Case Studies in Nursing Fundamentals

Margaret Sorrell Trueman
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Case Studies in Nursing Fundamentals

MARGARET SORRELL TRUEMAN, RN, MSN, EdD, CNE

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This book is dedicated to all the nursing students, past and present, who have touched my life. Their enthusiasm in learning all the new, exciting and sometimes frightening aspects of nursing has kept me on my toes, sustained my own passion for nursing, and made nursing education one of the most challenging and enjoyable times of my life. I thank you all.
Margaret (Peg) Sorrell Trueman earned a diploma in nursing from the Lankenau Hospital School of Nursing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Queens University of Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina, a master’s degree in nursing/adult health from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Doctorate in Vocational and Technical Education from Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina.

She has taught nursing in diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate, both pre-licensure and RN completion programs, and in master degree nursing programs. She has more than 30 years as a clinician in medical-surgical and critical care nursing and 25 years as a nurse educator. She has taught fundamentals of nursing, medical-surgical nursing, rehabilitation, critical care, pediatrics and the support courses of health assessment, pathophysiology, and research. She is a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) through the National League of Nursing.

She is a member of the American Nurses Association, the North American Nursing Diagnosis Association-International and the American Heart Association. Her scholarship has been recognized in her membership in Sigma Theta Tau International and Epsilon Pi Tau, the international honor society for professions in technology. She has been recognized as one of the Great 100 Nurses of North Carolina. She has published in the areas of collaboration in practice and creative teaching techniques. Currently she is an Assistant Professor of Nursing at Fayetteville State University in Fayetteville, North Carolina.
I have been in nursing education over 25 years and the changes in the paradigms of teaching and testing have been both exhilarating and, at times, exasperating. Through all the changes, the nearly impossible question we have sought to answer has always been, “How do we truly teach the essence of real-life nursing decision-making in a safe way without spending millions of dollars?”

I’d like to say I brilliantly discovered one possible solution to this question, but I have to confess that the impetus for making fundamentals of nursing come alive came from my daughter, a kindergarten teacher, who in a moment of Zen, watching me put together lecture after lecture after lecture commented . . . Isn’t it a shame that adult learners do not get to play and learn like my kindergarteners . . and my AH-HA! moment struck and I thought: note to self —let the students play with the information we want them to learn — and the beginning of the idea for the use of the case method in the Fundamentals of Nursing began . . .

The goal of this book is not in the presentation of information for nursing care; many books already exist for this purpose but rather to facilitate an understanding and ability to use the information in real-life nursing practice situations. This book is to help students not only learn the information vital to nursing practice but also to facilitate an ability to use the learned information in real-life clinical settings encountered in everyday nursing practice. Nursing is a participation sport and requires not only the understanding of the rules and regulations of the sport but the ability to play the skills within a framework of teamwork and optimal outcomes, for both the clients for whom we care and for the nursing profession itself.

Case learning is not a new concept; teaching through storytelling has been around since the beginning of time. What is more modern is its use in a structured manner to enhance learning outcomes when the goal is that of safe and successful application of learned information. The method of case-based instruction is credited to Christopher Columbus Langdell, a law professor and later Dean of the Harvard Law School in the late 1800s. He believed that the most realistic way to study law was to examine and work through real-life legal situations. He used appellate court cases and decisions to prepare students for the real world of legal practice (William, 1992).
For nursing education, learning based on situations commonly encountered in clinical practice helps students develop the knowledge and know-how for implementation of safe nursing care. Cases present a high-frequency, low-stake learning modality that can mimic real care situations. They allow exposure to different care situations that often, as a result of limited clinical resources commonly encountered in programs of nursing, are not available as real-time experiences for nursing students.

In general, cases encourage students to think about practice and support the development of critical thinking skills. By changing the focus from content to process, the active learning of nursing practice becomes the charge to student learners rather than the responsibility of the faculty. Ownership of outcomes, a thrust of nursing practice in the interactional process in client care, becomes the foundation of not only the learning of nursing practice but a foundation tool of the practice

Research indicates that students feel that case studies add significant realism to their learning because of the relevancy to the course concepts and they are more engaged when cases are integrated into the instruction (Hofsten, Gustafsson, & Haggstrom, 2010; Yadav, Shaver & Meckl, 2010). The charge to faculty, in the presentation of concepts, and the charge to students, in their learning of concepts, is that the knowledge must be used, not just acquired. To this end, case-based instruction provides the ability to make teaching/learning an active process instead of a passive one.

Organized by the major concepts addressed in foundational courses in nursing, the case studies support the remembering, understanding, application, and analysis of the information. As educators recognize and students come to learn, case method integrates Bloom's taxonomy, the format entrenched in the teaching and testing of nursing practice. Frequently educators see nursing students bring to their nursing studies a rich skill base in the memorization and recall of knowledge. However, making the quantum leap across the divide to the application of that knowledge has led to some not-so-successful outcomes in students who were felt to have the prerequisite skills needed for success in nursing education. Case-method instruction supports the use of the information presented in each concept across the domains of learning as well as structured within the nursing process. Facilitating the student's ability to manipulate their knowledge and growing practice base across all uses of information helps them integrate the foundational concepts of nursing practice inherent to every nursing situation.

The purpose of case studies as presented in this textbook is to:

1. Present the foundational knowledge needed in situational decision making
2. Provide true-to-life patient-care situations that require application and analysis of learned information to ensure safe and competent decision making in patient care
3. Make the learning of nursing REAL

Terry Delpier (2006) in explaining the applicability of case studies in nursing education so eloquently states, cases are the best way to teach nursing students how to think like nurses (p. 209).

For students, this textbook provides the opportunity to play with the knowledge gained in regard to nursing practice at the fundamental level. The author also recognizes that though the learning of the safe application of nursing practice is the pinnacle of your education, that success on the NCLEX-RN® licensure examination is of equal importance. The ability to develop, maintain, and safely apply the concepts of nursing practice is quantified by your ability to be successful on comprehensive examinations throughout your course of study; and in essence be successful on the mother of all comprehensive examinations, the licensure examination. Case-based learning is an important
strategy towards this end. Students exposed to case-based learning methods were found to score significantly better on comprehensive examinations than those students not afforded the opportunity of this learning method (Beers & Bowden, 2005; Pariseau & Kezim, 2007).

I hope you enjoy the reading and use of the book as I certainly enjoyed writing the stories. The stories are a reflection and composite of the many clients I have had the pleasure of meeting and the privilege of being a part of their stories in their journeys through the healthcare system; a system which nursing is the pivotal aspect of their successful outcomes.

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No great endeavor is ever accomplished in a silo. So many people contributed to the development and completion of this textbook. First I would like to thank my team at F.A. Davis for their encouragement and support through the entire production process:

Greg Spradley (Representative) for giving me the opportunity to pursue my dream of authorship.
Lisa Houck (Publisher) for your support and feedback as I navigated all the challenges of writing and producing a textbook.
Jamie Elfrank (Project Editor) for your advice and direction throughout the details of putting together this project.

Lastly, and pivotal to my team, was the mentorship and coaching I received from Judith Wilkinson. At the beginning of this project, it was her textbook that gave rise to the idea of a conceptually driven case-method textbook for Fundamentals. Being able to speak with her, (understanding that this was a neophyte speaking with a Guru— I was so nervous!) I gained advice and direction, and most importantly, had someone who had complete faith in my ability to bring-to-life the intricacies of nursing practice.

I thank my family for their support as so much time was spent thinking and doing to bring this book to fruition.

To my friends, who never wavered in their awe that someone they knew was writing a book, I am grateful for the confidence you had in me and I can finally say, yes—the book is finally a reality.

