursing Notes



1	7	13
2	8	14
3	9	15
4	10	16
5	11	17
6	12	18

Unit 3

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE(CAD)

NURSINGKAMP Cardiac Complications Atherosclerosis vs Arteriosclerosis

Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) is a “generic” term describing the narrowing of the coronary arteries. These arteries are responsible for carrying oxygenated blood to the heart. Atherosclerosis and Arteriosclerosis are the specific terms describing the cause of CAD.

Atherosclerosis

Atherosclerosis (problem “at the Wall”) where there is a build up plaques on the wall that can result in them breaking off and lodging into the coronary artery resulting in angina leading to a Myocardial Infarction or Acute Coronary Syndrome.

Anticipate This

Treat Hypertension with Ace Inhibitors, ARB's, Beta-blockers, Calcium Channel Blockers- Treat Cholesterol with Statins

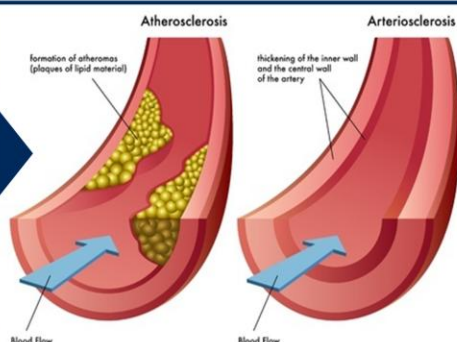
Look for?

Developing Plaque's breaking off mobilizing and blocking coronary arteries resulting in

Chest Pain, Risk of Rupturing

Do This?

CHEST PAIN is acute notify MD-Stay With Pt, EKG, Vitals, Think Oxygen -HONAMB



Both Risk?

Smoking, Stress, Diabetes, Obesity, Alcohol, Hypertension, Hereditary

Encourage Lifestyle Changes

Anticipate?

Calcium Study- Identifies Start of CAD

Triglycerides < 200 Want Low

LDL < 150 (LOW dl) Want Low

HDL > 40 Female Male > 50 Want High

CRP- < 3 (Inflammation Marker) Want Low

HgbA1c < 7 Diabetes Marker Want Low

Arteriosclerosis

Arteriosclerosis the problem is in the wall causing the inability of the vessels to dilate or react to the increase of oxygen demand. This results in angina if not treated leading to a Myocardial Infarction or Acute Coronary Syndrome.

Anticipate This

Treat Hypertension with Ace Inhibitors, ARB's, Beta-blockers, Calcium Channel Blockers- Treat Cholesterol with Statins

Look for?

Coronary Arteries are unable to Vasodilate due to hardening of the arteries resulting in Angina symptoms still at Risk for

Rupturing, **Chest Pain**

Do This?

CHEST PAIN is acute notify MD-Stay With Pt, EKG, Vitals, Think Oxygen -HONAMB



Vessel Problem

My Nursing Notes

Unit 3

CHF – CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

NURSINGKAMP Congestive Heart Failure – Right vs Left CHF & Cardiomyopathies

Congestive Heart Failure(CHF) is a chronic and general term meaning that the heart cannot pump the heart forwards so the blood gets backed up on that side. This can be caused by long term valve issues and myocardial infarctions . Heart Failure includes – Right vs Left Sides & Cardiomyopathies with a primary goal of preventing exacerbations. Ejection fractions less than 50% is concerning.

Right Sided Heart Failure

This side is more Chronic since the Right Ventricle cannot pump blood through the pulmonary artery causing it to back up into the body causing increase fluid in the body or “Edema” Think **RIGHT WET HEAD GO REST** meaning **WET**(Congestive symptoms **HEAD** Hepatomegaly, **Edema** Peripheral, **Ascites**, **Distended Neck Veins(JVD)** **Go Rest= Fatigued**.

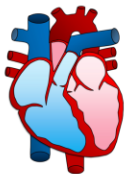
EXACERBATION CAUSES

H-Hypertension
E-Endocrine(Thyroid)
A-Anemia
R-Rheumatic Disease
T-Toxins (staph)
F-Failure to take meds
A-Atrial Fibrillation
I-Infection Myocarditis
L-Lungs-PE/Pneumonia
E-Electrolytes
D-Diet (SALT)

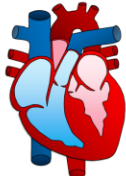
Left Sided Heart Failure

This side is more acute since the Left Ventricle cannot pump blood through the aorta so it backs up into the lungs causing increase fluid in the lungs or “Crackles” Think **LEFT LUNGS CHOP & LEFT THE ORGANS OUT**. Meaning SOB and Crackles, **CHOP** Cough, **Hemoptysis**, **Orthopnea**, **Pulmonary congestion & Fatigue** and **lack of organ perfusion** **kidneys, brain. S3, S4 Heart Sounds**

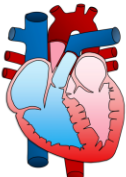
Other Causes of CHF Heart Failure



Dilated Cardiomyopathy damaged muscle fibers resulting in thinning and dilation reducing contractility and cardiac output.



Hypertrophy Cardiomyopathy (Big Trophy Heart) thickening of the Intraventricular Septum or Ventricle



Restrictive Cardiomyopathy caused by hemochromatosis, Cancers, Chemo, Radiation therapy, Sarcoidosis, Amyloidosis

MEDICATIONS

Medication Treatments are based on decreasing **PRELOAD** or **AFTERLOAD**

Decrease Preload

K-PUB LATE
K-Potassium Monitor
P-Preload Meds
U-Urine Focused
B-Bumetanide(Bumex)
L-Lasix(Furosemide)
A-Aldactone- K Sparing
T-Thiazide Diuretics
E-Elevated BUN/CR Risk

Decrease Afterload

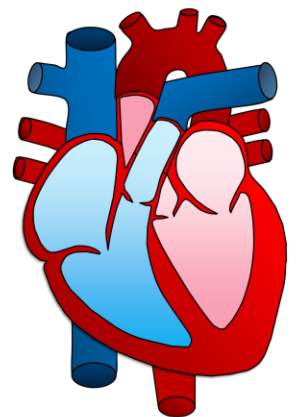
AFTER PINE LANDS
After-Afterload
Pine- Ca-Blockers (amlodipine)
L-Lisinopril
A-Ace Inhibitors
N-Nifedipine
D-Diltiazem (acute)
S-Sartans (ARB's)

PRELOAD = Preparation / filling before contraction” (stretch/volume)
AFTERLOAD = After filling, the load it pushes against” (resistance/pressure).

DIAGNOSTICS: BNP - Chest x-ray, ECG, Echocardiogram
Hemodynamics CVP, Cardiac Output, Ultrasound

Nursing Interventions

Low sodium Diet Fluid Restriction
Sitting up High Fowlers
Assist with O2 - Think medications



Pump Problem

My Nursing Notes

Unit 3

STARTING THE PRIMARY ASSESSMENT

Before we start....

What is a Primary Assessment- is the information you collect about your patient – CHRONIC
When? Why? **DIAPHRAGM**

What is a Secondary Assessment- what else do you need to know about your patient- ACUTE
When? Why **BELL**

PRIMARY ASSESSMENT = Assessment before Implementation

What do you need? Stethoscope and Vital Signs Equipment



WALKING INTO THE ROOM

T-Title

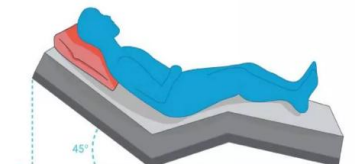
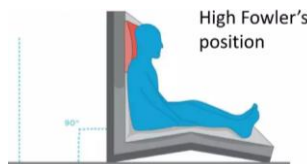
Hi I am a Nursing Student with...

I-Introduce

My name is.....

C-Consent

Would you mind if I did my vital signs and assessment on you?



Place the BP Cuff on



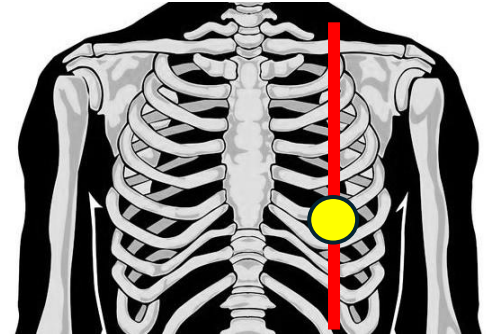
Unit 3

PRIMARY ASSESSMENT OF CARDIAC



Assessment starts with putting a **Blood Pressure** cuff on the patient.

Listen with **Diaphragm** for the **Apical Heart** rate for 1 minute in the 5th intercostal space mid clavicular line. Heart Sounds **S1-Mitral & Tricuspid** Valves Closing **S2= Pulmonic and Aortic** Valve Closing



CARDIAC ASSESSMENT-PEPPERABC	
P	P-Palpates PULSE for 15 seconds x 4 – Verbalizing assessing for RAINBOW (Regular, Absent, Irregular, , Normal, Bounding, 0 not palpable, Weak)
E	E-Palpates EDEMA – Verbalizes PUB DREW (Present Unilateral Bilateral Dry Rebounds Erythema Warm)
P	P-Palpates PEDAL pulses for PAD (Present, Absent states if absent would get a Doppler)
P	P-Palpates PEDAL pulses for PAD (Present, Absent states if absent would get a Doppler)
E	E-Palpates EDEMA – Verbalizes PUB READ (Present Unilateral Bilateral & Rebounds Erythema Absent Diaphoretic)
R	R-Palpates RADIAL PULSE opposite side for 5 seconds with other radial at same time for RUB -(Regular, Unilateral, Bilateral)
A	A-Auscultates – APICAL impulse (in 5th intercostal space, midclavicular line) for 1 minute (Notes Listening for S1 –Tricuspid and Mitral Valves closing, S2 Pulmonic and Aortic Valves Closing - Murmurs)
B	B- Assesses BLOOD PRESSURE (Converts mean arterial pressure-3-DDS Diastolic + Diastolic +Systolic / 3)
C	C- Palpates CAPILLARY REFILL < 3 seconds

Peripheral Pulses	
Rate: BPM Minute—60-100	
Rhythm: Regular/Irregular	
Symmetry: Even Uneven	
Amplitude:	
4 = Bounding	
3 = Increased	
2 = Normal	
1 = Weak	
0 = Absent or No palpable	

Peripheral Edema

Observe edema foot, ankles, legs
Bilateral (chronic) Unilateral (acute)



1+ (1 mm) Rebounds Immediately



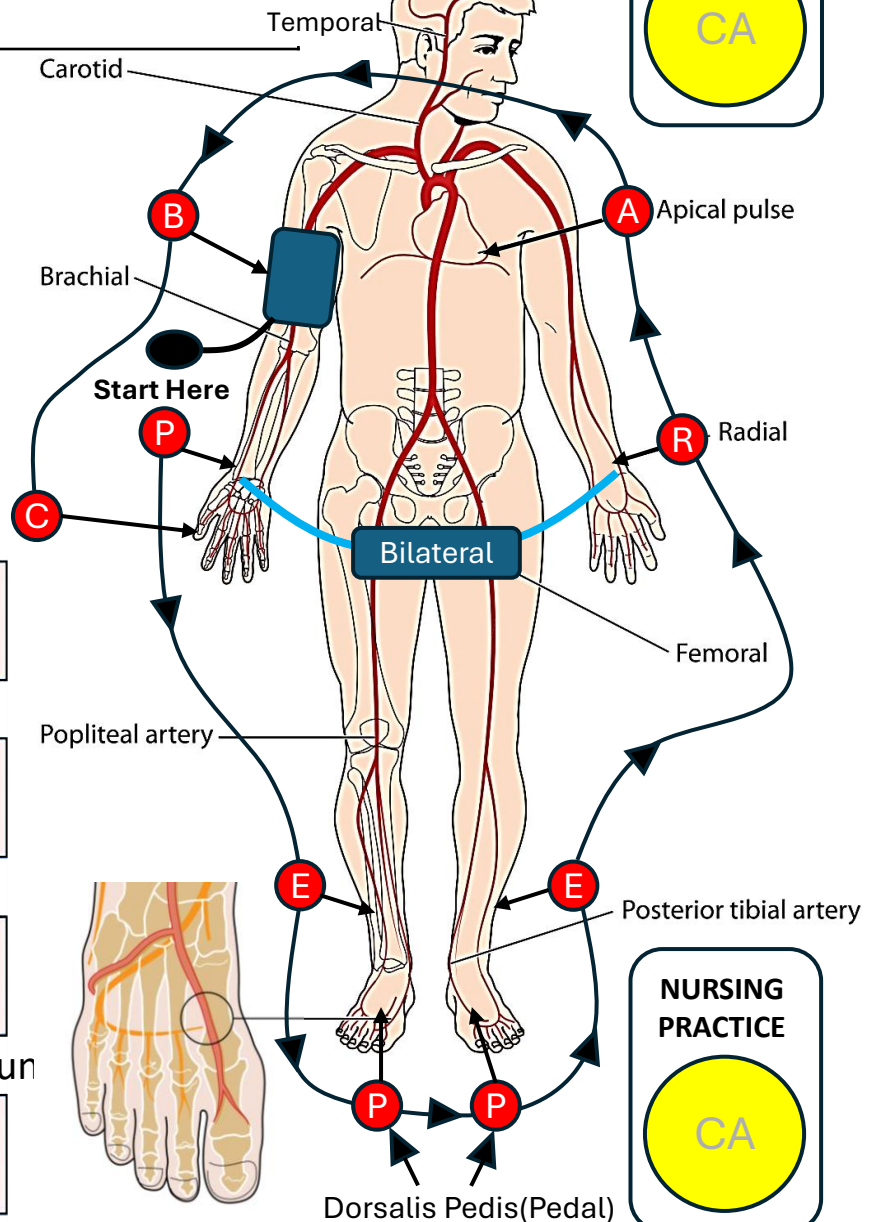
2+ (2-4mm) Seconds to Rebound



3+ (5-7mm) 10-12 Seconds to Rebound



4+ (>7mm) >20 Seconds to Rebound



NURSING PRACTICE



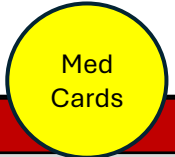
NURSING PRACTICE



Unit 4

PULMONARY ASSESSMENT

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Respiratory System Oxygenation Ventilation Gas Exchange Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Respiratory Assessment Oxygen Therapy Lung Sounds Airway Management Respiratory Equipment	Focused Respiratory Assessment Pulse Oximetry Assessment Lung Sound Identification Stethoscope Placement Nasal Cannula Non-Rebreather Application Bag Valve Mask Incentive Spirometer Introduction to Chest Tubes Introduction to Tracheostomy Care



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW – MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Medication	System	Drug Class	Primary Use	Most Likely Diagnosis / Indication
Albuterol Inhaler	Respiratory	Short-acting Beta-2 Agonist (SABA)	Quick relief of bronchospasm	Acute asthma exacerbation, COPD flare, wheezing
Budesonide (Inhaled)	Respiratory	Inhaled Corticosteroid	Long-term control of airway inflammation	Asthma maintenance, COPD management

PULMONARY DEVICES TO KNOW & Nurses Notes on Observation

Device	What It Is	Why It's Used	Top 3 Things You Should Know (Fundamentals)
Nasal Cannula	Low-flow oxygen delivery device (soft prongs in nostrils)	Deliver supplemental oxygen for mild to moderate hypoxia	1. Flow rate 1–6 L/min (24–44% FiO₂) 2. Comfortable for long-term use; patient can eat/talk 3. Humidify if >4 L/min to prevent nasal dryness
Is it on the patient, What is the liter flow? What is the patients SpO ₂ ? Do they normally have it on or just put it on in the hospital?			
Non-Rebreather Mask-NRB	High-flow oxygen mask with reservoir bag and one-way valves	Deliver high concentration oxygen in emergencies	1. Flow rate 10–15 L/min (up to 90–100% FiO₂) 2. Reservoir bag must stay inflated 3. Used for severe hypoxia or shock; never remove reservoir
ACUTE - Why is this on patient? What is the patients SpO ₂ ? Are they breathing on there own? What is their respiratory rate?			
Bag Valve Mask (BVM)	Hand-held manual ventilation device (Ambu bag)	Positive pressure ventilation during respiratory arrest	1. Use with 2-person technique when possible 2. Deliver 1 breath every 5–6 seconds (10–12/min) 3. Ensure chest rise; attach to oxygen for 100% FiO₂
ACUTE USE ONLY – Look beside the head of the bed is it there? Do you know where they are?			
Incentive Spirometer	Hand-held device that encourages deep breathing	Prevent atelectasis and improve lung expansion	1. Goal: 10 slow deep breaths per hour while awake 2. Sit upright; hold breath for 3–5 seconds 3. Used post-op or with pneumonia/COPD
Is it bedside within reach of the patient? Have they been doing it? Can the patient ambulate? What is their pain if POSTOP?			
Chest Tube	Flexible tube inserted into pleural space in chest	Remove air (pneumothorax) or fluid (hemothorax)	1. Keep below chest level; never clamp without order 2. If not bubbling or tidaling notify nurse. 3. Assess for cessation of drainage or respiratory distress
Is it below chest? Is it a dry or wet suction? Is it connected to suction? Where is the position of high? Low? What color is the Drainage?			
Tracheostomy (Trach)	Surgical airway opening with tube in trachea	Maintain patent airway when upper airway is bypassed	1. Keep inner cannula clean; have spare trach at bedside 2. Suction only as needed; use sterile technique 3. Never occlude stoma; emergency trach replacement if dislodged
How are they breathing? What is there SpO ₂ ? Lung sounds? Do they have humidification connected. Is the trach sutured or just ties?			
Yan Kauer Suction catheter	Rigid curved oral suction catheter	Clear secretions, vomit or blood from mouth and pharynx .	1. Used for oral/pharyngeal suctioning only 2. Apply suction only on withdrawal 3. Keep at bedside for patients at risk of aspiration
Why is at the bedside? Why does the patient need suctioning? How is their airway? Assess Lung Sounds, Check Resp Rate and SpO ₂			

Unit 4

PULMONARY ASSESSMENT

NURSINGKAMP COPD General Overview -Pulmonary -Asthma - Bronchitis - Emphysema

COPD -Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is a collection chronic diseases that are further classified. Sometimes just referred to COPD—it is important to identify which actual COPD is being treated since treatment, interventions, and medications are often differ-

ASTHMA

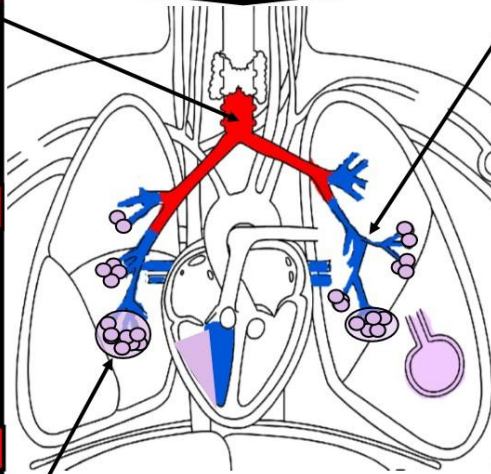
Chronic condition that has exacerbations triggered by external factors = Environmental (warm to cold) Smoke, Allergens, Pollutants, Molds, Seasonal Allergens, Stress, Infections

Looks Like! Wipe SCAM!

