Med/Surg Content Outline

Exam Objective: To measure the overall level of clinical knowledge in the area of the Medical/Surgical Unit.

I. General Knowledge
   A. Knowledge of diagnostic tests and procedures common on the Medical/Surgical Unit including pre- and post- care
   B. Knowledge of patient education regarding disease process
      1. Abdominal hysterectomy
      2. Open abdominal wounds
      3. Wet-to dry dressing changes
   C. Knowledge of management and complications of central lines
   D. Knowledge of differences in psychosocial needs of patients and others based on age, culture, or other criteria
   E. Knowledge of patient education regarding procedures
      1. Spinal
      2. IVP (Intravenous Pyelogram)
      3. Gout
      4. CRF (Chronic Renal Failure)
      5. TURP
   F. Knowledge of controlled substances, including the principles of Patient Controlled Analgesia
   G. Knowledge of healthcare safety issues
      1. Isolation Practices
         a. Standard, transmission-based, and universal, isolation practices
         b. Neutropenic precautions
   H. Knowledge of normal and abnormal assessment findings
      1. Drains
      2. Wounds
      3. Surgical incisions
   I. Knowledge of nursing interventions for post-operative procedures
      1. Laparoscopic cholecystectomy
   J. Knowledge of medication administration
   K. Knowledge of blood product administration
   L. Knowledge of characteristics of schizophrenic disorders
   M. Knowledge of nursing interventions for CBI (Continuous Bladder Irrigation)
   N. Knowledge of nursing interventions for patients with special needs
      1. Immobile patient
   O. Knowledge of patient education regarding radiologic procedures

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II. Cardiovascular
   A. Knowledge of anatomy and physiology
   B. Knowledge of common disorders associated with the CV system
      1. CHF
      2. DVT
      3. Pernicious anemia
      4. Compartment Syndrome
   C. Knowledge of blood and blood products
      1. Administration
      2. IV Catheter selection
      3. Blood transfusion reactions
   D. Knowledge of head-to-toe assessment
      1. Circulatory status
   E. Knowledge of normal and abnormal lab parameters
   F. Knowledge of common diagnostics tests and procedures
   G. Knowledge of pre- and post-care
      a. Cardiac catheterization

III. Pulmonary
   A. Knowledge of pulmonary disease processes common in the Medical/Surgical Unit
   B. Knowledge of patient education regarding common pulmonary surgical procedures
   C. Knowledge of patient education regarding disease processes of pulmonary system
   D. Knowledge of care related to chest tubes
   E. Knowledge of oxygen therapy
      1. COPD patient
   F. Knowledge of pathophysiology and disease processes related to the pulmonary system
      1. Pleural effusion
      2. Emphysema
      3. Asthma
      4. Pulmonary embolism

IV. Gastrointestinal
   A. Knowledge of common disorders associated with the gastrointestinal system
      1. Diverticulosis
      2. Diverticulitis
      3. Bulimia Nervosa
      4. Colostomy
      5. GI Bleed
      6. Peptic Ulcer Disease

V. Renal
   A. Knowledge of anatomy and physiology related to the renal system
   B. Knowledge of common diagnostics tests and procedures
   C. Knowledge of monitoring parameters both normal and abnormal
   D. Knowledge of procedural complications for cystectomy
   E. Knowledge of collection for 24 hour urine
   F. Knowledge of ARF

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VI. Endocrine
   A. Knowledge of common disorders associated with the Endocrine system
      1. Diabetes Insipidus
      2. SIADH
      3. Grave’s Disease
      4. Hypothyroidism
      5. Pancreatitis
   B. Knowledge of diabetes and management of hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia
   C. Knowledge of the effects of insulin and oral anti-diabetic agents

VII. Genitourinary
   A. Knowledge of anatomy and physiology of genitourinary system
   B. Knowledge of common disorders associated with the genitourinary system
   C. Knowledge of patient education/nursing interventions regarding genitourinary surgical procedures

VIII. Neurology
   A. Knowledge of anatomy and physiology of the neurological system
   B. Knowledge of neurovascular/neurological assessment
      1. Normal and abnormal assessment
         a. Glasgow Coma Scale
   C. Knowledge of pathophysiology and disease processes related to the Neurological System
      1. Closed Head Injury
      2. Seizures
      3. Increased Intracranial Pressure-initial s/s
   D. Knowledge of diagnostics tests and procedures common to the Medical/Surgical Unit
   E. Knowledge of pre- and post-care related to procedures common to the Medical/Surgical Unit
   F. Knowledge of common disorders associated with the neurological system
   G. Knowledge of nursing interventions for quadriplegic patient
   H. Knowledge of patient education regarding neurologic procedures
   I. Knowledge of patient education regarding procedures
   J. Post spinal surgery

IX. Multisystem
   A. Knowledge of disease processes related to Multisystem
      1. Total Hip Replacement
      2. Anaerobic Metabolism
      3. Cirrhosis
      4. Sepsis-early stage
      5. Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)
      6. Pelvic and femoral fractures

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X. Med/Surg Pharmacology
   A. Knowledge of medications and their effects on patients
   B. Knowledge of medication classifications
   C. Knowledge of pharmacologic indications and actions
   D. Knowledge of medication administration
   E. Knowledge of monitoring parameters for anticoagulant therapy
   F. Knowledge of IV and drug calculation formulas
   G. Knowledge of TPN Administration Techniques
   H. Knowledge of antagonist for meds such as narcotics and anticoagulants