To Michele who has been a gift in my life and whose support kept me grounded and working through the tough times; it was her never-ending patience, listening to me vent, and her great words of wisdom; and to Team 4, the heart and fist I needed for those days when I doubted my ability to write at all.

Last to Baby B: Patty—I could never do all that I have done in my life without your unwavering love, support, and belief in me.
Contents

UNIT 1 The Theory and Application of Nursing Practice

The Nursing Profession and Practice 1
Critical Thinking and the Nursing Process 19
Nursing Process Assessment 31
Nursing Process Nursing Diagnosis 43
Nursing Process Planning Outcomes 57
Nursing Process Planning Interventions 65
Nursing Process Evaluation 73
Nursing Process Implementation 79
Nursing Theory 87
Research 91

UNIT 2 Factors Affecting Health

Growth and Development 95
Health and Illness 105
Psychosocial Health and Illness 111
Family 119
Culture and Ethnicity 127
Spirituality 135
Loss, Grief and Dying 141

UNIT 3 Essential Nursing Interventions

Documenting and Reporting 149
Vital Signs 157
Communication and Therapeutic Relationships 165
Health Assessment 171
Promoting Asepsis and Preventing Infection 177
Safety Falls 187
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-Care Ability Hygiene</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Administration</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching and Learning</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**UNIT 4  Supporting Physiological Functioning**

- Stress-Coping-Adaptation 219
- Nutrition 227
- Elimination *Urinary* 235
- Bowel Elimination *Constipation* 243
- Bowel Elimination *Diarrhea* 247
- Sensory Perception 249
- Pain Management 253
- Activity and Exercise 261
- Sexual Health 269
- Sleep and Rest 275
- Skin Integrity 279
- Oxygenation 287
- Perfusion 293
- Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Balance 297

**UNIT 5  Nursing Functions**

- Leading and Management 305
- Informatics 317
- Holism 323
- Health Promotion 327

**UNIT 6  Context for Nurses’ Work**

- Perioperative Nursing 331
- Community-Based Care 341
- Ethics and Values 349
- Legal Issues 357

Index 363
UNIT 1

Theory and Application of Nursing Practice

The Nursing Profession and Practice

Before reading the chapter, write a short two-paragraph narrative defining and describing your personal perspective on the question “What is nursing and what do nurses do?” Set it aside while you work through the content that presents the evolution and practice of nursing as an integral part of the healthcare delivery system.
Mary Jane had been accepted into a nursing program and excitedly announced it to a group of people at church. She received a mixture of comments regarding her desire to become a nurse including the following:

- “You must really have a special calling to help the sick.”
- “Gonna catch you a rich doctor-husband?”
- “Going to join the war on illness and diseases, are you?”
- “You will get to help the doctors do all their hard work.”
- “Oh my—I could not give shots all day; you have to be a little mean.”

1. Discuss the perception of nursing portrayed by each comment within the historical context associated with the profession of nursing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Historical Context</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“You must really have a special calling to help the sick.”</td>
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<td>“Gonna catch you a rich doctor-husband?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Going to join the war on illness and diseases, are you?”</td>
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</table>
2. Describe the two images commonly associated with Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing.

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<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Historical Context</th>
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<td>“You will get to help the doctors do all their hard work.”</td>
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<td>“Oh my—I could not give shots all day; you have to be a little mean.”</td>
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3. Florence Nightingale exhibited the characteristics of a “full-spectrum nurse.” Discuss each component inherent to the thinking roles of the nurse and how they were integral to Florence Nightingale’s major contribution to the profession of standards to control the spread of disease in hospitals.
### Thinking Roles | Standards to Control the Spread of Disease in Hospitals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role 1</th>
<th>Role 2</th>
<th>Role 3</th>
<th>Role 4</th>
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</table>
4. Gender, race, and ethnicity are changing the “face” of nursing. Looking at your own cohort of nursing students, does the composition of your group reflect the 2012 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses? Within your own community of learners, how can your program increase the diversity of the nursing profession?

Nursing has been defined by many entities throughout history but it is of vital importance to clearly articulate what nursing is and what nurses do within the context of the ever-changing nature of nursing, healthcare, and society.

5. Why is it so important for the nursing profession to have a clear definition?
The International Council of Nurses (ICN), the American Nurses Association (ANA), and the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) have delineated definitions for the profession. What are the similarities and differences among these definitions of nursing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Term/Concept</th>
<th>ICN</th>
<th>ANA</th>
<th>CNA</th>
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</table>
7. What are the ANA essential features of professional nursing? Should they be included as key concepts in the ANA’s definition of professional nursing?
8. Describe the roles and functions of the nurse. Give an example of how you, as a nursing student, can operationalize these roles in some manner. **Note:** not all roles may be within the scope of your nursing student practice.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role and Function</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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9. Outline the three descriptors of this career called nursing: a profession, a discipline, and an occupation.
Now let’s return to your brief narrative describing your own perspective on the question “What is nursing and what do nurses do?” and address the following:

10. Which historical influences are reflected in your description?


12. Identify the roles reflected in your own description of nursing.

13. Discuss which descriptor of nursing is best reflected in your own description of nursing.

Nurses’ educational options to meet the initial requirements for licensure are a much-debated topic within the profession.

14. Discuss the five educational pathways leading to licensure as a registered nurse (RN).
15. Were you aware of the other pathways available for the study of nursing? Why did you choose your present program of study for RN licensure?

16. What is “continuing education” and why is it vital to your nursing practice?

As a part of the educational sphere of nursing, socialization is the informal education that occurs as you move into the new profession.

17. Describe the ways that socialization occurs within this informal process. How does this process integrate into your current course of study? Give examples.
18. Describe each of the stages of Benner’s model pertaining to the acquisition of clinical skills and judgment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill Level</th>
<th>Description of Skill</th>
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19. It is recognized that a new graduate usually functions at the Stage 2: Advanced Beginner level. Is it appropriate to expect this level of functioning as an exit competency for your program of study? Explain.

Nursing practice is regulated by laws and guided by standards of practice.
20. What are the differences between the intent of the laws regulating nursing practice and the standards guiding nursing practice?

21. How do practicing nurses, professional nursing organizations, and other professions use the standards of practice? How can you use them within your own scope of practice as a nursing student?

Nursing is supported by many nursing organizations that work to establish standards of practice, ensure educational standards, and ensure quality of nursing care in all practice settings.

22. Discuss how the ANA/CNA, the National League for Nursing (NLN), and the ICN are all needed to ensure global standards for the profession of nursing.
Nursing encompasses a spectrum of care and addresses the continuum of human health needs from health promotion to end-of-life care in a variety of practice settings. Within this spectrum of care there are many trends, both societal and those within nursing and healthcare, that are affecting contemporary nursing practice.

23. Discuss the four purposes of nursing care within the continuum of human health needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Range of Services</th>
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24. For each of the following practice settings, give examples of activities that may occur within the continuum of human health needs. You may need to refer to other chapters in your textbook that address particular practice settings.
   a. Extended care facilities
   b. Ambulatory care
   c. Home care
   d. Community health
### Continuum of Human Health Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continuum of Human Health Needs</th>
<th>Extended Care</th>
<th>Ambulatory Care</th>
<th>Home Care</th>
<th>Community Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illness Prevention</td>
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<td>Health Restoration</td>
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<tr>
<td>End-of-Life Care</td>
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25. Discuss each of the following societal and healthcare trends and the possible impact, both positive and negative, on the purposes of nursing care:

   a. National economy  
   b. Aging population  
   c. Roles of the healthcare consumer  
   d. Complementary and alternative medicine  
   e. Use of nursing assistive personnel (NAP)
The components of nursing practice include doing, caring, and thinking. Much of what is recognized about nursing reflects the “doing” component, the activities that make up the practice, along with the caring component. The third component, thinking, is the foundational concept that is essential to all aspects of nursing care.