W-Wheezes **S**-Stress/Anxiety
I-Inspiratory -Expiratory **C**-Coughing
P- Prolonged **A**-Accessory
E- Exhalation **M**-Muscles

Do This!

Albuterol is the only rescue inhaler to be used first! High Fowlers-VS, Oxygen - Medications Stay with patient in an Asthma Exacerbation treatment options are based on prevention and limiting exacerbations.



BRONCHITIS

Chronic condition that has exacerbations and can result in infections from continuous chronic exposure to irritants (smoking) that affects the bronchioles and bronchi

Looks Like! Hey Blue Cops Care

Hey Hemoglobin High **Blue**- Blue Appearance
C-Coughing **C**-Clubbing
O-O2 Deprivation **A**-Accessory Muscles
P-Purulent **R**-Recurrent infections
S-Sputum **E**-Exertion -SOB

Do This!

Albuterol is the only rescue inhaler to be used first! High Fowlers- VS, Oxygen - Nasal Canular then Venti Mask leading to High Flow Oxygen. Treatment is based on treating underlying infection and limiting future exacerbations

Think! All Treatments are Specific to the COPD and Condition- All pulmonary meds are considered "BS" meaning Bronchodilators are used with Steroids! The bronchodilator are used first to open the Airway while the Steroids Suppresses inflammation

Emphysema

Chronic Condition resulting in the permanent destruction of airspaces below bronchioles causing "air trapping, co2 retention often requiring permanent Oxygen Therapy

Looks Like!

"Pink (color) Barrel Hot Rods"
Barrel Chest **Right Sided CHF**
Hyperinflation **Older**
Orthopneic **Diaphragm Flattened**
Thin **S-SOB at Rest**

Do This!

Assess Vitals Encourage pursed lips breathing-Tripod Position- No NRB and Caution on increasing O2 due to losing the hypercarbic drive to breath.

My Nursing Notes

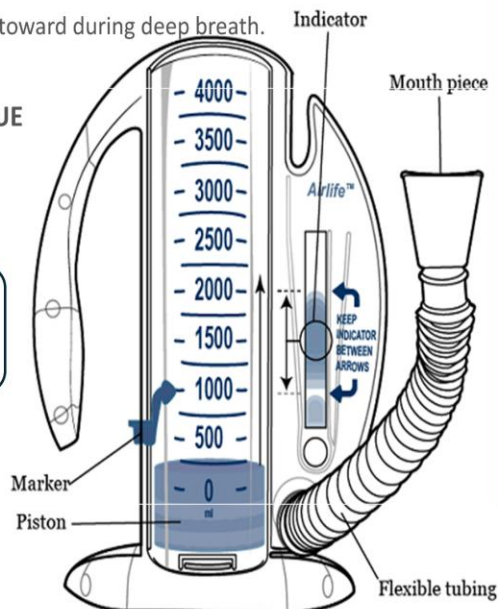
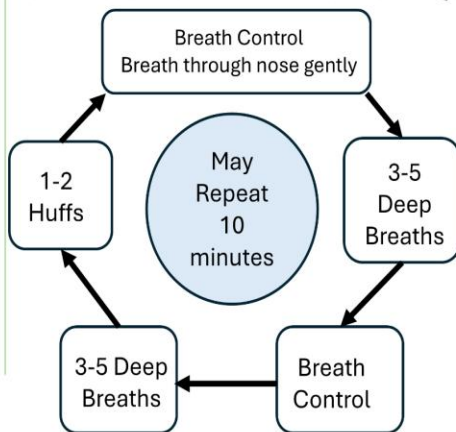
PULMONARY HYGEINE I-COUGH

- **I**-Incentive spirometry,
- **C**-Coughing and deep breathing,
- **O**-Oral care (brushing /mouthwash 2x's daily),
- **U**-Understanding (education),
- **G**-Getting out of bed frequently (3 x's daily)
- **H**-Head-of-bed elevation.

INCENTIVE SPIROMETRY

1. Have patient sit on the edge of bed if possible, or sit up
2. Hold the incentive spirometer in an upright position.
3. Place the mouthpiece in pt. mouth and seal lips tightly around it.
4. Have patient Breathe in slowly and as deeply as possible.
5. Notice the yellow piston rising toward the top of the column.
6. Observe the yellow indicator should reach the blue outlined area.
7. Have pt. hold their breath as long as possible (5 seconds).
8. Have pt. exhale slowly allow the piston to fall to the bottom of column.
9. Rest for a few seconds Repeat steps 1-5 at least 10 times hour.
10. Record -Position the yellow indicator on left side to show best effort.
11. Teach to use the indicator as goal to work toward during deep breath.
12. Encourage Patient to Cough

ACTIVE CYCLE OF BREATHING TECHNIQUE



Unit 4

PULMONARY ASSESSMENT DEVICES



My Nursing Notes

Nasal Cannula 	Can Eat, Drink, Talk Higher flow can be dry to nasopharyngeal area use humidifier- Front Line for Alert, Oriented Not as accurate % O2	1	24 %
		2	28 %
		3	32 %
		4	36 %
		5	40 %
		6	44 %
Non-Rebreather 	Delivers up to 95-100% Oxygen with both flaps intact Mask has two flaps that may be removed to change FiO2 %	10-15	80-100 %
		80-85% Both Flaps Removed	
		85-90% One Flap Removed	
Bag Valve Mask (BVM) 	100% Oxygen Delivery for manual ventilation, for unconscious patients or unable to oxygenate.		
Chest Tube 	Removes air (pneumothorax) or fluid (hemothorax) from the pleural Space		
Tracheostomy Tube 	Artificial airway device that allows the patient to breath through and maintain oxygenation		
Yankauer Suction 	Artificial airway device that allows the patient to breath through and maintain oxygenation		

Unit 4 PULMONARY PRIMARY ASSESSMENT

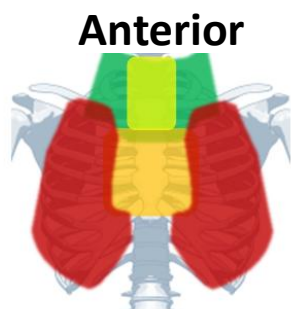


Pulmonary assessment starts with you putting the Pulse Ox on the patient

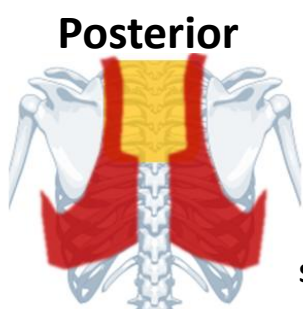
Respirations are counted for 30 seconds and multiplied by 2 if normal and 1 minute if they appear abnormal.

Normal Respirations are 12-20

PULMONARY ASSESSMENT – POLAR-L	
P	P-Attached PULSE OXIMETRY
O	O-Observe BATCH (Bradypnea, Apneic, Tachypneic, Clubbing, Hyperventilation)
L	L-Auscultate LUNGS Anterior in right to left noting intercostal spaces with diaphragm (1-1, 4-4, 5-5, 6-6) DRAWS CRACKLES- (Diminished, rhonchi, absent, wheezes, stridor, crackles)
A	A-ASSESES patient for any pain or discomfort prior to listening to posterior
R	R-Counts RESPIRATIONS for 30 seconds and time it by 2- Notes if in distress count for 1 full minute.
L	L-Auscultate LUNGS Posterior in right to left noting intercostal spaces with diaphragm (1-1, 4-4, 5-5, 6-6) DRAWS CRACKLES- (Diminished, rhonchi, absent, wheezes, stridor, crackles)



Anterior

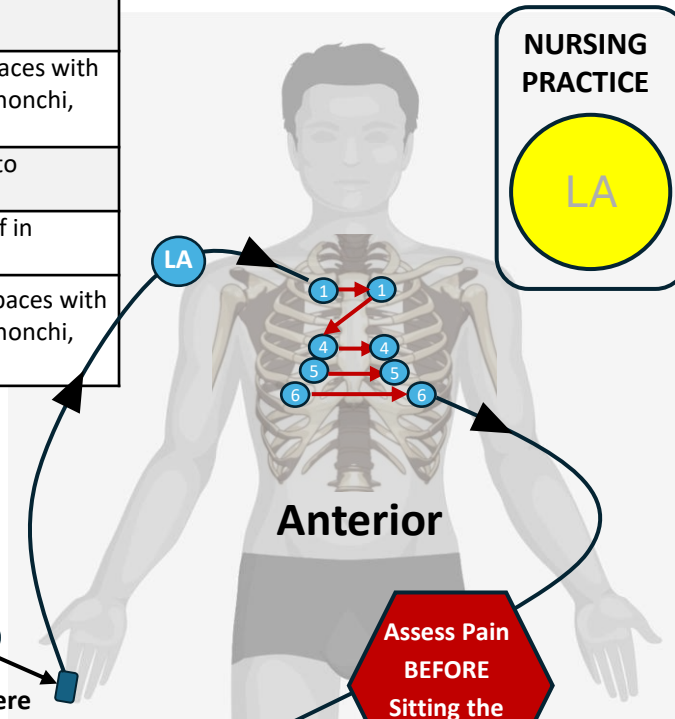


Posterior

- VESICULAR
- BRONCHIAL
- TRACHEAL
- BRONCHO VESICULAR

Sounds	Duration	Intensity Expiratory	Pitch Expiratory
Vesicular	Inspiration Last longer than Exp.	Soft	Relatively Low
Broncho Vesicular	Inspiration and Expiration Equal	Intermediate	Intermediate
Bronchial	Expiration longer than Inspiration	Loud	Relatively High
Tracheal	Inspiration and Expiration are	Very Loud	Relatively High

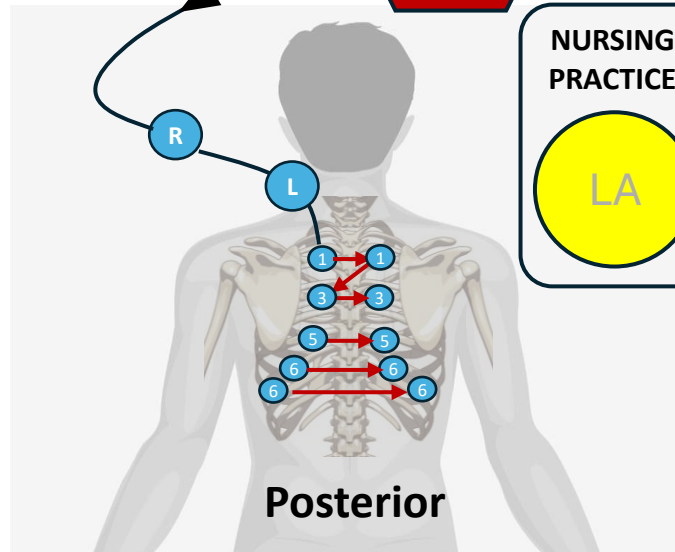
Start Here



NURSING PRACTICE

LA

Assess Pain BEFORE Sitting the Patient Up



NURSING PRACTICE

LA

Abnormal Breath Sounds Classification

Adventitious Breath Sounds

Hyperventilation > 24 Breaths a Minute

Tachypnea > 20 Breaths a Minute

Bradypnea < 12 Breaths per minute

Apneustic– deep gasping and pause in inspiration then breathing

Cheyne Stokes-progressively deeper, and sometimes faster, *breathing* followed by a gradual decrease and apnea.

Kussmaul: Rapid Deep, labored, Hyperventilate

Crackles Rales Best heard on inspiration, unrelieved by coughing

Wheezes Best heard on expiration, not cleared with coughing

Rhonchi Best heard on expiration, relieved by coughing

Stridor High Pitched on Inspiration

Diminished low amplitude at generally at bases with COPD

Absent are acute and need intervention

Unit 4

CARDIAC & PULMONARY & PRIMARY ASSESSMENT

PEPPER-ABC

CARDIAC

PULSE - EDEMA - PEDAL - PEDAL - EDEMA
RADIAL (BILATERAL) APICAL
BLOOD PRESSURE - CAP REFILL

Assessment starts with putting a Blood Pressure cuff on the patient.

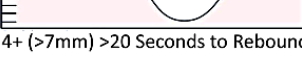
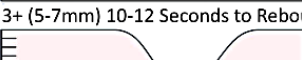
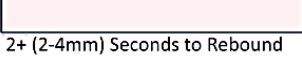
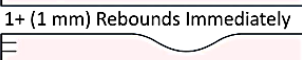
CARDIAC ASSESSMENT-PEPPERABC	
P	Pulse- Count 15 seconds x 4
E	Edema - Present or not is it bilateral?
P	Pedal- Is it Palpable or not
P	Pedal- Is it Palpable or not
E	Edema- Present or not is it bilateral?
R	Radial Bilateral- Equal 5 seconds
A	Apical- 60 seconds- 1 minute S1, S2
B	Blood Pressure- Press Button/Manual
C	Capillary Refill- Is it < 3 seconds

Peripheral Pulses

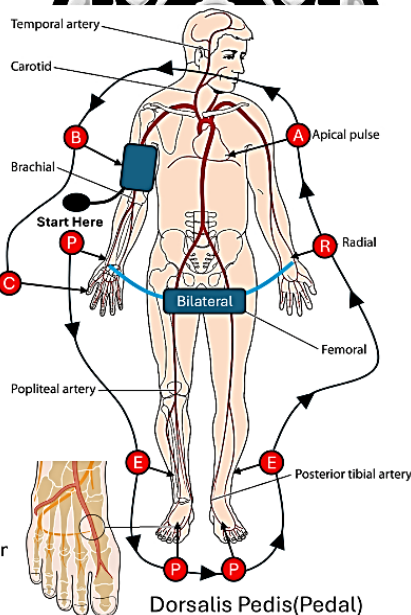
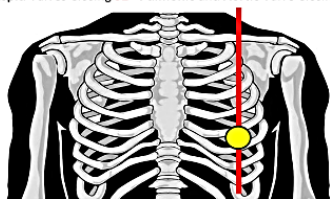
Rate: BPM Minute—60-100
Rhythm: Regular/Irregular
Symmetry: Even Uneven
Amplitude:
4 = Bounding
3 = Increased
2 = Normal
1 = Weak
0 = Absent or No palpable

Peripheral Edema

Observe edema foot, ankles, legs
Bilateral (chronic) Unilateral (acute)



Listen with Diaphragm for the Apical Heart rate for 1 minute in the 5th intercostal space mid clavicular line. Heart Sounds S1-Mitral & Tricuspid Valves Closing S2= Pulmonic and Aortic Valve Closing



POLAR-L

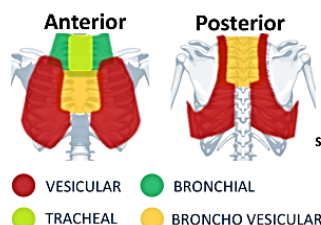
PULMONARY

PULSE OXIMETRY - LUNG SOUNDS
(ANTERIOR) - ASSESS PAIN (SIT UP)
RESPIRATIONS - LUNG SOUNDS (POSTERIOR)

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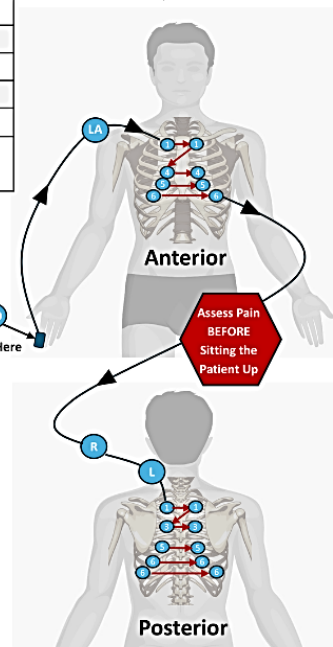
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Normal Respirations are 12-20

PULMONARY ASSESSMENT - POLAR-L	
P	Pulse (attach pulse oximetry)
O	Oximetry assess oxygenation
L	Lung Sounds 1-1, 4-4, 5-5, 6-6 (intercostal spaces)
A	Assess Pain - then ask them to sit up
R	Rear Respirations Count while listening to Posterior
L	Lung Sounds Posterior 1-1, 3-3, 5-5, 6-6, 6-6 and once completed lay the patient back down

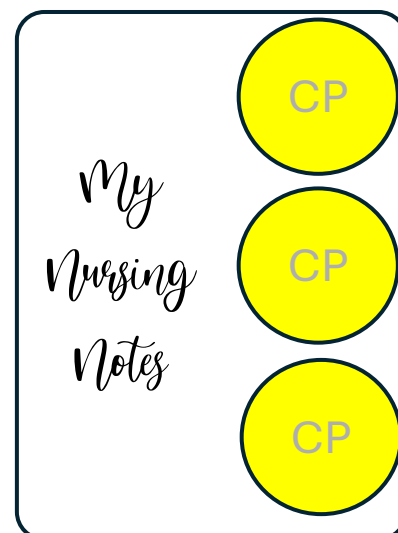


Sounds	Duration	Intensity Expiratory	Pitch Expiratory
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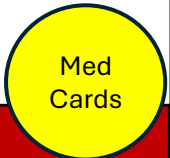
My Nursing Notes



Unit 5

ABDOMINAL ASSESSMENT

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Gastrointestinal System Digestion and Elimination Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD) Nutrition and Hydration Abdominal Assessment Bowel Elimination Dysphagia Aspiration Prevention Enteral Nutrition Ostomy Care	Focused Abdominal Assessment Abdominal Inspection Abdominal Auscultation and Bowel Sounds Abdominal Palpation Techniques Identification of Normal and Abnormal Abdominal Findings Dysphagia Screening and Safety Measures Aspiration Precaution Implementation Nasogastric (NG) Tube Introduction PEG Tube Introduction Colostomy Assessment and Basic Care Enteral Feeding Equipment Gastrointestinal Case Study Application



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW – MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Medication	System	Drug Class	Primary Use	Most Likely Diagnosis / Indication
Docusate Sodium	GI	Stool softener (laxative)	Softens stool to prevent straining and ease passage	Constipation (esp. hard/dry stools); post-op or cardiac patients to avoid straining
Senna	GI	Stimulant laxative	Promotes intestinal motility and bowel movement	Occasional constipation; short-term relief of constipation
Metoclopramide	GI	Prokinetic agent / Antiemetic	Increases GI motility and reduces nausea/vomiting	Nausea & vomiting (post-op, diabetic gastroparesis); GERD (short-term)

GASTROINTESTINAL DEVICES TO KNOW & Nurses Notes on Observation

Device	What It Is	Why It Is Used	Top 3 Things You Should Know (Fundamentals)
NG Tube (Nasogastric Tube) 	Flexible plastic tube inserted through the nose, down the esophagus, into the stomach	Short-term gastric decompression (remove air/fluid), enteral feeding, medication administration, or stomach emptying	Verify placement before use (pH of gastric aspirate ≤ 5.5 + X-ray placement) — never use if unsure! - High risk for aspiration & nasal/sinus irritation; keep HOB elevated $\geq 30-45^\circ$. - Measure length (nose to earlobe to xiphoid) for insertion; secure check nostrils for skin breakdown.
Is it connected to suctioning? Is it intermittent? What does the drainage look like? What was the drainage previous shift?			
PEG Tube (Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy) 	Surgically/endoscopically placed feeding tube that goes directly through the abdominal wall into the stomach	Long-term enteral nutrition, medication administration, or hydration when oral intake is not possible/safe (e.g., dysphagia, stroke)	Confirm placement by checking external markings and residual volumes; do not use if dislodged. - Site care is critical — clean daily, monitor for infection, redness, or leakage. - Usually for >4 weeks use; requires surgical/endo placement; patient may go home with it.
Is it capped. How does the dressing look Clean Dry intact? Are tube feeds running? what are they? What does the site look like?			
Colostomy 	Surgically created opening (stoma) from the colon to the abdominal wall; diverts fecal matter into an external pouch	Diverts stool due to bowel cancer, trauma, obstruction, inflammatory bowel disease, or to allow bowel rest/healing	Stoma assessment: Should be pink/red, moist, and protruding slightly (like a rosebud). - Stool consistency depends on location (more formed with sigmoid colostomy); empty pouch when $\frac{1}{3}-\frac{1}{2}$ full; teach skin protection to prevent breakdown. - Psychosocial support is huge — body image changes; refer to ostomy nurse/ support groups.
How does the stoma look? Is the colostomy device intact? How does the skin look? Does the bag need to be changed? Where is the location in the abdomen? What kind of colostomy is it?			

Unit 5

ABDOMINAL PRIMARY ASSESSMENT



ABDOMINAL ASSESSMENT -TB

T Temperature Assessment

B Listen to bowel Sounds
4 Quadrants
RLQ-RUQ-LUQ-LLQ
then the Abdominal Area

Order of Abdominal Assessment:

Inspection → **Auscultation**

→ Percussion → Palpation

(always auscultate **before** palpation percussion).

Equipment: Diaphragm of stethoscope (warm it first).

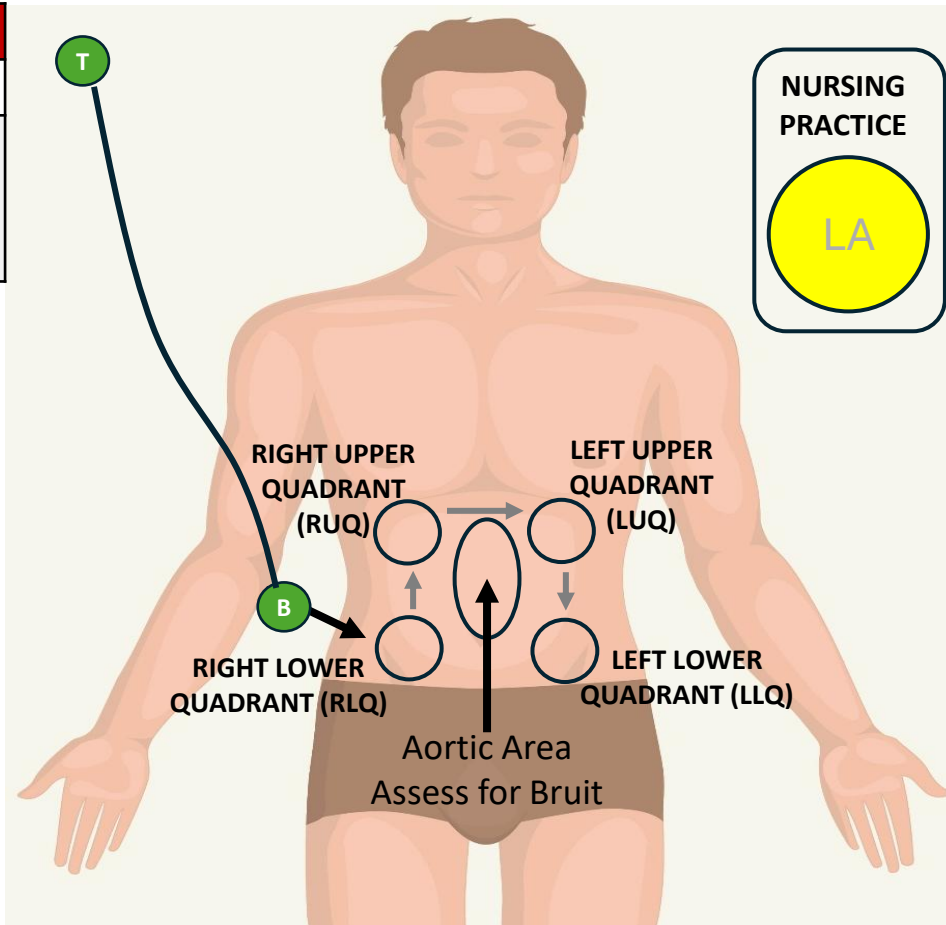
Patient Position: Supine, knees slightly flexed for relaxation.

Method: Divide abdomen into 4 quadrants (RUQ, LUQ, RLQ, LLQ) or 9 regions.

- Start in RLQ (ileocecal valve area) and move clockwise.
- Listen 1–5 minutes per quadrant.
- Note frequency, pitch, and character.

Documentation Example: “Bowel sounds normoactive in all four quadrants.

Abdomen soft, non-distended, non-tender.”



**NURSING
PRACTICE**

LA

ABDOMINAL SOUNDS AND NURSES NOTES

Bowel Sound Type	Description / Characteristics	Frequency	Clinical Significance / Possible Causes	Nursing Actions & Considerations
Normal (Active)	High-pitched, gurgling, clicking, or rushing sounds (like stomach growling)	Every 5–15 seconds (5–30 sounds per minute)	Indicates normal peristalsis and GI motility	Document as “normoactive” or “active bowel sounds present in all 4 quadrants” Continue routine monitoring
Hyperactive (Hyperperistalsis)	Loud, high-pitched, frequent, rushing, or tinkling sounds (may be audible without stethoscope)	>30 sounds per minute; almost continuous	Early intestinal obstruction, gastroenteritis, diarrhea, food intolerance, laxative use, or hunger	Assess for abdominal pain, distention, diarrhea Notify provider if accompanied by cramping or vomiting Monitor fluid/electrolyte balance
Hypoactive	Low-pitched, infrequent, sluggish sounds	Fewer than 5 sounds per minute	Late intestinal obstruction, peritonitis, post-operative ileus, opioid use, electrolyte imbalance (especially hypokalemia), immobility	Listen for full 5 minutes per quadrant before calling absent Assess for distention, nausea, constipation Encourage early ambulation; notify provider
Absent (Silent Abdomen)	No bowel sounds heard	None after listening 3–5 full minutes in each quadrant	Paralytic ileus, complete bowel obstruction, peritonitis, abdominal surgery complications, or severe inflammation	Medical emergency – Stop listening and notify provider immediately Keep patient NPO Prepare for NG tube, imaging, or surgical consult Do not palpate abdomen if obstruction suspected

Unit 5

NUTRITION

Diet Type	Purpose	Common Medical Problems	Sample Meals / Foods Allowed	Foods Not Allowed (Restrictions)
Clear Liquid	Provides hydration and minimal nutrition while resting the GI tract; easy to digest and absorb	Post-surgery, acute GI upset, diagnostic tests (e.g., colonoscopy), nausea/vomiting	Clear broth, black coffee/tea, clear juices (apple, cranberry), plain gelatin, popsicles, clear sports drinks, strained fruit juices without pulp	Any solid food, milk/dairy, juices with pulp, carbonated beverages (sometimes restricted)
Full Liquid	Transition diet after clear liquids; provides more calories and nutrients while still liquid	Post-op recovery, difficulty chewing/swallowing, transition from NPO	All clear liquids + milk, milkshakes, ice cream, yogurt, cream soups, pudding, strained creamy soups, nutritional supplements (Ensure)	Solid foods, any food with lumps or chunks
Low Fat / Cholesterol Restricted	Reduces fat and cholesterol intake to lower risk of cardiovascular complications	Hyperlipidemia, heart disease, gallbladder disease, post-cholecystectomy	Lean meats (chicken, turkey, fish), low-fat dairy, fruits, vegetables, whole grains, egg whites	Fried foods, fatty meats (bacon, sausage), full-fat dairy, butter, egg yolks, baked goods with shortening, organ meats
Sodium Restricted	Controls fluid retention and blood pressure; typically 2,000–2,300 mg/day (or lower)	Hypertension, heart failure, kidney disease, edema, liver cirrhosis	Fresh fruits/vegetables, unsalted meats, herbs/spices instead of salt, low-sodium canned foods, rice/pasta	Processed foods, canned soups/vegetables, cured meats (ham, bacon), salty snacks (chips, pretzels), cheese, fast food, added table salt
High Fiber / Roughage	Promotes regular bowel movements, prevents constipation, supports heart health and blood sugar control	Constipation, diverticulosis (non-flare), hyperlipidemia, diabetes	Whole grains (oats, brown rice, whole wheat), fresh fruits with skin, raw vegetables, beans, legumes, nuts/seeds	Refined grains (white bread/rice), processed foods, low-fiber juices
Low Residue	Reduces fiber and residue in the intestines to minimize bowel irritation and stool volume	Inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's/Ulcerative Colitis flare), diverticulitis flare, pre/post intestinal surgery	White bread/rice/pasta, cooked/peeled fruits & vegetables, tender meats, eggs, smooth peanut butter, canned fruits without skins	Whole grains, raw fruits/vegetables, nuts, seeds, beans, popcorn, tough meats, dried fruits
High Protein	Supports tissue repair, wound healing, and immune function; increases calorie and protein intake	Malnutrition, pressure ulcers/wounds, burns, post-surgery, cancer, HIV/AIDS	Lean meats, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy, legumes, nuts, protein supplements, Greek yogurt	Not heavily restricted; focus on increasing protein sources rather than avoiding specific foods
Kidney (Renal) Diet	Controls protein, potassium, phosphorus, sodium, and fluids to reduce kidney workload	Chronic kidney disease (CKD), acute kidney injury, dialysis patients	Low-potassium fruits/vegetables (apples, berries, cabbage), rice, pasta, limited protein (depending on stage), egg whites	High-potassium foods (bananas, oranges, potatoes, tomatoes), high-phosphorus (dairy, nuts, cola, whole grains), processed meats, salt substitutes (potassium chloride)
Low Phenylalanine	Prevents buildup of phenylalanine which can cause brain damage; special medical formula required	Phenylketonuria (PKU) – genetic metabolic disorder	Special low-phenylalanine formula, measured amounts of low-protein foods (fruits, vegetables, special low-protein breads/pasta)	High-protein foods (meat, fish, dairy, eggs, beans, nuts), regular bread/pasta, aspartame (Nutrasweet)

Unit 5

COLOSTOMY AND STOMA ASSESSMENT



1. Stoma Assessment (Look at the stoma itself)

- **Color:** Should be **pink to red** → Pale = poor circulation
- **Dark purple/black = emergency (necrosis)**
- **Moisture:** Should be **moist and shiny** → Dry = dehydration or problem
- **Size & Shape:** Note if swollen, shrinking, or irregular
- **Protrusion:** Should stick out ½ to 1 inch (ideal) → Flush or retracted = higher risk of leaking

2. Peristomal Skin (Skin around the stoma)

- Should be **intact, without redness, rash, or breakdown**
- Check for irritation, maceration, or infection
- Note any leakage under the wafer

3. Output (Drainage)

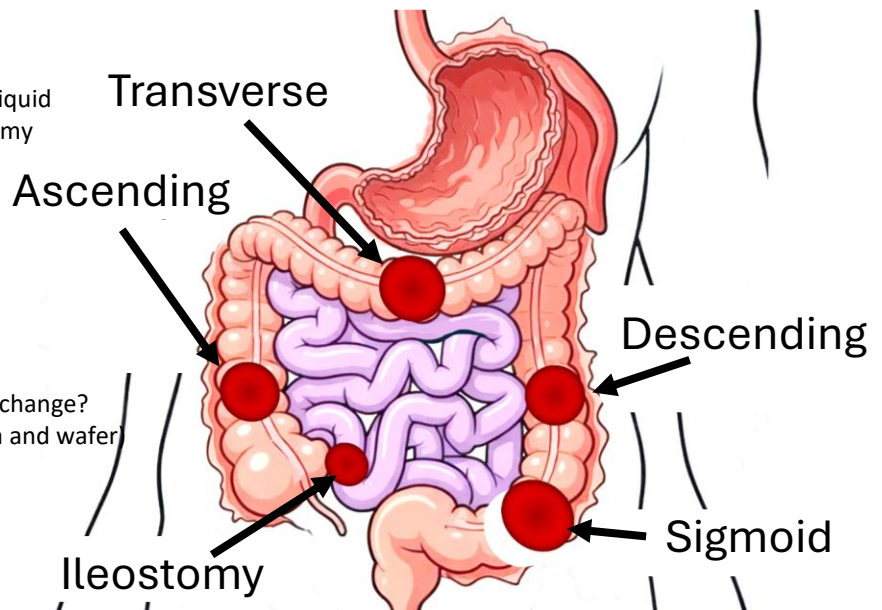
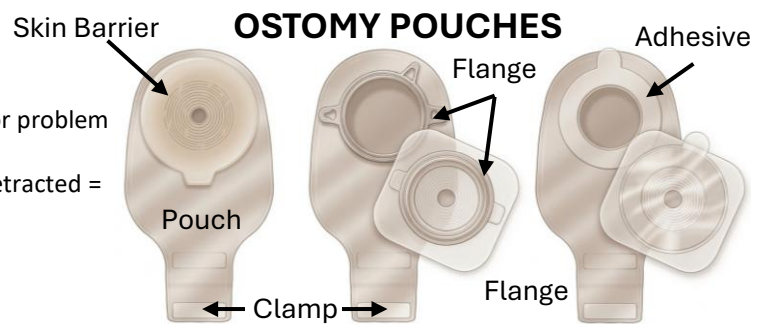
- **Color:** Colostomy = brown | Ileostomy = green/yellow liquid
- **Consistency:** Matches expected output for type of ostomy
- **Amount:** Record volume
- (ileostomy – high output = dehydration risk)
- **Odor:** Should be typical fecal odor
- (very strong odor may indicate issue)

4. Pouch & Appliance

- Is the pouch **secure**? Any leaking?
- When was it last changed?
- Is the wafer (skin barrier) intact and not overdue for change?
- Check for proper fit (no exposed skin between stoma and wafer)

5. Patient Comfort & Psychosocial

- Pain or discomfort at site?
- How is the patient coping emotionally?
- Any concerns about odor, leakage, or body image?