Heaslip (1992) defines critical thinking as the method for clinical decision making; it is “the ability to think in a systematic and logical manner with openness to questions and to reflect on the reasoning process used to ensure safe nursing practice and quality care.”

1. Identify and give a personal definition of the key concepts in Heaslip’s definition of critical thinking.

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

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2. What are the characteristics of a critical thinker?

Critical thinking can be used in all aspects of your life when you are trying to reach an important decision. It is not just a “nursing skill,” but also in essence a “life skill.”

Shana, a first-semester nursing student, has demonstrated suitable academic skills that facilitated her acceptance into the nursing program. She has discovered that nursing studies are very different from general education studies, and she has found that she is not testing at the level she had been accustomed to and, in fact, has found herself in danger of failing the program. She knows she needs to develop new strategies to help her succeed in the program.

Put yourself in Shana’s shoes and help her work through this problem using the listed critical-thinking skills. Base your response on your understanding of course preparation, studying, and testing and all the resources available to you as a student. You are trying to facilitate a solution that will promote Shana’s academic success in the course. The first completed critical-thinking skill is provided for you.

Objectively gather information on the problem: Has a course average of 74%, reads 75% to 85% of course materials prior to class, brings PowerPoint handouts to class, listens to lecture, and take notes on the handouts. Reviews PowerPoint slides prior to testing to ensure good memory of the content.

3. Recognize the need for more information. (Where else can you seek information and what kind of information is available?)

4. Evaluate the credibility and usefulness of the sources of information.
Critical Thinking and the Nursing Process

5. Make tentative conclusions about the meaning of the information.

6. Identify potential solutions to the problem.

7. Explore the advantages and disadvantages of each potential action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solution</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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(Continued)
### Solution | Advantages | Disadvantages
--- | --- | ---

8. Discuss each of the following critical-thinking attitudes and how they are important to Shana's strategy for academic success:

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________
Understanding the importance of using critical thinking not only facilitates safe patient care but also enables strategies for attainment of positive outcomes for the recipients of that nursing care.

9. Discuss the factors confronting nurses in today’s healthcare delivery system that demand the ability to use complex thinking processes.
10. How does a model facilitate an understanding of critical thinking and the processes that are inherent to its use?

Let’s revisit Shana’s dilemma as she seeks to improve her academic standing in her nursing program. Using the results from the application of the critical-thinking skills, revisit the issue within the context of the following questions from the five thinking processes of the critical-thinking model.
11. Contextual awareness:
   a. What about this situation have I seen before? What is different?

   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

   b. Who should be involved in order to improve my academic standing?

   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

   c. What else is happening at the same time that affected my academic standing?

   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

12. Inquiry:
   a. How do I go about getting the information that I need to be academically successful in the course?

   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

   b. Have I used valid, reliable sources of information?

   ________________________________
   ________________________________

   c. What else do I need to know?

   ________________________________
   ________________________________

13. Considering alternatives:
   a. What is one possible explanation for what has happened?

   ________________________________
b. What is one thing I could do in this situation?

c. What are two more alternatives?

d. Of the possible actions I am considering, which one is most likely to help my academic standing in the course?

14. Analyzing assumptions:
   a. What have I taken for granted in this situation?
   
   b. What assumptions contributed to the problem in this situation?
   
   c. What biases do I have that may affect my thinking and my decisions in this situation?

15. Reflecting/making a decision:
   a. In priority order, what should I do in this situation and why?
b. Having decided what is happening, what is the best response (solution)?

This model facilitates a process for resolution of problems in any situation. In nursing it promotes positive outcomes in patient care situations. Inherent to this process are different kinds of nursing knowledge.

16. Describe the four types of nursing knowledge.

17. Using an example, discuss how these types of knowledge are also applicable outside the realm of nursing practice.
18. What is the nursing process and how does it support nursing's practical knowledge?

19. List the phases of the nursing process and give a three- or four-word descriptor of each phase.

20. Explain how critical thinking and the nursing process are interrelated.

21. Why is caring a vital part of the nursing profession’s theoretical and practical knowledge?

22. In the following patient care situation, describe nursing actions that demonstrate the five components of caring:

Renee is a 21-year-old female patient on the rehabilitation unit who is recovering from injuries that resulted in paralysis from her waist down. She is a junior honor student at the university, a member of the soccer team, and an active member of her church choir. She is struggling with learning how to deal with her loss of mobility.
The four major concepts that describe full-spectrum nursing—thinking, doing, caring, and patient situation—provide a model for professional practice.

23. Describe the main concepts inherent in the nurse-patient dyad and how they work together to facilitate positive patient outcomes.

Reference
Nursing Process: Assessment

Assessment is the first step of the nursing process and it provides the data that allow the nurse to help the patient. It is a systematic gathering of information related to the physical, mental, spiritual, socioeconomic, and cultural status of the individual. Let’s look at a patient situation common in the healthcare system.

Mr. Robert McClelland, an 81-year-old, is a new admission from the local hospital to your long-term care facility. After Mr. McClelland’s last bout with pneumonia and congestive heart failure, his wife of 59 years has decided she is no longer able to care for him at home. Mrs. McClelland states, “He has just gotten too weak and can’t help me care for him. I am so afraid he will fall and hurt himself. I am so worn out trying to care for him myself. I have to bathe him and remind him to eat; sometimes I’ve had to feed him myself or he won’t eat. He can be so forgetful. I hope I am making the right decision for him, because he never wanted to go into a nursing home.”

1. Why is your admission assessment foundational to the care of Mr. McClelland?

_________________________________________________________________________________

2. Describe the four features of assessment and why they are critical to ensuring positive outcomes within the context of interdisciplinary care for Mr. McClelland.

_________________________________________________________________________________
3. Describe how assessment is essential to the other steps of the nursing process.

4. Using The American Nurses Association *Standards of Practice*, identify the key concepts/phrases within Standard 1 characteristic to a comprehensive database. Categorize these concepts within the model of full-spectrum nursing.
You are preparing to complete an initial comprehensive assessment with Mr. McClelland. This will include both the nursing history interview and the observation/physical examination.

5. Identify all primary and secondary sources of information that you could use to help gather information about this patient. Differentiate the types of data that can be elicited from these sources.

6. Which special needs assessments, a type of focused assessment, are indicated at this time? Discuss the data that support your decision.
7. How will the observation of Mr. McClelland during the initial assessment contribute to the patient’s database?

You explain to Mr. and Mrs. McClelland that you will be doing a physical assessment to gather information to help establish a plan of care. Mrs. McClelland asks, “How do you do that and what can it tell you about my husband’s status?”

8. Describe in simple terms the four techniques of examination and the type of information you can elicit from the patient pertinent to this patient’s present state of health.
In addition to the attainment of the physical data, it is important to complete a thorough health history. This is done through the nursing interview and is used to gather subjective data for the nursing database.

9. How is the nursing health history different from the medical health history?

10. Discuss how you will prepare yourself, Mr. and Mrs. McClelland, and the environment to enhance the data gathering inherent to a health history.

11. For each of the following sections of the health history, create a closed question and an open question, to elicit data about that area specific to this patient.
Included in a nursing health history is a review of body systems and associated functional abilities. These are subjective data related to each body system.

12. Create both directed and non-directed questions that address this focus of the health history in light of Mr. McClelland’s present health status. Address only those systems pertinent to the case scenario.
During the gastrointestinal system assessment, Mrs. McClelland verbalizes a concern that her husband is not eating enough because he leaves food on his plate at every meal. Mr. McClelland states, “I get enough to eat; you always put too much food on my plate.”