COLOSTOMY TYPES AND LOCATIONS

Type	Common Indications	Stool	Complications	Nursing Considerations
Ascending	Cancer, trauma, inflammatory bowel disease	Liquid to semi-liquid	Skin irritation, fluid/electrolyte imbalance, high output	Frequent pouch changes, high fluid intake, monitor electrolytes
Transverse	Diverticulitis, cancer, bowel obstruction	Semi-liquid to pasty	Prolapse, skin breakdown, odor control issues	Larger pouch needed, odor management, protect skin
Descending	Cancer, diverticulitis, trauma	Formed to semi-formed	Constipation, blockage, hernia	May irrigate, easier management
Sigmoid	Rectal cancer, trauma, severe diverticulitis	Formed to solid	Constipation, impaction, prolapse	Can be regulated with diet/irrigation, most like normal bowel pattern
Ileostomy	Ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, familial polyposis	Liquid, high volume	↑ Output dehydration, skin breakdown, electrolyte loss	Pouch always needed, continuous drainage, very strict skin care

ASSESSMENT FINDINGS	Finding	Normal	Report
	Stoma color	Pink/red, moist	Pale, purple, black, dry
	Skin around stoma	Intact, healthy	Red, broken, weeping, rash
	Output (first 48 hrs)	Increasing gradually	No output, very high output
	Pain	Mild discomfort	Severe pain, sudden swelling



Initial Bedside Swallow Screen (Nurse-Led) Perform before any oral intake on patients with any of the following:

High-Risk Patient Populations / Indications	Clinical Red Flags (Subjective or Observed)
• Acute stroke — mandatory per stroke protocols • New neurological changes (weakness, facial droop, slurred speech, altered mental status) • Head/neck trauma or surgery • Recent intubation / extubation >48–72 hours • Aspiration pneumonia or respiratory infections • Progressive neurological diseases (Parkinson's, ALS, MS, dementia) • Tracheostomy or tracheostomy collar • Post-operative patients (especially cardiothoracic, neurosurgery, or ENT procedures)	• Coughing, choking, or throat clearing during/after eating/drinking • Wet, gurgly, or hoarse voice after swallowing • Difficulty managing secretions (drooling, pooling) • Complaint of food “sticking” in throat or chest • Pocketing food in cheeks or prolonged chewing time • Unexplained desaturation or respiratory distress during meals • Change in mental status or inability to follow commands • Unexplained weight loss or poor oral intake with coughing/choking

Step 1: Pre-Swallow Assessment (Alertness & Oral Motor Screen)

Patient must be **alert, oriented, and able to follow simple commands**. Check **Yes/No** for each:

1. Is the patient alert, awake, and able to follow 1-step commands?
2. Voice is clear (no slurred, hoarse, wet, or gurgle voice)?
3. Face is symmetrical (smile, puff cheeks)?
4. Able to close lips tightly around a spoon/straw?
5. Tongue moves midline and side-to-side without weakness?
6. No excessive drooling or secretions?

If any “No” → **FAIL screen. Keep NPO.**

Step 2: Water Swallow Trial (if Pre-Swallow passed) Position patient upright (≥90 degrees). Give water at room temperature (no straw initially).	
Trial 1	Trial 2 (if Trial 1 passed)
Give 1 teaspoon (5 mL) water. Observe for 30–60 seconds. • Swallows without coughing/choking? • No wet/gurgly voice after swallow? • No drooling or throat clearing?	Give 30–60 mL (about 2–4 oz) water continuously or sips. Observe for 1–2 minutes. • No cough, choke, or wet voice? • No change in breathing or oxygen saturation? • Speaks clearly afterward?
If any signs of difficulty (cough, wet voice, desaturation, etc.) → FAIL screen.	

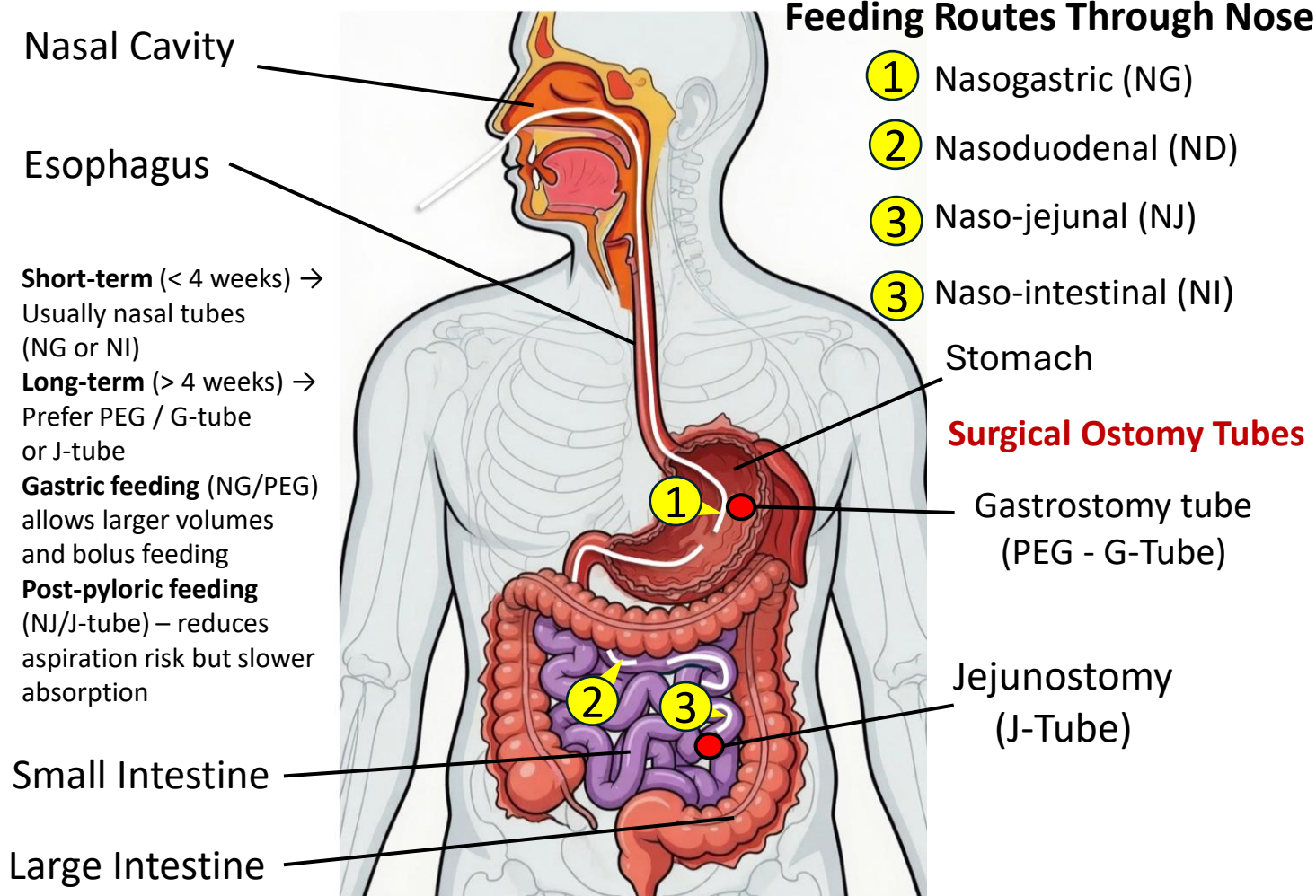
Step 3: Overall Result	
Fail → Keep NPO . Notify provider / Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) for formal swallow study (e.g., bedside eval or videofluoroscopy). Document rationale.	Pass → May start oral intake (start with thickened liquids or regular diet per order). Monitor at first meal for pocketing, fatigue, or coughing.
Signs of Possible Dysphagia / Aspiration Risk • Coughing or choking during/after swallowing • Wet or gurgly voice • Food/liquid pocketing in cheeks • Recurrent pneumonia or unexplained fever • Drooling, delayed swallow, or throat clearing • Patient reports “food sticking” or difficulty swallowing	Nursing Notes / Patient Teaching: • Always perform before first meal or meds. • Re-screen if patient's condition changes. • Educate patient/family: “We're checking your swallow to keep you safe from choking or lung infections.” • Encourage upright positioning (90°) during meals if cleared.

Unit 5

ENTERAL NUTRITION DEVICES



Feeding Routes Through Nose



Tube Type	Insertion Site	Common Uses / Indications	Advantages	Disadvantages / Risks	Key Nursing Care
Nasogastric (NG) Tube	Nose → Stomach (short-term)	Short-term feeding med administration, gastric decompression	Easy to insert at bedside, removable, inexpensive	Nasal irritation, sinusitis, accidental removal, aspiration risk, discomfort	Confirm placement (pH testing/X-ray), secure well, flush q4h, check residuals, elevate HOB
Nasointestinal / Nasojejunal (NI/NJ) Tube	Nose → Jejunum (bypasses stomach)	High aspiration risk, gastric motility issues, post-upper GI surgery	Lower aspiration risk than NG	More difficult placement, requires radiology, clogging, diarrhea	Radiographic confirmation essential, do not check residuals, continuous feeding
Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG) / Gastrostomy Tube (G- tube)	Direct through abdominal wall into stomach	Long-term feeding (>4 weeks), neurological impairment, head/neck cancer	Comfortable, lower dislodgement risk, allows bolus feeding	Requires procedure, site infection, leakage, buried bumper syndrome	Clean site daily, rotate tube, check residuals, secure external bumper
Jejunostomy Tube (J-tube / PEJ)	Direct through abdominal wall into jejunum	Severe reflux, gastroparesis, pancreatic disease, high aspiration risk	Bypasses stomach, lower aspiration risk	Continuous feeding only, higher diarrhea risk, surgical placement	No residual checks, continuous slow infusion, meticulous site care
Ostomy Tubes (Low-Profile / Button)	Stomach or jejunum (button-style)	Long-term use in active patients	Less bulky, cosmetically better, easy to cap	Harder to insert meds, requires mature tract	Flush after use, skin barrier use, regular replacement every 3–6 months

Unit 5

ENTERAL NUTRITION (Tube Feeding)

Enteral nutrition is a method of providing nutrition directly into the gastrointestinal (GI) tract through a tube. It is used when a patient cannot eat enough food by mouth but their digestive system still works.

Why Use Enteral Nutrition?

- Delivers balanced nutrition (calories, protein, vitamins etc.)
- Helps maintain gut function and prevents atrophy of the intestinal lining
- Fewer complications and lower cost compared to IV nutrition (TPN)
- Supports healing, immune function, and recovery

Quick Administration & Safety Guidelines(per policy)

Initiation: Start low & slow (20–50 mL/hr), advance by 10–25 mL/hr every 4–8 hours as tolerated.

Gastric Residual Volume (GRV): Check q4–6h initially; hold if >250–500 mL .

Head of Bed (HOB): Keep ≥ 30 – 45° during and 30–60 min after feeding to prevent aspiration.

Tube Placement Verification: pH testing of aspirate (<5.5 gastric), X-ray confirmation for new placements.

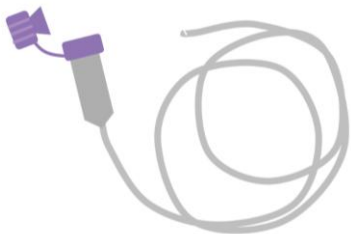
Flushing: 30–60 mL water q4h and before/after meds to prevent clogging.

Free Water: Calculate needs (especially for hypercaloric formulas); most patients need 1 mL/kcal extra free water.

Monitoring: Daily weights, I&O, electrolytes, blood glucose, bowel sounds, abdominal girth.

INDICATIONS FOR ENTERAL FEEDINGS

Condition / Indication	Purpose / Rationale	Common Patient Examples
Inability to ingest adequate nutrition orally	Provides complete or supplemental nutrition when swallowing is unsafe or intake is poor	Stroke, head/neck cancer, facial trauma, coma, dementia
Dysphagia (difficulty swallowing)	Prevents aspiration while meeting nutritional needs	Neurological disorders (Parkinson's, ALS), post-CVA
Anorexia or severe malnutrition	Delivers consistent calories/protein when oral intake is insufficient	Cancer, HIV/AIDS, eating disorders
Increased nutritional demands	Supports healing and recovery with higher calorie/protein needs	Burns, major trauma, sepsis, post-op (especially GI surgery)
GI tract functional but oral route not possible	Preferred over parenteral nutrition when gut can be used ("If the gut works, use it")	Mechanical ventilation, critical illness, pancreatitis (mild)
Pre-operative or post-operative nutrition	Maintains gut integrity and prevents atrophy	Major abdominal surgery, head/neck surgery



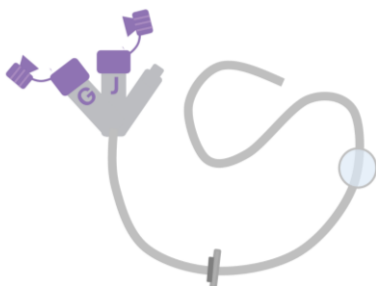
Nasal Tube



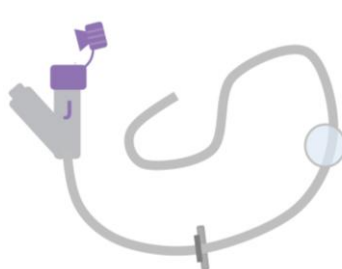
Standard Gastronomy Tube (G-Tube)



Peg Tube (PEG-Tube)



Gastrojejunostomy Tube (GJ-Tube)



Jejunostomy Tube (J-Tube)



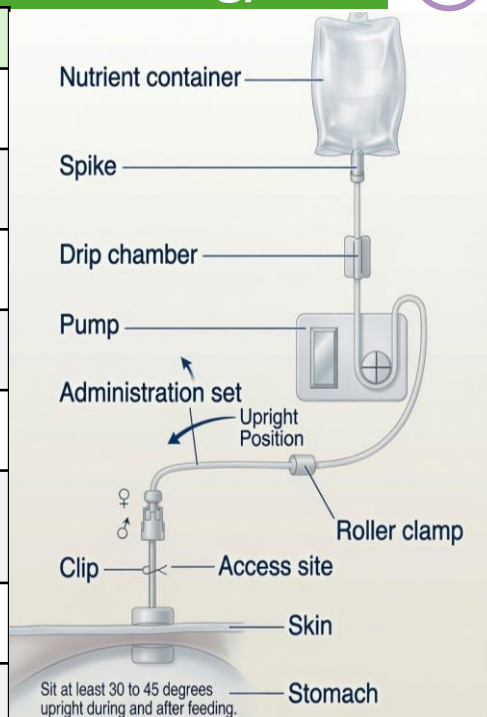
Unit 5

ENTERAL NUTRITION (Tube Feeding)