13. What is one conclusion you can make regarding this information?

14. How can you validate your conclusion about this information? Consider both the primary and secondary sources of data in this situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conclusion</th>
<th>Validation Strategy: Primary Source</th>
<th>Validation Strategies: Secondary Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>Other (medical record from admission prior to transfer to facility)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. Discuss the implications of failing to validate your conclusion regarding these data on the nursing plan of care.

Once completed, a comprehensive assessment provides a wealth of information about the patient. It is then important to bring together these data within an organizing framework to facilitate prioritization and completeness of the data. Organizing data helps you cluster data and find patterns that will guide you in clinical decision making.

16. Categorize the following data elicited from Mr. and Mrs. McClelland during the comprehensive assessment using Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs (non-nursing model) and Gordon’s Functional Health Patterns (nursing model).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Datum</th>
<th>Maslow</th>
<th>Gordon*</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
17. Looking at the clusters of data for each model, identify one advantage of each model in developing a plan of care for this patient.

18. Using the clusters of data, recognize the abnormal data within the patterns and then identify two top problem areas for Mr. McClelland. How did you come to this conclusion?

The documentation of assessment data, both initial and ongoing, benefits patients and the healthcare team by providing access to information for effective patient care.

19. How does the documentation of data provide continuity throughout the nursing process?
You are reviewing the following documentation regarding the discharge and transfer of Mr. McClelland to your long-term care facility for information relevant to the development of the plan of care.

81 y.o. male appears ready for d/c and transfer to LTCF accompanied by his wife. No respiratory distress noted at this time and patient said his breathing seems ok. No oxygen therapy needed for transport. Integumentary WNL. Pt. seems agreeable to placement. Wife is anxious about his well-being in regard to eating and ambulating safely. Appetite has been good. Does need assistance to go to the bathroom. IVL d/c’d.

20. Using the guidelines for recording assessment data, identify the inaccuracies in this document and rewrite it to reflect professional documentation. You may add information as needed to meet a guideline but the final note must reflect the status of the patient at time of admission to your long-term care facility. You may use the data provided in the scenario and in question 16.
As follow-up to any assessment it is important to reflect critically about the assessment. As you gain confidence and competency in assessment, questions used to guide your assessment will become a natural response to your assessment process.

**21. Why is it important to the nurse, to the patient, and to the healthcare team that you reflect critically about your patient assessments?**
Nursing Process: Nursing Diagnosis

During this phase of the nursing process you will analyze the assessment data obtained on Mr. McClelland upon admission to your long-term care facility to identify his health status, including strengths, problems, and factors contributing to the problems. An abbreviated admission database is provided for you to facilitate your work through the diagnostic process and formation of the pertinent nursing diagnoses for Mr. McClelland.

1. Why is the diagnostic phase of the nursing process critical to the development of the plan of care?

2. Explain how nursing diagnoses and the use of nursing diagnostic labels help validate nursing as a profession.
In the identification of health problems, the decision about how the problem will be addressed drives the type of diagnosis (nursing, medical, or collaborative) that the problem receives.

3. From the database obtained at admission, Mr. McClelland has an identified health problem of “forgetfulness.” His medical diagnosis is early-onset dementia. Based on the definitions, discuss how the nursing diagnoses can be determined from the health issue of “forgetfulness” and the collaborative problems from the medical diagnosis of dementia.

4. How could the use of the medical diagnosis to determine appropriate nursing diagnoses be detrimental to Mr. McClelland’s plan of care?

5. Describe the five types of nursing diagnoses that may be identified for a patient.
6. Utilizing Mr. McClelland’s admission assessment, identify assessment findings that may represent each type of status of nursing diagnosis. You may need to use available references to determine the significance of data listed on the admission database.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Example of Data from Admission Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subjective Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possible*</td>
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</table>

*(Continued)*
Through diagnostic reasoning, you will critically think through the data to determine the holistic needs of the patient so that a plan of care can be developed and implemented.

7. Referring to the listing of “Recognizing Cues,” analyze the data provided on the admission assessment. Highlight/underline the significant data (cues) about Mr. McClelland. Label each finding with the appropriate cue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Example of Data from Admission Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syndrome*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellness (Health Promotion)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The following may indicate cues.

**A deviation from population norms**

*Example:* For a well-conditioned athlete who is not a smoker, a heart rate of 120 beats per minute would probably be an unhealthy response (cue). But remember that in addition, you must always consider whether the response is normal for the patient or the situation.
Recognizing Cues—cont’d

Changes in usual health patterns are not explained by developmental or situational changes

Example: What change has Todd (Meet Your Patient) experienced in the 3 days before admission to the ED? Is there any developmental or situational explanation for his decreased sensation and mobility? No. It is an unhealthy response: a cue.

Indications of delayed growth and development

Example: A 17-year-old girl has not yet experienced menses, her breasts are just barely developed, and she has very scant pubic and underarm hair.

Changes in usual behaviors in roles or relationships

Example: During her first year at college, a previously successful student begins to skip classes. She stays up late partying and sleeps most of the day. She no longer keeps in contact with her friends, and despite a previous close relationship with her parents, she barely talks to them when they telephone.

Nonproductive or dysfunctional behavior

This may or may not be a change in behavior. It could be a long-standing dysfunctional behavior. Example: A man has been abusing alcohol for many years, even though it is causing many problems with his family and job and has begun to damage his liver.


8. Where do the identified data “cluster” in Mr. McClelland’s database?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
9. Identify data gaps or inconsistencies. Data gaps are often the information needed to clarify the presence of a health problem. Often gaps are related to the defining characteristics (what further information would validate the problem) or the etiology (the cause of the problem). Develop two questions you would ask Mr. and Mrs. McClelland to resolve these gaps or inconsistencies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Gap</th>
<th>Inconsistency</th>
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</table>

10. For each cluster of data, make a conclusion about the patient’s health status using one of the following labels: strength, wellness, actual problem, or potential problem.

11. For each labeled data cluster, identify an appropriate nursing diagnostic label.

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12. Identify the possible etiological factors for each diagnostic label that you identified from the data. (See next table.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnostic Label*</th>
<th>Etiological Factors</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>
13. Why is this identification of etiological factors so important in the development of the plan of care?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

14. Discuss the importance of verifying the identified problems and contributing factors with the patient.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

15. Prioritize your list of problems by needs theory and problem urgency. Discuss your rationale for the manner in which you prioritized the list.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
16. How can patient preference impact the ranking of the identified problems?

Reflection of your diagnostic reasoning is vital to ensuring accurate nursing diagnoses for each patient. As a student you have developed a sound background in the biological and psychosocial sciences as well as an understanding of the cultural and spiritual domains of humanness.

17. Discuss how your own self-knowledge can negatively impact your diagnostic reasoning.

18. Using the NANDA-I Taxonomy II: Domains, Classes and Diagnoses (Labels), write a three-part statement for the three actual diagnoses of highest priority, a two-part statement for the two at-risk diagnoses, and a statement for the wellness diagnosis for Mr. McClelland.
Keys to the parts of a diagnostic statement:

- The nursing diagnostic label is a description of the human response to a health problem and drives the goals of the plan of care.
- Etiologies are the factors that cause, contribute to, or create a risk for the problem and may include a NANDA-I label, defining characteristics, related to or risk factors. The etiology individualizes the plan of care because it directed the nursing interventions; choose the etiologies that are “fixable” or influenced by nursing interventions.
- Defining characteristics describe the information that describes the presence of the human response and are data (subjective and objective) directly assessed from the patient.