TUBE FEEDING STEPS FEED SAFE

F	Flush	Flush tube with 30–60 mL warm water before meds, after meds, and every 4 hours. Use a 60 mL syringe.
E	Elevate HOB	Keep head of bed ≥30–45° during feeding and for 30–60 minutes after. Critical for aspiration prevention.
E	Ensure Placement	Aspirate gastric contents & check pH ≤5.5 • Confirm with X-ray on new insertions • Mark tube at exit site and recheck length
D	Determine Rate/Formula	Start low & slow : 20–50 mL/hr • Advance by 10–25 mL/hr every 4–8 hours as tolerated • Use correct formula (diabetic, renal)
S	Check Residuals	Aspirate gastric residual volume (GRV) q4–6h initially. Hold if >250–500 mL (follow policy) Return residuals unless ordered .
A	Assess Tolerance	Monitor for nausea, vomiting, distension, diarrhea, cramping, or high residuals. Check lung sounds, abdominal girth, bowel sounds.
F	Free Water	Provide extra free water flushes (usually 1 mL per kcal of formula). Prevents dehydration and tube clogging.
E	Evaluate & Document	Daily weight, I&O, electrolytes, glucose • Tolerance of feeds • Any complications or interventions • Label bag date time formula



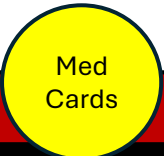
COMPLICATIONS AND NURSING INTERVENTIONS (FOLLOW POLICY)

Complication	Common Causes	Signs & Symptoms	Prevention Strategies	Troubleshooting / Interventions
Aspiration	Decreased LOC, supine position, delayed gastric emptying, large bolus feeds	Coughing, SOB, wheezing, fever, crackles, low O ₂ sat	HOB ≥30–45°, check tube placement, use continuous pump, gastric residual checks	Stop feeding, suction airway, elevate HOB, notify provider, chest X-ray if indicated
Diarrhea	Hyperosmolar formula, rapid rate, sorbitol in meds, infection (C. diff), low fiber	>3 loose stools day, abdomen cramping	Start low rate, use fiber-formula, room-temp formula,	Hold feeds 4–8 hrs, ↓ rate, switch formula, check meds, stool studies, anti-diarrheals
Constipation	Low fiber, inadequate free water, immobility, opioids	Hard stools, abdominal distension, <3 BMs/week	Adequate free water (1 mL/kcal), fiber formula, stool softeners	Increase free water, switch to fiber formula, encourage mobility, laxatives per protocol
Tube Clogging	Inadequate flushing, crushed meds, thick formula	Resistance when flushing, no flow	Flush with 30–60 mL warm water q4h & before/after meds	Flush with warm water + gentle pressure; use pancreatic enzymes + sodium bicarb solution if needed; replace tube?
Nausea / Vomiting	Rapid rate, high volume, gastric retention, formula intolerance	Nausea, vomiting, feeling full, hiccups	Slow continuous rate, prokinetics if ordered, gastric residual checks	Hold feeding, check residuals, reduce rate or switch formula, antiemetics, small frequent feeds
Hyperglycemia	High-carb formulas, steroids, stress response, rapid advancement	Elevated blood glucose, polyuria, thirst	Use diabetic-specific formulas when appropriate, monitor glucose q4–6h	Adjust insulin per protocol, slow advancement, switch to lower-carb formula
Refeeding Syndrome	Rapid repletion in malnourished patients	↓ phos, ↓ K, ↓ Mg fluid overload, cardiac arrhythmias	Slow initiation (10–20 mL/hr), monitor electrolytes daily x 3–5 days, thiamine supplementation	Hold advancement, aggressive electrolyte replacement, slow rate, cardiology consult if arrhythmias
Abdominal Distension / Cramping	Air in tubing, rapid rate, lactose intolerance, high osmolality	Firm/distended abdomen, pain, high residuals	Prime tubing properly, slow rate advance, room-temp formula	Reduce rate, check residuals, walk patient if able, simethicone or antiflatulents
Mechanical Issues	Patient pulling tube, poor securement, (dislodgement, leakage)	Tube out of position, leaking around site	Secure with tape/bridle, frequent site checks, educate patient/family	Reassess placement, notify provider for replacement, secure properly

Unit 6

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Genitourinary System Fluid Balance Elimination Diabetes Mellitus Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Urinary Assessment Intake and Output Urine Characteristics Catheterization Infection Prevention Scope of Practice	Intake and Output Measurement and Documentation Urine Assessment (color, clarity, odor, amount) Urine Specimen Collection (clean catch, foley specimen, urinalysis, urine culture) Foley Catheter Catheter Care CAUTI Prevention Maintaining a Closed Drainage System Catheter Safety and Infection Control Scope of Practice Application Genitourinary Case Study Application



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW – MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Medication	Drug Class	Primary Use	Most Likely Diagnosis / Indication
Regular Insulin	Short-acting insulin (Bolus)	Rapidly lowers blood glucose by promoting cellular uptake and storage	Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus • Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) • Hyperglycemia • Hyperkalemia
Insulin Glargine (Lantus)	Long-acting insulin (Basal)	Provides steady, peakless background insulin coverage for 24 hours	Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (basal insulin needs) • Once-daily insulin regimen
Glipizide (Glucotrol)	Sulfonylurea (Oral hypoglycemic)	Stimulates pancreas to release more insulin	Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (oral therapy)
Dextrose 50% D50W)	Hypertonic glucose solution	Rapidly increases blood glucose level	Severe hypoglycemia (unconscious patient or no IV access alternative) Hypoglycemic emergency
Glucose Tablets	Simple carbohydrate	Quickly raises blood glucose via oral absorption	Mild to moderate hypoglycemia in conscious patient
Glucagon	Antihypoglycemic hormone	Stimulates liver to release stored glucose	Severe hypoglycemia (when patient is unconscious and IV access unavailable) • Beta-blocker overdose (off-label)

GENITOURINARY DEVICES TO KNOW & Nurses Notes on Observation

Device/Procedure	What It Is	Why It's Used	Three Things You Should Know
Bladder Scan	A portable, non-invasive ultrasound device that uses sound waves to measure urine volume in the bladder.	To assess post-void residual (PVR) urine, evaluate urinary retention, monitor bladder function, and help decide if catheterization is needed.	1. Perform after patient voids; normal PVR is usually <100 mL (may vary by age/guidelines). 2. Place probe midline above pubic symphysis; use correct gender/age setting for accuracy. 3. Contraindications include recent abdominal surgery, wounds, or pregnancy. Document findings and report abnormal volumes.
Foley Catheter (Indwelling Urinary Catheter)	A flexible tube inserted through the urethra into the bladder with an inflatable balloon to keep it in place; connected to a drainage bag.	To continuously drain urine in cases of urinary retention, surgery, critical illness, accurate I&O monitoring, or skin protection in incontinence.	1. Use strict sterile technique during insertion; secure catheter to prevent traction. 2. Maintain closed sterile system; keep drainage bag below bladder level to prevent reflux. 3. Monitor for CAUTI (Catheter-Associated UTI) risks; remove as soon as possible. Daily perineal care and securement are essential.

Unit 6

GENITOURINARY SPUTUM UA COLLECTION

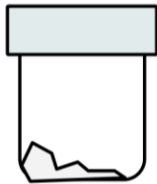


GENITOURINARY DEVICES TO KNOW & Nurses Notes on Observation

Device/Procedure	What It Is	Why It's Used	Three Things You Should Know
Clean Catch (Clean-Catch Midstream Urine Specimen)	A method of collecting a urine sample where the patient cleans the genital area and collects the midstream portion of urine into a sterile container.	To obtain a contamination-free urine sample for urinalysis, culture & sensitivity (C&S), or other lab tests.	1. Instruct patient on proper cleaning (front-to-back for females) and to discard initial stream. 2. Best collected first thing in the morning for concentration. 3. Label specimen immediately and transport promptly to lab to avoid bacterial overgrowth.
Urinalysis (UA)	A laboratory test performed on a urine sample to evaluate physical, chemical, and microscopic properties.	To screen for urinary tract infections, kidney disease, diabetes, dehydration, liver issues, or other systemic conditions.	1. Includes color, clarity, pH, specific gravity, protein, glucose, ketones, blood, nitrites, leukocytes, and microscopic exam. 2. Fresh sample preferred; refrigerate if delay >30–60 minutes. 3. Results guide further testing (e.g., C&S if infection suspected). Report abnormal findings promptly.

Order of Blood Draw & Inversions

- Blood Cultures x 8
- Citrate x 8
- Serum x 5
- Gel/SST x 5
- Gel-Hep x 8-10
- Heparin x 8-10
- EDTA x 8-10
- EDTA x 8-10
- Fluoride x 8-10



SPUTUM COLLECTION

Obtain Specimen in Morning
Obtain Before Eating Don't Brush teeth
No Mouthwash— Rinse with Water First
Have patient Upright, Breath in through nose out through mouth—Cough



Urinalysis

Obtained from Mid Stream
or Foley Bag Usually Done
before blood cultures



Urine Culture

Obtained from Clean Catch
Kit, or Foley may be sent if
urine dipstick is positive

My Nursing Notes

DIPSTICK URINE TEST is done by dipping a plastic strip into the urine sample. This strip has partitions impregnated by different chemicals that correspond to certain substances present in the urine, so abnormalities will be detected. Once the strip is dipped into the urine, there will be some changes in the color of the partitions. The following are the chemical tests usually included in reagent strips

TESTING FOR	Reading Time	NORMAL –NEGATIVE		ABNORMAL (Strip Colors Vary Follow Policy)				
LEUKOCYTES	2 min	negative			trace	Small +	Mod ++	Large +++
NITRATES	60 sec	negative				Pos	Pos	Pos
UROBILONEGEN	60 sec	0.2	1			2	4	8
PROTEIN	60 sec	Negative	trace		30 +	100 ++	300 +++	2000 ++++
Ph	60 sec	5.0	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.5
BLOOD	60 sec	negative				Small ++	Mod ++	Large +++
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	45 sec	1.00	1.005	1.010	1.015	1.020	1.025	1.030
KETONES	40 sec	negative		Trace 5	Small 15	Mod 40	Large 80	Large 100
BILIRUBIN	30 sec	negative				Small ++	Mod ++	Large +++
GLUCOSE	30 sec	negative		100	250	500	1000	2000



GENITOURINARY DEVICES TO KNOW & Nurses Notes on Observation

Device/Procedure	What It Is	Why It's Used	Three Things You Should Know
Fasting Blood Sugar (FBS)	A lab test measuring blood glucose level after the patient has fasted (no food/drink except water) for at least 8 hours.	To diagnose or monitor diabetes, prediabetes, and evaluate glucose metabolism.	1. Normal range is typically 70–99 mg/dL (fasting). 2. Patient must be NPO (nothing by mouth) except water for 8+ hours; confirm compliance. 3. Often ordered with other labs (e.g., HbA1c); hold or notify provider for critical values (<70 or >300 mg/dL).
POC Blood Glucose (Point-of-Care / Bedside Glucose)	A rapid capillary blood test using a glucometer and test strips to measure blood sugar at the bedside.	To monitor blood glucose levels frequently in diabetic patients, during illness, post-surgery, or when on insulin/diabetes medications.	1. Use proper fingerstick technique: warm hands, avoid same site repeatedly, use side of fingertip. 2. Calibrate glucometer per facility policy; check control solutions regularly. 3. Know hypoglycemia (<70 mg/dL) and hyperglycemia protocols; document and treat per order. Always verify critical values with lab draw if required.

Liquid Definitions— Dysphagia Risk

Thin

Runs quickly through prongs of the fork with little or no coating— eg water, tea

Nectar

Quickly sinks through prongs of the fork with coating— eg tomato juice, milkshake

Honey

Coats fork and slowly sink through the prongs, e.g. Yogurt, honey

Pudding

Remains on the fork and hold together well e.g. mayonnaise, pudding



Calculation Information

1 Ounce = 30 ml

1 Cup = 8 Ounces

1 Cup = 236. ml

1 Gallon = 128 Ounces

1 Pint = 16 Ounces

1 Tablespoon = 15 ml

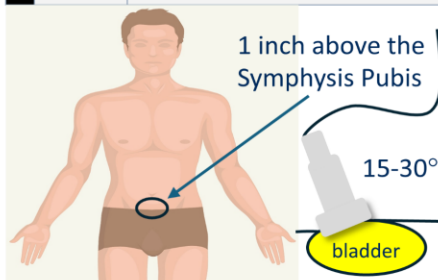
Food Example	Symbol	Serving Size
Cheese stick		1 1/2 oz
Milk		1 cup
Yogurt		1 cup
Carrots		1 cup
Veggies		1 cup
Salad Bowl		2 cups
Apple		1 medium
Orange		1 medium
Canned Fruit		1 cup
Dry Cereal Bowl		1 cup
Noodles, Rice, Oatmeal Bowl of Noodles		1/2 Cup
Slice of Whole Bread		1 slice
Chicken, Beef, Fish, Pork		3 ounces
Peanut Butter		1 Tbs

My Nursing Notes

Bristol Stool Classification

Type	Description	Underlying
1	Separate Hard Lumps	Very constipated
2	Lumpy & Sausage Like	Slightly constipated
3	Sausage shaped Cracks in the surface	Normal
4	Like a smooth, soft sausage or snake	Normal
5	Soft blobs with clear cut edges	Lacking Fiber
6	Mushy consistency with ragged edges	Inflammation
7	Liquid consistency with no solid pieces	Inflammation

BLADDER SCAN		
	Step	Nursing Action
S	Supine position	Position the patient flat on their back with the abdomen exposed & relaxed.
C	Confirm settings	Choose correct gender on scanner. Use "male" setting for females with hysterectomy.
A	Aim above pubic bone	Place scanner 1 inch above the symphysis pubis , angled downward.
N	Note last void	Ask patient when they last urinated to determine if scan is pre-void or post-void .
V	Volume interpret	<100 mL = Normal 100–150 mL = Borderline >300 mL = Likely retention 300 → Notify provider
O	Observe Image quality	Ensure bladder is fully visible and centered on the screen — repeat if cutoff occurs.
I	Interpret with context	Consider conditions like BPH, spinal cord injury, medications, mobility issues .
D	Document Decide	Chart volume, position, time, void status , and whether provider notified.



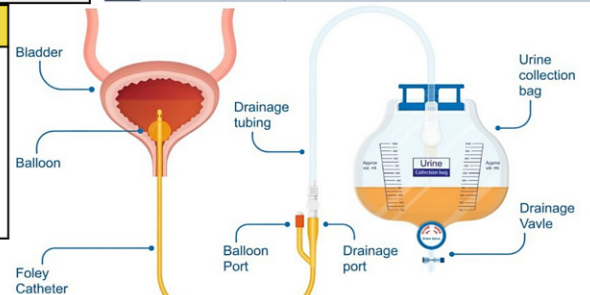
The best way to prevent CAUTI is to avoid unnecessary catheters and remove them as soon as possible.

CAUTI- Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection	
Category	Information
Definition	A urinary tract infection that develops in a patient with an indwelling urinary catheter in place for > 2 calendar days (or removed within 2 days of the infection).
Most Common Organisms	Escherichia coli (E. coli), Klebsiella, Pseudomonas, Enterococcus, Candida species
Major Risk Factors	Prolonged catheter use (> 2 days) • Female sex • Older adult • Diabetes mellitus • Immunosuppression • Poor catheter insertion or technique • Incontinence or diarrhea
Signs & Symptoms	Fever or chills • Suprapubic or flank pain/tenderness • New or worsening confusion/delirium • Cloudy, foul-smelling, or bloody urine • Increased urgency, frequency, or burning • Lethargy or sepsis
Diagnosis	Positive urine culture (> 10 ³ CFU/mL) + clinical symptoms + indwelling catheter present or recently removed
Prevention Strategies (CAUTI Bundle)	1. Use catheter only when necessary 2. Use aseptic technique during insertion 3. Maintain a closed sterile drainage system 4. Keep catheter bag below bladder level 5. Daily assessment of need 6. Remove as soon as possible 7. Daily perineal hygiene with soap/water 8. Secure catheter to prevent pulling 9. Avoid routine catheter irrigation

NURSING INTERVENTIONS

- Monitor for early signs of infection
- Strict hand hygiene before/after catheter care
- Document catheter insertion date and daily necessity
- Encourage fluid intake (unless contraindicated)
- Provide perineal care every shift and after bowel movements
- Report signs of infection immediately

FOLEY CATHETER INSERTION		
	Step	Nursing Action
C	Confirm order & ID patient	Check physician's order and use 2 patient identifiers . Explain procedure.
L	Level supplies position patient	Gather sterile supplies, place patient in dorsal recumbent (female) or supine (male) position.
E	Establish sterile field	Open catheter kit use aseptic technique . Don sterile gloves.
A	Apply antiseptic drape	Clean meatus front to back (female) or circular motion (m). Apply sterile drape.
N	No-touch technique	Handle catheter by connector end only; don't touch sterile tip .
F	Feed catheter gently	Insert catheter until urine flows , then advance 1–2 inches more .
L	Lower balloon and secure	Inflate balloon ordered amount of sterile water. Gently pull until resistance is felt.
O	Organize securement & drainage	Secure tubing to thigh and position drainage bag below bladder level .
W	Wash hands & document	Dispose of equipment, wash hands , and document insertion, size, tolerance, and output.