19. Identify one collaborative problem indicated by Mr. McClelland’s medical diagnosis.

20. Using the guidelines for judging the quality of diagnostic statements, critique the five nursing diagnostic statements you wrote to reflect the priority issues for the plan of care for Mr. McClelland. List the corrections that were indicated in regard to:
   a. Appropriateness of the NANDA-I label
   b. Clear cause and effect between the etiology and the problem
Nursing Process: Nursing Diagnosis

53

c. The etiologies contributing to the problem do not simply restate the NANDA-I label.

d. Use of medical diagnoses or treatments as etiological factors

e. Clear, professional language

f. Concise statement

g. Descriptive and specific

h. Nursing diagnostic label is a patient (human) response

i. Use of judgmental language

j. Legally questionable language

21. One of the criticisms of the NANDA-I system proposes that there should not be any standardized language to describe nursing knowledge and nursing work. Discuss from a nursing student perspective why standardization supports your learning of the profession.
Admission Data Base: Resident: Mr. McClelland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECTIVE</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOURCE(S):</strong> RESIDENT AND SPOUSE</td>
<td>Overall Physical Appearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Perception–Health Management Pattern</strong></td>
<td>Aware of surroundings, needs reminding of now being at the facility and not still at the hospital. Sitting upright in chair at bedside, facial expressions appropriate to verbal context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reason for seeking health care: Wife can no longer care for resident at home.</td>
<td><strong>Allergies</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health rating: Fair</td>
<td>Latex (difficulty breathing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perception of illness: Resident states: I am doing just fine—I am being treated like I can’t take care of things. Spouse states: It has really affected him—he has to be bathed and reminded to eat.</td>
<td>Penicillin (hives, itching)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nutritional–Metabolic Pattern**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily food and fluid intake</th>
<th>Height 76 inches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Breakfast:</strong> Best meal of the day 90%–100%; Usually eggs, toast, juice, coffee. I like bacon but they won’t let me have it.</td>
<td><strong>Weight</strong> 137#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lunch:</strong> 50% usually sandwiches and iced tea. I like potato chips but they won’t let me have them</td>
<td><strong>BMI:</strong> 16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supper:</strong> I am not a supper eater. I get enough to eat—she always puts too much food on my plate Snack: He snacks on cookies a lot—he has a sweet tooth.</td>
<td><strong>Temp:</strong> 97.8°F (oral)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effect of illnesses on food intake:</strong> I get out of breath half way through my meal Without salt, food doesn’t taste good so why bother eating?</td>
<td><strong>Skin:</strong> Pale, cool to touch, dry with tenting present, brownish discoloration noted to both lower extremities from the knee down to the foot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skin condition:</strong> It’s always dry and flakey.</td>
<td><strong>Nails:</strong> Pale in color, spoon-shaped with clubbing, thickened toenails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nail condition:</strong> Spouse states, “He needs a podiatrist to look at his toes.”</td>
<td><strong>Oral Mucosa:</strong> Pale, intact, no lesions, upper and lower dentures present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Difficulty gaining/losing weight:</strong> Spouse: He has lost weight. I have to remind him to eat. He doesn’t eat enough—he always leaves food on his plate. I don’t think he’s getting enough to eat.</td>
<td><strong>Abdomen:</strong> Flat, soft with active bowel sounds in all four quadrants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elimination Pattern**

| Bowel habits: I had a bowel movement this morning, I usually go every day. It is normal for me, it’s brown and formed. If I have trouble I take some milk of magnesia. | **Bladder:** Voiding small amounts light yellow urine with some sediment noted. |
| Bladder habits: I usually need to go 6–7x/day, I go a lot because I take a water pill which also makes it real light in color. I usually have to get up once or twice a night and if I can’t get to the bathroom fast enough I have an accident. It seems that is happening more and more lately. | **Respiratory:** Respiration 24/minute regular and unlabored. Oxygen saturation 92% on room air. Lungs sounds with bibasilar crackles, no cough present. |

**Activity–Exercise Pattern**

| Daily activities | **Cardiovascular:** Apical pulse 87 bpm and regular. BP pressure in right arm 160/86, left arm 158/84. Peripher al pulses palpable with pedal and post tibial pulses weak bilaterally. 2+ pitting edema noted in feet and ankles bilaterally. |
| Spouse: “He gets washed up every morning and I give him a total bath once a week.” | **Musculoskeletal:** Gait unsteady, posture slightly stooped when standing, no compromise noted in ROM though weakness to all extremities. |
| Leisure activities: I like to watch TV and I used to like reading the morning paper but it seems like it’s just gotten too long to read. | Occupation: Retired from local utility company, management level. |
| Effect of illness on activity: I am just fine getting up and doing for myself. I don’t like it but she will insist that she help me with my bath. | **Effect of illness on activity:** |
Admission Data Base: Resident: Mr. McClelland (cont’d)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECTIVE</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sleep–Rest Pattern</strong></td>
<td><strong>Appearance</strong>: Yawning intermittently, impatient with interview questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleep characteristics: I get about 5–6 hrs/night depending on how often I have to pee. Once that happens I have difficulty getting back to sleep and remaining asleep—seems my bladder never sleeps. Also I wear oxygen at night and sometimes that bothers me enough to keep me from resting well.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sensory–Perceptual Pattern</strong></td>
<td><strong>Visual Exam</strong>: Presence of glasses, EOMs intact, PERRLA at 3mm bilaterally. <strong>Hearing</strong>: External canal clean with no lesions, difficulty understanding all words spoken to him in the interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perceptions of senses: I see ok as long as I have my glasses and I have these hearing aids in my ears which helps me hear everything. I can taste and smell ok and I don’t really have any pain to speak of.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cognitive Pattern</strong></td>
<td><strong>Neurological</strong>: Alert and oriented to person, needs reminding that is now in the facility, confuses day hour with night hour, calm cooperative, though impatient with length of the assessment, clear speech, hesitant at times, needs questions repeated when he forgets the question, repeats information, forgets he has already answered the question, moves all extremities equally, generalized weakness noted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of illness and treatments:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resident: I really don’t think I need to be here in this place, it’s like I can’t take care of things.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse: He is forgetful at times though he sure is able to tell those stories from long ago.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Role–Relationship Pattern</strong></td>
<td><strong>Communication Between Family Members</strong>: Husband and wife communicate well. Wife tends to “fill in the blanks” when spouse seems to lose train of thought or can’t find the word. <strong>Family Visits</strong>: Wife present with resident, children visit when able due to distance from parents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role in family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse: He has always been the one in charge, we have 5 children, 9 grandchildren and a new grandson.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Effect of illness on roles</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse: He needs so much help now though he doesn’t realize it.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coping–Stress Tolerance Pattern</strong></td>
<td><strong>Presence of Religious Articles</strong>: Bible, rosary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stressors: Being here in the hospital and being put here, I don’t want to be here.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coping methods: I ignore it—can’t do much about that stuff anyway.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support systems: Family and church.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value–Belief Pattern</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source of hope/strength: Family and I get a lot of support from Father Joseph at St. Michaels Catholic Church. I sure would like to get back to mass every week.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Nursing Process: Planning Outcomes

The nurse has identified the key nursing diagnoses for Mr. McClelland. A plan of care now needs to be developed to facilitate the resolution of these identified health issues. It is imperative that the “resolution points” are concisely identified. This “end-point” decision-making process begins the planning phase of the nursing process.

1. Using the ANA Standards of Practice, discuss why the planning phase of the nursing process can be described as the road map of patient care.

2. Planning is both an initial and an ongoing process. Discuss this statement within the perspective of Mr. McClelland’s admission to your facility.
3. How would the planning of nursing care differ for Mr. McClelland if the admission to the facility was for short-term rehabilitation for reconditioning and strengthening before returning home with his wife? Review the procedure for “Discharging a patient from the healthcare facility” as well as the considerations given to the discharge of an older adult.