My Nursing Notes

NURSINGKAMP Type 1 "Juvenile" Diabetes VS Type 2 Adult-Onset Diabetes

3 P's of Hyperglycemia



Polyuria – excessive urination due to High blood glucose

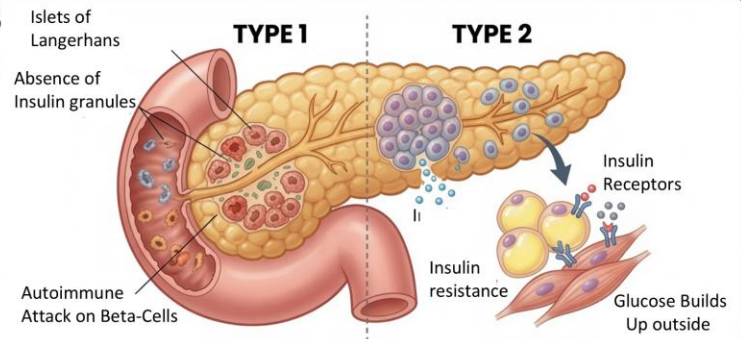


Polydipsia – excessive thirst to compensate for fluid loss



Polyphagia – excessive hunger despite adequate food intake

Without insulin, the body cannot use glucose (sugar) for energy. This can quickly lead to serious, life-threatening complications



Type 1 Diabetes= INSULIN MISSING

Type 2 Diabetes = INSULIN RESISTED

Type 1 is an **autoimmune disorder** where the body's immune system mistakenly attacks and destroys the **beta cells** in the pancreas. Once most of the beta cells are destroyed, the pancreas can no longer make insulin. Because of this, people with T1DM become completely **insulin-dependent**. They must receive insulin every day — usually through injections or an insulin pump — to stay alive.

Type 2 diabetes is a chronic metabolic disorder characterized by **insulin resistance** and progressive beta-cell dysfunction. As a result, the pancreas initially compensates by producing **more insulin** (hyperinsulinemia). Over time, the beta cells in the pancreas become overworked and gradually lose their ability to produce enough insulin to overcome the resistance. This leads to persistently elevated glucose levels.

ONSET: childhood/adolescence

ONSET: Usually adulthood (can occur earlier)

CAUSE: Autoimmune destruction of beta cells

CAUSE: Insulin resistance + poor insulin production

INSULIN PRODUCTION: Very Little None

INSULIN PRODUCTION: Still produces insulin

INSULIN DEPENDENCE: Always insulin-dependent

INSULIN DEPENDENCE: May be managed with lifestyle + oral meds (may need insulin)

PREVENTION: Cannot be prevented

PREVENTION: Often preventable with healthy lifestyle

HYPOGLYCEMIA SYMPTOMS



T - Tachycardia



I - Irritability



R - Restless



E - Excessive Hunger



**D - Diaphoresis (sweating)
Depression (or drowsiness)**

Hypoglycemia ("Cold & Clammy=NEEDS SOME CANDY")

Cool, moist, pale, diaphoretic

Low (<70 mg/dL)

Fast-acting carbs (15g rule), then recheck

Too much insulin/meds, skipped meal, exercise

Seizures, coma, brain damage

Aspect

Skin

Blood Sugar

Key Treatment

Common Causes

Complications

Hyperglycemia ("Hot & Dry=SUGAR HIGH")

Warm, dry, flushed

High (>180–250+ mg/dL)

Fluids, insulin (as ordered)

Missed insulin, illness, stress, overeating

DKA, HHS, dehydration

HYPERGLYCEMIA SYMPTOMS



W - Weakness



A - Abdominal pain



T - Tired



E - Extra thirsty



R - Really high blood sugar (Diaphoresis / Depression)

My Nursing Notes

Unit 6

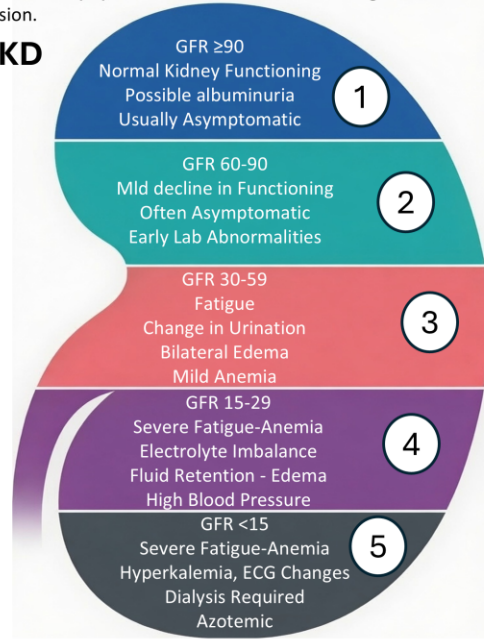
GENITOURINARY SYSTEM CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE

NURSINGKAMP Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)

CKD is progressive condition characterized by a gradual decline in kidney function that lasts for more than 3 months. This results in irreversible structural and functional damage to the kidneys, leading to abnormalities such as **albuminuria** (protein in the urine), **hematuria** (blood in the urine), and a permanent loss of nephrons (the kidney's filtering units). The **Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR)** is the primary laboratory marker used to stage the severity of CKD. **Stage 5 CKD represents end-stage renal disease (ESRD)**, at which point the kidneys can no longer function adequately without dialysis or transplantation. In patients with increased risk factors, a **24-hour creatinine clearance** test may be performed. The most important ongoing laboratory values are **BUN and creatinine(Cr)**; if both are elevated, CKD is diagnosed and staged. The patient then progresses through the five stages of CKD, with the primary goal being to slow disease progression.

Progressive Stages 1-5 of CKD

RANKING of Risk Factors of CKD		
	Cause	Pathophysiology / Key Notes
1	Diabetes Mellitus (Type 2 & 1)	Diabetic nephropathy – glomerular damage from hyperglycemia and hyperfiltration
2	Hypertension	Hypertensive nephrosclerosis – damage to renal blood vessels
3	Glomerulonephritis	Inflammation of glomeruli (post-strep, IgA nephropathy, lupus)
4	Polycystic Kidney Disease	Genetic cysts enlarge and destroy kidney tissue
5	Obstructive Nephropathy	Prolonged obstruction (stones, BPH, tumors, → hydronephrosis)
6	Pyelonephritis / Chronic Infections	Repeated kidney infections causing scarring
7	Drug/Toxin-Induced	NSAIDs, aminoglycosides, contrast dye, chemotherapy, heavy metals
8	Other	Autoimmune (lupus, vasculitis), amyloidosis, HIV, hep C, congenital



Complications of CKD		
C	Cardiovascular	Hypertension, Left ventricular hypertrophy, CHF, atherosclerosis, Dysrhythmias
K	Kalemia & Electrolytes	Hyperkalemia, Hyperphosphatemia, Hypocalcemia, Hypermagnesemia
D	Dysfunction (Fluid & Acid-Base)	Fluid overload (edema, pulmonary edema, HTN), Metabolic acidosis (retained acids)
H	Hematologic	Anemia (↓ EPO production), Platelet dysfunction → bleeding tendency
U	Uremic Syndrome	Uremic frost (skin), Pruritus, Nausea/vomiting, anorexia, encephalopathy (confusion, seizures)
R	Renal Bone Disease	Secondary hyperparathyroidism, Renal osteodystrophy (osteomalacia, osteoporosis), Metastatic calcification
T	Toxins / Neurologic	Uremic toxins buildup → Peripheral neuropathy, Restless leg syndrome,
S	Skin & Infection	Severe pruritus, Dry skin, Increased infection risk (immunosuppression), Poor wound healing

ONGOING MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE

C	Control Blood Pressure	BP goal <130/80 mmHg • First-line: ACE Inhibitors or ARBs (renoprotective) • Monitor for hyperkalemia & rising creatinine • Add diuretics as needed
K	Kidney-Protective Diet	Low sodium (<2g/day) • Low potassium, low phosphorus • Controlled protein (in later stages) • Fluid restriction if overloaded • dietitian referral
D	Diabetes & Glycemic Control	Tight glucose control (A1C <7% if safe) • SGLT2 inhibitors (strong kidney protection) • GLP-1 agonists (bonus CV & kidney benefit)
C	Correct Complications	Anemia: Erythropoietin (EPO) or darbepoetin + iron • Bone disease: Phosphate binders (sevelamer, calcium acetate), active Vitamin D (calcitriol) • Hyperkalemia: Kayexalate, patiromer, diuretics, dietary restriction • Acidosis: Sodium bicarbonate
A	Avoid Nephrotoxins	Hold NSAIDs, contrast dye, aminoglycosides • Adjust doses for renally-cleared meds (antibiotics, digoxin) • No herbal supplements without approval
R	Replace Function Stage 5	Dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal) when GFR <15 or severe symptoms • Kidney transplant evaluation • Vascular access planning (AV fistula)
E	Education & Lifestyle	Daily weight monitoring, symptom reporting • Smoking cessation, exercise as tolerated • Medication adherence • flu/pneumococcal vaccines

My Nursing Notes

Unit 7

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Integumentary System Skin Integrity Pressure Injury Prevention Wound Healing Risk Factors for Skin Breakdown Skin Assessment Wound Assessment Dressings and Wound Care Braden Scale Infection Prevention	Skin Assessment Pressure Injury vs wound Braden Scale Assessment Sterile vs. Clean Technique Introduction Wound Care Equipment and Supplies Pressure Injury Prevention Strategies Repositioning Techniques



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW – MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Med
Cards

Med	What It Is	Why It's Used	Three Things You Should Know
Cefazolin (Ancef, Kefzol)	First-generation cephalosporin antibiotic; administered intravenously (IV) or intramuscularly (IM).	Treats or prevents bacterial infections (skin/soft tissue, urinary tract, respiratory tract, bone/joint, and surgical prophylaxis); effective against many gram- positive organisms (e.g., Staph and Strep).	1. Check for penicillin/cephalosporin allergy before administration (cross-reactivity risk). 2. Administer IV over 30 minutes; monitor for infusion reactions and signs of anaphylaxis. 3. Monitor renal function (dose adjustment may be needed); watch for C. diff diarrhea and superinfections.
Sodium Chloride 0.9% (Normal Saline, NS)	Isotonic IV crystalloid solution (0.9% NaCl in water).	Fluid volume replacement, maintenance hydration, vehicle for IV medication administration, and to flush IV lines.	1. Preferred fluid for most patients with normal sodium levels; compatible with many medications. 2. Monitor for fluid overload (especially in heart failure or renal patients); assess lung sounds and daily weights. 3. Use caution in patients with hypernatremia or edema; do not use for blood product administration (use only with blood tubing when required by policy).

WOUND ASSESSMENT

What do you see? Location: Where is the wound? Type: What kind of wound is it? Wound tissue: Granulation, slough, or necrotic tissue? Wound measurements: length, width, and depth. Exudate: amount, color, consistency, and odor. Dressing: Type, change Clean Dry Intact?	Assess for: • Maceration (softening of tissues by soaking in fluids) • Tunneling (erosion of tissue under wound edges causing (pocket beneath skin) • Rolled edge (wound edges rolling over themselves causing body to think wound has healed → healing ceases prematurely)
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DRESSING TECHNIQUES & TYPES

Sterile = No microbes allowed (highest level)

Clean = Fewer microbes (everyday nursing care)

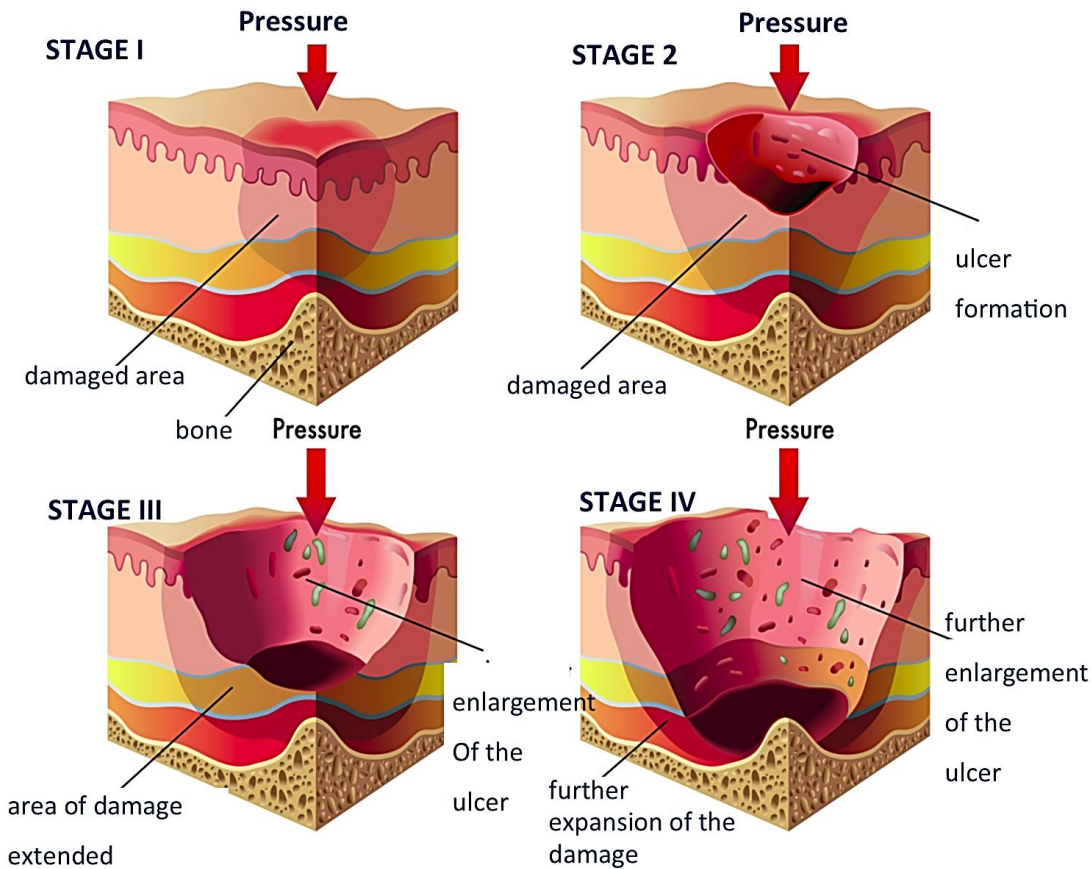
Aseptic = The overall goal and mindset of keeping things free from contamination

Core Principle: The more invasive the procedure, the higher the level of technique required.

Technique	What It Is	When / Why It Is Used	Three Things You Should Know
Sterile Technique	Complete elimination of all microorganisms and spores. Uses sterile gloves, fields, and instruments.	Invasive procedures that enter sterile body cavities (e.g., surgery, central line insertion, urinary catheter insertion, wound care for open sterile wounds).	1. Maintain a sterile field — anything below waist, wet, or out of sight is considered contaminated. 2. Use sterile gloves and never touch non-sterile surfaces with sterile items. 3. If sterility is broken, stop and replace contaminated items immediately.
Clean Technique (Medical Asepsis)	Reduces the number of microorganisms but does not eliminate all of them. Uses clean gloves and non-sterile supplies.	Routine care, non-invasive procedures, and tasks involving intact skin or mucous membranes (e.g., bed baths, vital signs, emptying drainage bags, wound care for chronic wounds).	1. Focus on hand hygiene before and after care. 2. Clean to dirty direction (e.g., perineal care front to back). 3. Goal is to prevent cross-contamination between patients and body sites.
Aseptic Technique	Methods used to prevent the introduction of pathogens; a broad concept that includes both clean and sterile practices.	Any procedure where preventing infection is critical (IV medication administration, wound dressing changes, suctioning, urinary catheter care).	1. Combines hand hygiene, PPE, and environmental controls. 2. “No-touch” technique when possible for sterile sites. 3. Always perform hand hygiene and don appropriate PPE before starting.

Unit 7

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM PRESSURE INJURY WOUND ASSESSMENT



An unstageable pressure ulcer is characterized by full-thickness tissue loss where the base of the ulcer is obscured by non-viable tissue. This obscuring material can be slough or eschar.

Braden Scale Interventions Guide - Adult

For those clients at risk; based on the overall Braden Scale risk assessment score & those Braden subscales which score 3 or less, use the interventions below to develop an individualized client care plan

Pressure Ulcer Staging

STAGE I: Non Blanchable erythema, remains red for 30 minutes after pressure has been relieved. Epidermis remains intact.

STAGE II: Epidermis is broken, lesions are superficial and there is partial– thickness skin loss

STAGE III: Full thickness skin-loss down through the dermis which may include subcutaneous tissue

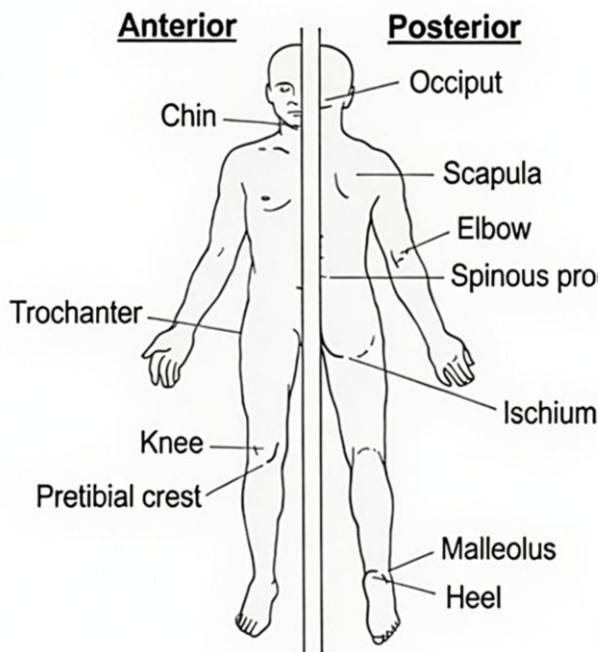
STAGE IV: Full-thickness skin loss extended into supportive structures such as bone or muscle or tendons.

BRADEN SCALE RISK CATEGORIES

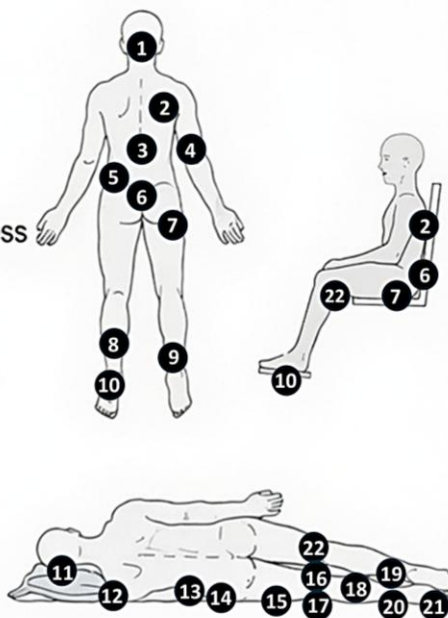
Total Score	Risk Level
19–23	No Risk
15–18	Mild Risk
13–14	Moderate Risk
10–12	High Risk
≤9	Very High Risk

BRADEN SCALE WOUND

Subscale	1 Point (High Risk)	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points (Low Risk)
Sensory Perception (Ability to respond to pressure-related discomfort)	Completely limited (unresponsive to pain)	Very limited (responds only to painful stimuli)	Slightly limited (responds to verbal commands)	No impairment (responds to verbal commands)
Moisture (Degree of skin exposure to moisture)	Constantly moist (incontinence, sweat)	Often moist (changed q2h or less)	Occasionally moist (changed q shift)	Rarely moist
Activity (Degree of physical activity)	Bedfast	Chairfast	Walks occasionally	Walks frequently
Mobility (Ability to change and control body position)	Completely immobile	Very limited	Slightly limited	No limitations
Nutrition (Usual food intake pattern)	Very poor (NPO, minimal intake)	Probably inadequate	Adequate	Excellent
Friction & Shear	Problem (requires moderate/max assist, slides down in bed)	Potential problem	No apparent problem	— (only 3 levels)



Pressure Injury Sites



- 1 Occiput
- 2 Scapula
- 3 Spinous process
- 4 Elbow
- 5 Iliac crest
- 6 Sacrum
- 7 Ischial Tuberosity
- 8 Achilles tendon
- 9 Heel
- 10 Sole
- 11 Ear
- 12 Shoulder
- 13 Anterior iliac spine
- 14 Trochanter
- 15 Thigh
- 16 Medial knee
- 17 Lateral knee
- 18 Lower leg
- 19 Medial malleolus
- 20 Lateral malleolus
- 21 Lateral edge of foot
- 22 Posterior knee

Braden Scale Interventions Guide - Adult

For those clients at risk; based on the overall Braden Scale risk assessment score & those Braden subscales which score 3 or less, use the interventions below to develop an individualized client care plan

Standard Pressure Injury Prevention Interventions for Clients in all Risk Categories:

1. Address client concerns regarding risk of a pressure injury.
2. Determine and document risk factors associated with clinical conditions.
3. Repeat Braden Risk Assessment.
4. Repeat the Head-to-Toe skin assessment.
5. Manage and provide pain relief.
6. Provide skin care
7. Prevent/manage moisture associated skin damage e.g., toileting routine to manage urine/feces Avoid continence briefs/pads.
8. Promote activity/mobility.
9. Support nutritional therapy e.g. encourage calorie and fluid intake as per client condition.
10. Reduce/eliminate shear & friction e.g. keep head of bed (HOB) less than 30° unless for meal time or as per client condition.
11. Alleviate pressure e.g. protect heels and elbows elevate heels off the bed
12. Promote pressure redistribution through positioning/repositioning e.g., turn/reposition as per clients individualized care plan. (e.g. q2h; q3h; q4h), and include small shifts of position.
13. For clients with subscales scores of 2 or less, make referral(s) to appropriate HCPs & consider additional interventions.

BRADEN SCALE RISK CATEGORIES

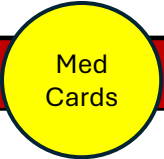
Total Score	Risk Level	Recommended Interventions
19–23	No Risk	Routine prevention
15–18	Mild Risk	Frequent turning, support surfaces
13–14	Moderate Risk	Enhanced prevention protocol
10–12	High Risk	Specialty mattress, strict repositioning
≤9	Very High Risk	Aggressive multidisciplinary interventions



Unit 8

MUSCLESKELETAL SYSTEM

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Musculoskeletal System Mobility Fall Prevention Body Mechanics Patient Positioning Assistive Devices Parkinson's Disease Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Range of Motion Safe Patient Handling	Mobility Assessment Use of a Gait Belt Ambulation Assistance Transfer Techniques Cane, Walker, Crutch Use Turning and Repositioning Patients Range of Motion Exercises Patient Positioning: (High, Low Semi Fowler's, Supine, Prone, Lateral) Fall Prevention Strategies Safe Patient Handling Techniques



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW – MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Medication	What It Is	Why It's Used	Three Things You Should Know
Celecoxib (Celebrex)	COX-2 selective NSAID (Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug);	Management of pain and inflammation from osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, acute pain, and menstrual cramps. Often used when a lower risk of stomach irritation is desired compared to traditional NSAIDs.	1. Black Box Warning: Increased risk of cardiovascular events (heart attack, stroke) and gastrointestinal bleeding. Use lowest effective dose for shortest time. - Contraindicated in patients with sulfa allergy (contains sulfonamide) and history of asthma, urticaria, or allergic reaction to aspirin/NSAIDs. - Monitor for GI bleeding, renal function (especially in elderly/dehydrated patients), and heart failure symptoms. Take with food to reduce stomach upset.

MUSCLESKELETAL MOBILITY DEVICES

Device	What It Is	Why It's Used	Three Things You Should Know
Gait Belt	A sturdy belt placed around the patient's waist with handles for the caregiver.	Provides a safe grip point for assisting with ambulation, transfers, and balance support.	- Always apply snugly over clothing (not bare skin). - Use proper body mechanics — grasp handles, not the belt itself. - Contraindicated in recent abdominal surgery, G-tube, or rib fractures.
Cane	Single-point or quad-point (four legs) walking aid held in the hand.	Improves balance and support for patients with mild weakness, arthritis, or injury on one side.	- Hold cane on the strong side. - Advance cane and weak leg together. - Proper height: handle at wrist level when standing with arm relaxed.
Crutches	Axillary (underarm) or forearm (Lofstrand) crutches.	Used for non-weight bearing or partial weight bearing after lower extremity injury/surgery.	Crutch gait depends on weight-bearing status (e.g., 3-point, 4-point, swing-through). - Two-finger space between axilla and crutch top to prevent nerve damage. - Teach "down with the bad, up with the good" when going up/down stairs.
Walker	Four-legged frame (standard, rolling/wheeled, or hemi-walker).	Provides maximum stability for patients with poor balance, weakness in both legs, or after surgery.	- Pick up and advance walker, then step (standard); roll and step (rolling walker). - Ensure all legs contact floor evenly. - Do not lean or hang on walker — use for support only.
Wheelchair	Manual or powered chair for seated mobility.	Used when patient cannot safely ambulate or needs extended mobility/transport.	- Lock brakes before transfers; footrests up when transferring. - Position patient properly with pressure relief cushions - Know weight capacity and proper pushing technique from behind.
Mechanical Lift (Hoyer Lift / Sling Lift)	Powered or hydraulic lift with sling for full patient transfers.	Safely transfers dependent or heavy patients between bed, chair, toilet, or stretcher.	- Use correct size sling and check patient weight limit. - Never leave patient suspended in sling. - Requires two caregivers for safety in most facilities.

Unit 8

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM

NURSINGKAMP

Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's Disease (PD), Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

MS, ALS and Parkinsons are neurodegenerative or neuroinflammatory conditions with some overlapping motor symptoms (e.g., weakness, gait issues), but distinct underlying mechanisms, courses, and outcomes. Diagnosis requires clinical evaluation, imaging (MRI), EMG for ALS

Multiple Sclerosis (MS)	Parkinson's Disease (PD)	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
MS is primarily autoimmune/demyelinating with relapsing course, sensory + motor symptoms, and better long-term survival	Parkinson's is a movement disorder driven by dopamine loss, featuring tremor/rigidity/bradykinesia, slow progression.	ALS is a motor neuron disease causing rapid muscle wasting and paralysis, with the worst prognosis among the three
MS VISUAL (WEAK) – LOOKS LIKE	SHUFFLE MASK TRAP	ALS WEAK
MUSCLE weakness / spasticity SENSORY changes (numbness, tingling, pain) VISION problems (optic neuritis, blurred/double vision) INTENTION tremor / Incoordination (ataxia) SPACITY / Stiffness URINARY / bowel issues AUTOIMMUNE fatigue (extreme tiredness) LIMB weakness	SHUFFLE –shuffling gait MASK – mask like face TREMOR (resting/pill-rolling) RIGIDITY (stiff muscles) AKINESIA / Bradykinesia (slowness of movement) POSTURAL instability (balance problems, falls)	ATROPHY (muscle wasting) LOSS of strength (progressive weakness) SPEECH & Swallowing difficulties (dysarthria, dysphagia) WALKING problems (foot drop, tripping) EXAGGERATED reflexes / spasticity (upper motor neuron signs) KICKING muscle twitching fasciculations

Aspect	Multiple Sclerosis (MS)	Parkinson's Disease (PD)	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
Primary Pathology	Autoimmune; immune system attacks myelin sheath in CNS (brain, spinal cord, optic nerves)	Degeneration of dopamine-producing neurons in substantia nigra (basal ganglia)	Degeneration of motor neurons in brain and spinal cord (upper and lower motor neurons)
Affected System	Central Nervous System (CNS)	Central Nervous System (CNS)	Motor neurons (CNS to peripheral muscles)
Typical Age of Onset	20–50 years (often younger adults)	Usually 60+ (can start earlier)	40–70 years (peak 55–75)
Gender Predominance	More common in women (2–3x)	Slightly more common in men	Slightly more common in men
Progression	Unpredictable; relapses/remissions common; can be progressive	Slow, gradual worsening over years/decades	Rapid progression; usually fatal within 3–5 years (10% live 10+ years)
Prognosis	Normal or near-normal lifespan; managed long-term	Chronic, progressive but not usually fatal; lifespan often near normal	Fatal; death usually from respiratory failure
Causes/Risk Factors	Autoimmune/genetic + environmental (e.g., latitude, vitamin D, smoking)	Mostly idiopathic; genetic in some cases; age primary risk	Mostly sporadic (90%); 10% familial/genetic; age, male sex, military service
Key Treatments	Disease-modifying therapies (DMTs), steroids for flares, symptom management (physical therapy, meds for spasticity/fatigue)	Levodopa/carbidopa, dopamine agonists, DBS surgery, exercise, therapy	Riluzole, edaravone, symptom management (respiratory support, feeding tube, physical/speech therapy); no cure
Cognitive Impact	Common (memory, concentration issues)	Common later (dementia in some)	Usually spared
Sensory Symptoms	Prominent (numbness, pain, vision loss)	Minimal	Rare (primarily motor)

My Nursing Notes

Unit 8

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM



GAIT BELT	CANE	CRUTCHES	WALKER	WHEELCHAIR	MECHANICAL LIFT
GRIP	COAL	CRUTCH	WALK	BRAKES	SLING2
GRASP the handles (never the belt itself) REMEMBER to apply snugly over clothing INVOLVE patient and explain the plan PROPER body mechanics – feet apart, knees bent 	CANE held on the OPPOSITE (strong) side ADVANCE cane and weak leg together LOOK straight ahead for balance CANE OPPOSITE THE AFFECTED LEG MEASURE 1. Turn the cane upside down and put handle on floor 2. Stand with arms at your sides 3. The tip of the cane should be at your wrist	CHECK 2-finger space under axilla REMEMBER weight-bearing status UP with the good leg, DOWN with the bad (stairs) TRIPOD stance when standing CARRY nothing while using crutches HANDS on handgrips only MEASURE Have patient stand relaxed with shoes TOP PAD 2–3 finger widths (about 1–2 inches or 3–5 cm) UNDER AXILAR HANDGRIP Elbows should bend 20-30 degrees 	Wait until all legs are firmly planted ADVANCE walker first LOOK forward, not down at your feet KEEP small steps inside the walker frame 	BRAKES locked before any transfer REMOVE or swing away footrests ASSIST from the patient's strong side KEEP wheelchair locked against bed or wall EYES on patient's feet during transfer SECURE with seatbelt if needed	SELECT correct sling size and type LOWER bed and lock all brakes INSPECT all hooks and connections NEVER leave patient suspended in air GET2 a second caregiver for safety 

Selecting the Appropriate Gait Pattern :When assessing which gait to use with crutches or a cane, first ask: “Is this an odd-numbered (one-sided) or even-numbered (bilateral) problem?”

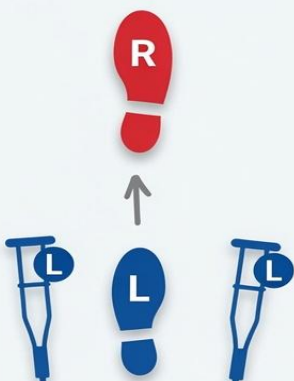
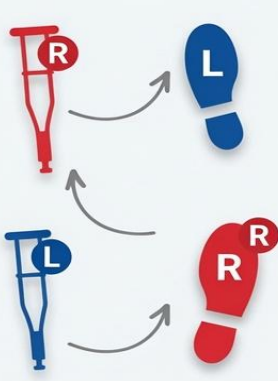
Rule of Thumb:

Odd = One-sided injury or weakness → Use an **odd-point gait** (most commonly the **3-point gait**).

Example: Patient with a **broken leg**, recent hip/knee surgery, or non-weight-bearing status on one lower extremity.

Even = Bilateral (both sides) involvement → Use an **even-point gait** (2-point or 4-point gait).

Examples: Rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis (MS), generalized lower extremity weakness, or Parkinson's disease.