4. The comprehensive plan of care for Mr. McClelland needs to address the four different kinds of care. Identify the four kinds of care and give an example that may be applicable to Mr. McClelland’s needs.
5. Describe the common types of standardized care plans. Within the setting of a long-term care facility, give examples that could apply in the provision of nursing care for Mr. McClelland.
6. It is imperative that any standardized nursing care plan be individualized to each patient. Using a standard nursing care plan book, critique the recommended plan of care for "Risk for falls." Consider:
• Are all the interventions applicable to Mr. McClelland? Explain.
• Identify factors that need to be addressed to enhance the standard interventions.

7. As the nurse in the facility you also have a nursing student assigned to assist with the care for Mr. McClelland. The student asks, "Why do I have to do so much more than you do on plans of care if I won't be doing that when I graduate?" How would you respond to this question?
8. For each of the five nursing diagnoses previously identified for Mr. McClelland in the nursing diagnosis module, write a broad goal statement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursing Diagnosis</th>
<th>Broad Goal Statement</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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9. Based on your understanding of the outcome statement (subject, action verb, performance criteria, target time and special conditions) identify a goal statement for each of the five nursing diagnoses identified for Mr. McClelland.

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10. Why is it inappropriate to establish a goal for a collaborative problem on the nursing plan of care?

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
11. Using the Nursing Outcomes Classification (NOC), identify an outcome and two indicators for each of the six identified nursing diagnoses for Mr. McClelland.

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<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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12. Indicate an appropriate measurement scale for each of the indicators for Mr. McClelland as indicated by his admission data and then the outcome level. Consider: What is the highest level of functioning you can expect to occur after interventions? Discuss your rationales for each.

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<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Admission</th>
<th>After Interventions</th>
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13. Identify a possible learning need for Mr. and Mrs. McClelland. Identify two appropriate objectives to meet this need. Teaching objectives describe what the patient is to learn and the observable behaviors that demonstrate that the learning has been successful. Learning outcomes are categorized as cognitive (the thinking part, knowledge), psychomotor (the doing part, demonstrating skills) or affective (the caring/feeling/attitude part). Assistance for writing these outcomes can be found in the chapter on teaching/learning.

14. Discuss the evaluation process that facilitates your ability to critique and reflect critically about your identified goals and outcomes for Mr. McClelland’s plan of care.
Nursing Process: Planning Interventions

The establishment of diagnoses and associated goals for Mr. McClelland now requires nursing interventions, individualized to the patient, to facilitate the meetings of the identified outcomes. Nursing interventions flow from the information provided by the problem (NANDA label) and the etiological factors identified in the nursing diagnostic statement as well as the desired outcomes already identified using the NOC system.

The Nursing Intervention Classification (NIC) provides a standardized comprehensive listing of direct- and indirect-care activities performed by nurses.

List below the six nursing diagnoses (three actual diagnoses, two at risk diagnoses, and one wellness diagnosis) that had been previously identified for Mr. McClelland.

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65
1. Describe how the parts of the diagnostic statement indicate the possible interventions to be used to resolve the problem.

2. When determining the interventions to meet Mr. McClelland’s needs, what factors should be considered that will influence a successful meeting of the desired goals?

3. What resources are available to you as the student to help identify the appropriate interventions for Mr. McClelland?
4. Identification of nursing interventions is more than generating a laundry list of care modalities. Discuss the importance of the full-spectrum nursing model in addressing appropriateness of nursing interventions for Mr. McClelland.

From Mr. McClelland’s list of diagnoses, choose one of the actual diagnoses, one of the at-risk diagnoses, and the wellness diagnosis and complete the following steps in the development of appropriate interventions for the plan of care. You will need several resources to help you understand what the interventions are and what they mean at this point in your education. The information can be found in your textbook and in related sources that provide NIC interventions as well as definition/explanation of each intervention.

5. Identify two major NIC interventions for each of the diagnoses and outcomes identified in the outcome planning phase.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
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6. Identify three appropriate activities, for one of the NIC interventions under each diagnosis, including at least one from each of the intervention types, if appropriate to the problem status, and provide a rationale for their use in resolving the patient problem.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<td>Outcome</td>
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<th>Outcome</th>
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<th>Activities</th>
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</table>
7. Write appropriate nursing orders that individualize the nine interventions/activities to Mr. McClelland.

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<tr>
<th>DX</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Nursing Orders</th>
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### Nursing Process: Planning Interventions

#### Table 8.1: Frameworks for Prioritizing Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework</th>
<th>Nursing Orders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs</td>
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<td>Problem urgency</td>
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<td>Future consequences</td>
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<td>Patient preference</td>
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### Exercise 8

For each of the following frameworks for prioritizing care, identify the top three nursing orders for each from all of the nursing orders. Discuss how the priorities are similar and how they differ.

- Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs
- Problem urgency
- Future consequences
- Patient preference
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework</th>
<th>Priorities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs</td>
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<td>Problem urgency</td>
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<td>Future consequences</td>
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<td>Patient preference</td>
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Nursing Process: Evaluation

1. After completion of nursing care, the patient’s responses are documented in the healthcare record. Why is this important for the evaluation step of the nursing process?

2. Discuss how evaluation is essential to all aspects of the delivery of patient care inclusive of the nursing profession and the healthcare industry itself.
3. Discuss how the three types of evaluation: structure, processes, and outcomes, affect how nursing care may be organized and delivered in a long-term care facility.

The following reassessment data were documented in regard to the plan of care for Mr. McClelland 7 days after admission to the facility:

Awake, alert and oriented to person and place. HOB up 45°. Respirations 22 breaths/min and nonlabored, right lung clear and fine crackles noted left base. No wheezing/stridor noted. Denies shortness of breath with activity. Has not required oxygen therapy at night. O₂ sats during sleep 92%–93% on room air. Apical pulse regular at 84 beats/min, no NVD. 1+ edema noted of lower extremities. Abdomen soft with active bowel sounds. Daily BM. Eating 50% of meals, states that food is very tasteless and not pleasant to eat. Needs reminding during mealtimes to eat. Does not care for spices provided to enhance flavors of foods. Requesting salt at every meal. Weight = 139#. Gait unsteady, requires assistance of one person to ambulate to the BR. Voiding qs, noted to need two night voidings. No incidences of incontinence since admission. States, “I can’t get any rest in this place.” Resting at the scheduled intervals throughout the day. Not calling for assistance when needed, bed/chair alarms on for safety. Wife visits daily, Father Joseph in to visit with resident yesterday. Resident still verbalizing needing to attend mass at his church.

4. Using the reassessment data, write an evaluation statement for each of the identified outcomes for the five diagnoses identified for Mr. McClelland at admission.
5. For each reassessment, determine the status of goal achievement and the evaluative statement using the NOC scale. Give a rationale for the NOC goal indicator.

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<th>Outcome</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Admission Data</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Status of Goal Achievement</th>
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6. For unmet or partially met goals, relate the outcomes to the interventions/activities determined in the planning intervention phase of the nursing process. What concerns should be addressed and are there needed modifications to the plan of care? Consider each step of the nursing process in this review and revision of the plan of care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluative Statement</th>
<th>Unmet/Partially Unmet Goals</th>
<th>Interventions/Activities</th>
<th>Needed Modification</th>
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<td>Evaluative Statement</td>
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<th>Evaluative Statement</th>
<th>Unmet/Partially Unmet Goals</th>
<th>Interventions/Activities</th>
<th>Needed Modification</th>
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Nursing Process: Implementation

The implementation phase of the nursing process is the doing, delegating, and documenting phase. It is, in essence, the nursing care provided to a patient to meet the identified health status. Implementation of Mr. McClelland’s plan of care requires the nurse to have a self-awareness of his or her own knowledge and abilities in regard to the intervention activities and an ability to organize the activities to maximize resources. Use your textbook/procedure guides to help you understand the different activities done with the patient.