2 POINT GAIT	3 POINT GAIT	4 POINT GATE	SWING THROUGH
R Crutch + L Foot then L Crutch + R Foot 	Both crutches forward w/ weak leg then strong leg forward 	Resembles “Normal Walking” L Crutch then R Foot R Crutch then L Foot 	Both crutches forward then both legs swing forward 



01

**SUPINE
(RECUMBENT)**LYING FLAT
ON THE BACK**USES:**

- GENERAL EXAMINATION
- REST AND SLEEP
- POST-SURGERY

02

**HIGH FOWLER'S
POSITION**SITTING COMPLETELY
UPRIGHT AT 90 DEGREES**USES:**

- BREATHING DIFFICULTY
- POST-SURGERY
- EATING AND READING

03

**SEMI-FOWLER'S
POSITION**HEAD ELEVATED
ABOUT 30°–45°**USES:**

- MILD BREATHING DIFFICULTY
- REST AND COMFORT
- REDUCES PRESSURE ON ABDOMEN

04

**PRONE
POSITION**LYING FLAT
ON THE ABDOMEN**USES:**

- RELIEVES PRESSURE ON BACK
- PROMOTES LUNG EXPANSION
- POST-SPINAL PROCEDURES

05

**LATERAL
POSITION**LYING ON
THE SIDE**USES:**

- UNCONSCIOUS PATIENTS
- PREVENTS BED SORES
- REST AND DRAINAGE

06

**SIMS'
POSITION**LYING ON LEFT SIDE,
LEFT ARM UNDER HEAD,
RIGHT KNEE FLEXED**USES:**

- ENEMA ADMINISTRATION
- RECTAL EXAMINATION
- UNCONSCIOUS PATIENTS

07

**TRENDELENBURG
POSITION**LYING ON BACK WITH
LEGS ELEVATED HIGHER
THAN THE HEAD**USES:**

- SHOCK
- LOW BLOOD PRESSURE
- IMPROVE BLOOD FLOW TO VITAL ORGANS

08

**LITHOTOMY
POSITION**LYING ON BACK WITH
HIPS & KNEES FLEXED,
LEGS APART**USES:**

- GYNECOLOGICAL EXAMINATION
- CHILD BIRTH
- SURGICAL PROCEDURES

09

**ORTHOPNEIC
POSITION**SITTING UP, LEANING
FORWARD WITH ARMS
SUPPORTED**USES:**

- SEVERE BREATHING DIFFICULTY
- HEART FAILURE
- EASIER LUNG EXPANSION

Unit 9

NEUROLOGICAL SYSTEM

Concepts Covered	Skills In the Lab
Neurological System Level of Consciousness (LOC) Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA/Stroke) Dementia Delirium Neurological Assessment Cranial Nerves Sensory and Motor Function Neurovascular Assessment Cognitive Function	Neurological Assessment Level of Consciousness Assessment Glasgow Coma Scale Introduction Cranial Nerve Assessment Motor Function Assessment Sensory Function Assessment Neurovascular Assessment Assessment of the 6 Ps (pain, pallor, pulselessness, paresthesia, paralysis) Recognition of Stroke Symptoms Neurological Cas



MEDICATIONS TO KNOW – MED CARD ASSIGNMENT

Medication	What it is	Why it is used	3 Key Things to Know (for Fundamentals)
Donepezil (Aricept)	Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor (cholinergic drug)	Treats mild to moderate Alzheimer's dementia to improve memory, thinking, and daily function.	1. Increases acetylcholine in the brain to help cognition. 2. Give with food to ↓ GI upset (nausea/diarrhea common); often at bedtime. 3. Monitor for bradycardia, GI bleeding risk, and liver enzymes.
Zolpidem (Ambien)	Non-benzodiazepine sedative-hypnotic	Short-term treatment of insomnia (helps fall/stay asleep).	1. Take right before bedtime with 7–8 hours available for sleep. 2. Risk of next-day drowsiness, falls, and complex sleep behaviors (e.g., sleep-driving). 3. Avoid with alcohol or other CNS depressants; short-term use only (7–10 days).
Hydromorphone HCl (Dilaudid)	Potent opioid agonist (Schedule II)	Moderate to severe pain relief (acute or chronic).	1. Monitor respirations closely — can cause life-threatening respiratory depression. 2. Common side effects: sedation, constipation (use bowel regimen), nausea. 3. Naloxone is the antidote; assess pain before/after and watch for dependence.
Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen (Vicodin, Norco)	Opioid agonist + non-opioid analgesic (Schedule II)	Moderate to severe pain (often post-op or injury).	1. Watch total acetaminophen dose (≤4 g/day) to prevent liver damage. 2. Causes respiratory depression, sedation, and constipation like other opioids. 3. Naloxone for overdose; educate on no alcohol and safe storage.
Morphine Sulfate	Opioid agonist (Schedule II)	Moderate to severe pain (post-op, cancer, MI, palliative care).	1. Primary risk = respiratory depression — monitor rate and depth frequently. 2. Causes constipation (prevent with stool softeners), sedation, and hypotension. 3. Have naloxone ready; reassess pain and vital signs; multiple routes available.
Naloxone (Narcan)	Opioid antagonist (reversal agent)	Emergency reversal of opioid overdose (respiratory depression).	1. Acts quickly (minutes) but wears off fast — may need repeat doses or infusion. 2. Can cause sudden opioid withdrawal symptoms (agitation, vomiting, tachycardia). 3. Give IV/IM/IN; always call emergency services; monitor patient closely afterward.



MMSE- MINI MENTAL STATUS EXAM

Category	Task	Points	Instructions / Example Questions
Orientation	Time (year, season, date, day, month)	5	"What is the year/season/date/day/month?"
Orientation	Place (state, county, town, hospital, floor)	5	"Where are we? (state, county, town, hospital, floor)"
Registration	Repeat 3 words (e.g., apple, table, penny)	3	Name 3 unrelated objects. Score 1 point per correct repetition.
Attention & Calculation	Serial 7s (subtract 7 from 100, 5 times) OR Spell "WORLD" backwards	5	"Subtract 7 from 100" (93, 86, 79, 72, 65). Alternative: spell "WORLD" backwards.
Recall	Recall the 3 words from registration	3	"What were the 3 words I asked you to remember?"
Language – Naming	Name 2 objects (e.g., pencil, watch)	2	Point to objects and ask to name them.
Language – Repetition	Repeat a complex sentence	1	"No ifs, ands, or buts."
Language – 3-Stage Command	Follow a 3-step command	3	"Take this paper in your right hand, fold it in half, and put it on the floor."
Language – Reading	Read and obey a written command	1	"Close your eyes" (written).
Language – Writing	Write a complete sentence	1	"Write a sentence about anything."
Visuospatial	Copy intersecting pentagons (or design)	1	Show figure and ask patient to copy it.

MMSE: Folstein et al. (1975). Mini-Mental State Examination. Copyright held by MiniMental LLC / PAR

Scoring Interpretation

- 24–30**: Normal range (may vary with age/education)
- 19–23**: Mild cognitive impairment
- 10–18**: Moderate cognitive impairment
- <10**: Severe cognitive impairment

MINI COG – MINI COGNITIVE SCREENING TOOL 0-5 POINTS

Step	Task	Points	Instructions
Word Registration	Repeat 3 unrelated words (e.g., banana, sunrise, chair)	(Scored later)	Say the 3 words clearly. Ask patient to repeat them (up to 3 tries).
Clock Drawing Test	Draw a clock showing 11:10	0 or 2	Provide blank paper & pencil. Instruct: "Draw a clock that shows 11:10. Include all numbers and set the hands correctly."
Delayed Recall	Recall the 3 words from the beginning	0–3	After clock drawing, ask: "What were the 3 words I asked you to remember?"

Mini-Cog: Borson (2000). The Mini-Cog. © S. Borson. Used with permission for educational purposes.

Scoring Guide

- Recall**: 1 point per correct word (maximum 3)
- Clock Drawing**: 2 points = **Normal**; 0 points = **Abnormal**
- Total Interpretation**:
 - **0–2** → **Positive screen** (likely cognitive impairment → further evaluation needed)
 - **3–5** → **Negative screen** (lower likelihood of impairment)

Unit 9

NEUROLOGICAL CRANIAL NERVE ASSESSMENT STROKE





B
BALANCE
The person has sudden dizziness or loss of coordination



E
EYES
A sudden loss of vision in one, or both eyes, or double vision, occurs



F
FACE
Ask the person to smile. Is the smile lopsided?



A
ARM
Ask the person to raise both arms. Can they keep them there?



S
SPEECH
Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence. Is it hard to understand?



T
TIME
If any of these symptoms exist, call 911

CRANIAL NERVE ASSMENT

#	Cranial Nerve	Type	Primary Function	How to Assess (Fundamental Level)	Expected Normal Finding
I	Olfactory	Sens	Sense of smell	Ask patient to close eyes. Occlude one nostril. Present familiar, non-irritating odors (coffee, vanilla, peppermint, soap). Repeat on other side.	Correctly identifies odor in each nostril
II	Optic	Sens	Vision	Test distance visual acuity (Snellen chart) or near vision card. Assess visual fields by confrontation.	20/20 or best corrected vision; full visual fields
III	Oculomotor	Mot	Most eye movements, pupil constriction, eyelid elevation	Assess PERRLA . Check for ptosis. Test extraocular movements (EOMs) in 6 cardinal positions of gaze.	Pupils equal, round, reactive to light & accommodation (PERRLA); no ptosis; smooth full EOMs
IV	Trochlear	Mot	Downward & inward eye movement	Tested during EOM assessment (look down and in)	Smooth downward and inward eye movement
V	Trigeminal	Mix	Sensation to face (3 divisions), chewing	Light touch to forehead, cheek, and jaw (V1, V2, V3). Ask patient to clench teeth firmly.	Sensation intact in all 3 divisions; strong bilateral jaw clench
VI	Abducens	Mot	Lateral eye movement (abduction)	Tested during EOM assessment (look laterally)	Smooth lateral (abduction) eye movement
VII	Facial	Mix	Facial expression, taste (anterior 2/3 tongue)	Ask patient to: raise eyebrows, close eyes tightly, smile, frown, puff out cheeks	Symmetric facial movements and expression
VIII	Vestibulocochlear	Sens	Hearing and balance	Whisper test or finger rub test bilaterally. Observe gait and balance.	Hears whisper/finger rub equally in both ears
IX	Glossopharyngeal	Mix	Taste (posterior 1/3), swallowing, gag reflex	Assess gag reflex (gently touch posterior pharynx). Ask patient to say "ahh".	Gag reflex present; uvula rises symmetrically
X	Vagus	Mix	Swallowing, speech, parasympathetic function	Assess voice quality, swallowing, and uvula movement (often tested with IX)	Clear voice, no hoarseness; symmetric palate/uvula
XI	Accessory (Spinal)	Mot	Head turning and shoulder shrug	Ask patient to shrug shoulders against resistance. Turn head side-to-side against resistance.	Strong, symmetric shoulder shrug and head turning
XII	Hypoglossal	Mot	Tongue movement and speech	Ask patient to stick out tongue and move it side to side. Listen to lingual speech sounds.	Tongue protrudes in midline; moves symmetrically

Unit 9

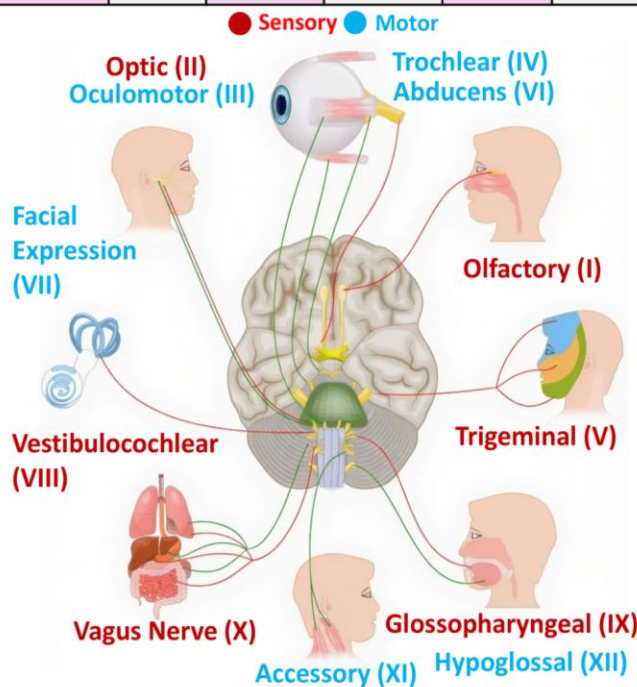
NEUROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

NURSINGKAMP

Cerebral Vascular Accident (CVA) "Stroke" Right VS Left Sided Stroke

A **Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)**, commonly called a **stroke**, is a **sudden interruption** of blood flow to part of the brain. Brain cells die when they don't get oxygen and nutrients, leading to sudden neurological deficits. There are two types of CVA's **ischemic (87%)** where a clot blocks the blood vessel in the brain where a patient can receive TPA(clot buster) if within the time frame(4 hours of incident) lending to the term **"Time is Brain"** – The faster blood flow is restored, the better the outcome. The second type **hemorrhagic (13%)** this is where the blood vessel in the brain ruptures resulting in bleeding this is often more deadly; caused by hypertension, aneurysm, or AVM. These result in residual damage of the brain and cranial nerves presenting with characteristic symptoms either terms "RIGHT" or "LEFT" sided strokes.

Left Hemisphere Stroke	B	E	F	A	S	T	Right Hemisphere Stroke
(affects right side of body)							(affects left side of body)
RIGHT Weak LEFT BROCA							"LEFT Neglect"
R – Right-sided weakness / hemiparesis (contralateral motor deficit)	BALANCE Unsteady Dizziness	EYES Sudden loss of vision or blurred	FACE Facial Drooping	ARM Limb leg weakness	SPEECH Slurred Unclear	TIME Call EMS 911 NOW	L – Left-sided weakness / hemiparesis (contralateral motor deficit)
I – Intellectual / language deficits (aphasia – expressive or receptive)							E – Eyes / visual-spatial depth perception deficits, homonymous hemianopsia,
G – Gaze preference (toward lesion side)							F – Face recognition problems / prosopagnosia (difficulty recognizing familiar faces)
H – Hemiplegia on the right side + right-sided sensory loss							T – Tone / impulsivity (poor judgment, safety awareness issues, "left brain is logical, right brain is creative/impulsive")
T – Thinking / logical processing impaired (math, sequencing, reading/writing difficulties)							N – Neglect (unilateral neglect / hemi-inattention – ignores left side of body/space)
L – Language problems (aphasia – Broca's or Wernicke's)							E – Emotional lability or flat affect
E – Emotional lability or frustration (especially with communication)							G – Gait / balance problems (ataxia, falls risk)
F – Face droop + right-sided facial weakness							L – Loss of proprioception / spatial awareness
T – Thinking / cognitive deficits (right-sided neglect is rare; math/analytical issues)							E – Expressive deficits in non-verbal communication
LEFT SIDED CVA LANGUAGE DEFECITS							C – Creative side affected (artistic, holistic thinking impaired)
Wernicke's = Wacky words, Won't understand You-Safety risk! Use gestures, pictures, demonstrate tasks. Avoid complex explanations.							T – Time disorientation
Broca's = Bad Behavior of speech (non-fluent) but Brain understands Patient is frustrated but can often follow commands → Use simple yes/no questions, give extra time, written cues.							LEFT SIDED INTELCTUAL DEFECITS
							Receptive Aphasia:
							•They do NOT understand → Speak slowly and use very simple words.
							Expressive Aphasia:
							They understand most of what you say → Use simple yes/no questions.



My Nursing Notes

Unit 9

NEUROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Concepts Covered	Neurovascular Assessment																																		
What is LOC? Level of Consciousness refers to a patient's awareness of self and environment. It is one of the most important neurological assessments a nurse performs. Changes in LOC are often the earliest sign of neurological deterioration (before vital sign changes). Why It Matters in Fundamentals Early detection of decline (e.g., stroke, head injury, overdose, hypoxia, hypoglycemia, infection). Required in every head-to-toe assessment, especially in ER, ICU, neuro, and post-op patients. Part of the AVPU and Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) tools.	Part of the Neurovascular Assessment for COMPARTMENT SYNDROME which is a painful condition resulting in blood accumulation in an enclosed space (ie arm, leg.) Complications can lead to Damage of the Muscles Nerves and even death. 5 P's Pain Pallor Pallor Pulse Paresthesia Paralysis																																		
AVPU Scale (Quick, first-line screen — use this first) Alert — Patient is awake, eyes open, responds appropriately without stimulation. Voice — Responds to verbal stimuli (e.g., answers questions, follows commands). Pain — Responds only to painful stimuli (e.g., sternal rub, nail bed pressure). Unresponsive — No response to voice or pain	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">GCS (Glasgow Coma Scale)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Best Eye Response (E)</td> <td rowspan="5"> PERRLA Pupils 2mm Equal ● Round 4mm Reactive ● Light Accommodation </td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Spontaneous</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 On Command</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 To Pain</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 No Response</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Best Verbal Response: (V)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Alert and Oriented</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Confused</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Inappropriate</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Incomprehensible</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 No Response</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Best Motor Response: (M)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Follows Direction</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Localizes Pain</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Withdraws from Pain</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Abnormal Flexion</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Abnormal Extension</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 No Response</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	GCS (Glasgow Coma Scale)		Best Eye Response (E)	PERRLA Pupils 2mm Equal ● Round 4mm Reactive ● Light Accommodation	4 Spontaneous	3 On Command	2 To Pain	1 No Response	Best Verbal Response: (V)		5 Alert and Oriented		4 Confused		3 Inappropriate		2 Incomprehensible		1 No Response		Best Motor Response: (M)		6 Follows Direction		5 Localizes Pain		4 Withdraws from Pain		3 Abnormal Flexion		2 Abnormal Extension		1 No Response	
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Detailed Descriptors (Document exactly what you see) Alert & Oriented x3 (A&Ox3): Oriented to Person, Place, and Time. A&Ox4: Also oriented to Situation (why they are here). Confused: Disoriented but follows simple commands. Lethargic / Somnolent: Drowsy but arousable to voice; falls back asleep easily. Obtunded: Requires repeated stimulation; slow, confused responses. Stuporous: Only responds to painful stimuli; minimal response. Comatose: Unresponsive to any stimuli.																																			

My Nursing Notes