1. List the nine nursing activities previously identified for Mr. McClelland’s nursing diagnoses. As a nursing student, identify the knowledge/skills needed to complete each activity. Are you ready/qualified to implement care? Do any of the activities have an inherent safety risk (to you or the patient) when implementing that nursing order?
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<tr>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Nursing Orders</th>
<th>Knowledge/Skills</th>
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2. In organizing care for Mr. McClelland, discuss which activities can be grouped together to best use your time and resources when you are providing care.

3. In the table provided, indicate the activities that directly affect Mr. McClelland. These are activities that are done to or with the patient.

4. Write a short statement for each of these activities that represents how the nurse would explain what is to be done and what Mr. McClelland can expect to feel during each activity.

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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Short Description</th>
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5. Identify possible feedback points (if applicable) for each of the nursing activities that directly affects Mr. McClelland.

6. In view of Mr. McClelland’s health status, discuss how the guidelines for promoting his participation and adherence apply to the implementation of nursing care.
7. Which of the nursing activities can be delegated to the nursing assistive personnel (NAP)?

8. Choosing one of the delegated activities, discuss your delegation of the task to the NAP in view of the “Five Rights of Delegation”:
   - Right task
   - Right circumstance
   - Right person
   - Right communication
   - Right supervision
9. After the completion of nursing care, it is necessary to document the nursing activity and the patient’s response. Why is this documentation a critical link in the healthcare delivery system? Consider the aspects of collaboration and coordination of services.
Nursing Theory

Regardless of practice setting, nursing theory is the foundational structure that supports full-spectrum nursing. Theory helps organize how nurses think and facilitate the development of new ideas as well as insights into the work of nursing practice.

1. Describe the basic components of a nursing theory as you see it supporting the premises of care and comfort within the practice of nursing. Consider:
   • What are your assumptions about care and comfort?

   • What is this phenomenon of nursing and care?
What are the basic concepts related to care and comfort?

How do you define care and comfort?

Consider the 72-year-old patient who has total left-sided paralysis from a stroke. She is unable to move or feel the left side of her body and has some difficulty swallowing her food and liquids. Before the stroke, she was very active in her community and church and independent in all activities of daily living. The patient is left-handed. For this situation, the patient has no problems with communication. Care for this patient, based in nursing theory, requires logical reasoning to best develop and provide optimal care for her.
2. Why is this ability to be able to reason logically so vital to full-spectrum nursing?

3. For this patient, give an example of inductive reasoning and deductive reasoning when assessing her ability to eat her meal tray.

4. Choose one of the following nurse theorists:
   - Virginia Henderson
   - Faye Abdellah
   Discuss how the theory can be applied to guide nursing practice and support meeting the basic care and comfort needs of this patient. In basic care and comfort, the nurse provides comfort and assistance in the performance of activities of daily living (NCS-BON, 2010, pp. 28–30).
5. How is each of the following theories from other disciplines important to nursing’s scientific knowledge base when you are considering care for this patient?
   • Maslow’s Hierarchy of Human Needs
   • Selye’s Stress & Adaptation Theory
   • Erickson’s Psychosocial Developmental Theory
After 2 weeks in the first clinical rotation the student noted that the residents of the dementia unit were often very sad and withdrawn. He also noted that one of the nursing assistants often talked to the residents about their childhood memories, tales of growing up and other life stories. This noticeably lessened the residents’ sadness and improved their well-being. The student wondered, “Is this a good way to help with these behaviors rather than just giving them their medications [such as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)]?”

Interventions for nursing care should be grounded in evidence-based practice. “Evidence-based practice is a problem-solving approach to the delivery of health care that integrates the best evidence from studies and patient care data with clinician expertise and patient preferences and values” (Fineout-Overholt, Melnyk, Stillway, & Williamson, 2010, p. 58).

1. Based on your educational preparation, what would be your role in a research project that looked at the use of reminiscence therapy for persons with dementia?
2. Using your understanding of quantitative vs. qualitative research, how could you use each type to help you answer your clinical question?

After a discussion with the nursing instructor, the student was encouraged to find information that addressed the intervention of reminiscence therapy. With this as your focus, address each one of the following steps of the research process.

3. Formulate a searchable research question using the PICO acronym.

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<tr>
<th>P</th>
<th>Patient Population or Problem</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Intervention/treatment/cause/factor</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Comparison intervention</td>
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<td>O</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
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</table>

4. Search the literature:

- What evidence supports the use of reminiscence therapy to improve mood and behavior? (key words: reminiscence therapy, dementia, well-being, cognitive impairment)

- Find at least five citations of articles that appear to address the research topic.
5. Choose one of the articles you found in your search and decide if it is worthy enough to use as a basis for your research. Discuss the article from the framework of reading analytically:

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<tr>
<th>Citations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the article about as a whole? Describe the theme of the article.</td>
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<tr>
<td>What are the main ideas, claims, and arguments about the subject?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does it seem “legitimate”? Consider the authors’ credentials, purpose, problem statement, definition of terms, setting/population, and the findings and conclusions. Are there limitations to the findings?</td>
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6. Overall, are the results of this article significant to the improvement of the patient care issue that was identified? What might be some barriers to its use in the facility?

References
During her community nursing rotation, nursing student Elise Braun is assigned to work with a parish nurse. “Parish nurses are licensed, registered nurses who practice holistic health for self, individuals, and the community using nursing knowledge combined with spiritual care. They function as members of the pastoral team in a variety of religious faiths, cultures, and countries. The focus of their work is on the intentional care of the spirit, assisting the members of the faith community to maintain and/or regain wholeness in body, mind, and spirit” (International Parish Nurse Resource Center, 2012).


The nurse has scheduled sessions today to meet with various groups within the parish. The first group is composed of first-time mothers and is set up for them to discuss concerns regarding their children ages 6 months through 12 months.

1. When meeting with the mothers’ group, they voice concern that their children are all “so different” in their development. One member asks, “Why aren’t they all pretty much the same?”
Another mother is concerned that there is “something wrong.” What should be your first response?

2. Discuss the expected physical development for children between 6 months and 12 months.

3. For a new mother, every stage of her child’s development brings both delight and worries. How would you respond to the mother who asks, “What are the major health issues I need to be aware of for my infant?”
The next meeting is with the youth pastor. He has requested a session for a small group of children who will be middle school students in the new school year. They will be attending the summer youth camp at the church, and the youth pastor would like the nurse to discuss issues inherent to this new phase of their lives.

4. The parish nurse wants to develop an awareness program of the common health problems encountered by this age group. Discuss the issues that need to be addressed.
5. Which issue would be most appropriate as the *initial* session with this age group? Give a rationale for your choice.
6. Describe how the major psychological tasks (Erickson) of adolescence need to be incorporated into the teaching/learning strategies to facilitate the success of this program.

The last session is the weekly meeting of the “seasoned citizen” group. They meet to discuss issues pertinent to healthy independent living for older members and always like “their nurse” to attend.

7. The parish nurse comments to you, “Just getting together is one of the best strategies I could recommend to this group.” What is the implication of this statement in regard to the elderly and their health status?

8. A goal of health promotion for this age group is maintenance of an exercise program. Discuss the activities appropriate to this parish nursing program at the church.
9. The nurse tells you, “I always do a modified assessment on all the attendees when I visit their group each month.” Discuss the physical assessments that can easily be done in this setting.
10. Discuss how an understanding and integration of Erickson's developmental theory and the task stage for this group are vital to the development of strategies that support holistic care of this population.
Health and Illness

Mrs. Watson, an 81-year-old, is scheduled to be admitted to your rehabilitation center from the hospital for short-term rehabilitation. She is part of a care continuum program for patients who have undergone hip replacement surgery. The program philosophy recognizes that each patient experiences the illness differently and strives to develop and implement an individualized plan of care that will enhance recovery and an overall sense of wellness.

On admission Mrs. Watson tells the nurse, “I am very nervous about being here. So much is at stake—if I don’t do well they won’t let me go home by myself. I was so used to taking care of myself before I fell and broke my hip. This has been hard. Except for some joint stiffness in the morning I really don’t have anything wrong with me and I am proud of that! I’ve never had to take any regular medications. I’ve always been a can-do person and going all the time; active in my church, volunteer at the senior center to help with the elderly folks and help watch my great-grandbaby who just turned 1—he is a handful! Now I feel like I can’t take care of myself anymore and I am afraid this will happen again. It has been hard to deal with the pain and discomfort of both the injury and the process of getting well. I’ve never thought of myself as ‘old and feeble’ until now and I don’t like it. Only old people use walkers! I’ve got so much I still want to do!”

1. Discuss the factors that Mrs. Watson is facing that are considered to have disrupted her health.
2. What stage of illness behavior is she exhibiting at admission?

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<tr>
<th>Stages of Illness Behavior</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
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3. For each of the behaviors essential to communicating genuine care, concern, and sensitivity, give an example of how you would use these in your interaction with Mrs. Watson.
4. When admitting Mrs. Watson to the nursing unit, discuss how you can help her be part of the process of admission rather than the object of admission. Consider the aspects of honoring the uniqueness of the health/illness experience, examining life’s uncertainties, and establishing trust that specifically relate to Mrs. Watson’s health situation.

5. In reviewing the steps of admitting a patient to the nursing unit, how should the procedure be modified to accommodate Mrs. Watson’s physical limitations and anxiety?
6. Discuss how your presence as the nurse is an important intervention for this patient. Describe in writing a situation in which having someone with you was beneficial in helping you to get through that particular situation. It does not have to be a healthcare situation; it can be anytime in your life when having someone “in your corner” made the difference in the outcome.
A patient’s ability to respond to illness is influenced not only by the physical illness itself but also by the patient’s psychosocial health, inclusive of psychological and social factors.

You are caring for two patients on the burn unit. They are in the intermediate phase of burn recovery, meaning that they have survived their injuries, are physiologically stable, and moving slowly toward recovery.

- Mrs. Castile, a 79-year-old burned in a mobile home fire. Burns to legs, and inhalation injury (lungs)
- Ms. Locklear, a 23-year-old injured and burned in a motor vehicle accident. Burns to chest, abdomen, right arm and right leg, and crush injury resulting in amputation of the right foot.

1. After reading each woman’s abbreviated health history, identify three important psychosocial influences for each patient that may help or hinder her recovery.
3. Discuss the components of self-concept and how each patient may respond to the changes secondary to her burn injuries.

Burn injury and the sequelae of recovery constitute a major assault on the patient’s self-concept and self-esteem. Self-concept is affected by many factors inclusive of gender, developmental level, family and peer relationships and internal influences.

2. Discuss these factors and how you think they will influence each of the patient’s self-concept in light of her present health crisis?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Mrs. Castile</th>
<th>Ms. Locklear</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<td>Developmental level</td>
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<td>Relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internal influences</td>
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3. Discuss the components of self-concept and how each patient may respond to the changes secondary to her burn injuries.
Two psychosocial illnesses that nurses will commonly deal with in any practice setting are anxiety and depression. This is especially true when patients are experiencing a major health crisis as every level of need is threatened by the situation.

4. For each patient you are caring for, identify potential threats to her basic needs (Maslow) that can be anxiety producing. Keep in mind that anxiety is a vague emotional response to a known or an unknown threat; therefore, you can be somewhat creative in thinking about potential threats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Mrs. Castile</th>
<th>Ms. Locklear</th>
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4. For each patient you are caring for, identify potential threats to her basic needs (Maslow) that can be anxiety producing. Keep in mind that anxiety is a vague emotional response to a known or an unknown threat; therefore, you can be somewhat creative in thinking about potential threats.
5. After one particularly difficult physical therapy session, Ms. Locklear tells you, “I never do anything right in PT and no matter what I do in there things are never going to change how I look or get me back to where I was before the accident.” You identify a diagnosis of Disturbed Body Image† with the NOC outcome of Body Image. What would be appropriate individualized outcomes for Ms. Locklear in light of her injuries?


7. Mrs. Castile is at a higher risk for depression as it is a common emotional disorder of older adults. What data in her health history indicate a risk for depression?

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8. The physical therapist returns Mrs. Castile from therapy and tells you, “I think all this happening to her has affected her mental state—this change in location and major health crisis sure has changed her. I think it has triggered an onset of dementia. She says she cannot complete anything because she is ‘totally exhausted all the time.’ She used to enjoy the challenge of therapy. She seems confused at times and she doesn’t want to follow her therapy orders. She told me she ‘just wants to be left alone and I wish I were dead.’ She is just so sad now. I think she needs some medication for early onset dementia—can you talk to the primary care provider about this?” Which data indicate that Mrs. Castile may need follow-up for depression?

9. Is Mrs. Castile at risk for suicide? Why or why not?

10. Discuss the interventions for suicide prevention and how they can be implemented within the constraints of both Mrs. Castile’s environment and her specific situation.
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Age: 79 years old</td>
<td>Marital Status: Widow</td>
<td>Education: 8th grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender: Female</td>
<td>Culture: Italian American</td>
<td>Insurance: Medicare/Medicaid</td>
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### Source of History
Mrs. Castile is a reliable source of history. She was alert and oriented x3.

### Reason for Seeking Care
“I am here to get better from my burns.”

### History of Present Illness
Patient is 79-year-old female burned in a mobile home fire. Burns to legs and inhalation injury (lungs). Required grafting to leg burns, still receiving oxygen therapy to maintain oxygen saturation > 92% on 2L/min and will need this upon discharge due to lung damage and subsequent pulmonary compromise.

### PAST HEALTH

#### Accidents or Injuries
Reports no prior accidents or injuries.

#### Serious or Chronic Illnesses
Reports a history of “palpitations” and atrial fibrillation. Has been told she has “heart problems” but denies heart attack, congestive heart failure, hypertension, and diabetes.

#### Hospitalizations
Reports hospitalization for irregular heartbeats at age 67, “I was feeling so woozy headed when my heart acted up.” They did a lot of tests but all they said was I had an irregular rhythm and gave me medications. I have done ok since then.

#### Operations
Skin grafting to lower legs with this admission. Appendectomy “as a child—I think I might have been six or seven at the time. I don’t remember having any trouble from it.”

#### Allergies
Denies any allergies.

#### Current Medications
Reports taking Lanoxin 0.125 mg daily, Coumadin 2 mg M-W-F, 1 mg T-R-Sat-Sun, multivitamin daily, and Miralax 17g daily in 8 oz juice. PRN medications include Percocet one-two tabs q4h for moderate pain, Tylenol 650 mg q4h (not to exceed 4 grams in 24 hrs) for mild pain.

### REVIEW OF SYSTEMS

#### General Overall Health State
Height: 5’3”. Weight: 147 lb. Prior to this accident I was doing ok with getting around and doing the things I needed to do. “Now I don’t know what will become of me.”

### FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT

#### Self-esteem, Self-Concept
She identifies herself as hardworking, dependable, and caring. Reports that she feels she is able to take care of herself.

#### Health Practices and Beliefs
Reports going to the doctor when she feels like she is getting sick or notices a problem. Reports she tries to follow the doctor’s advice and take her meds as needed.

#### Recreation, Pets, and Hobbies
Reports three cats; Chloe (10 years old), Bear (2 years old), and Lilly (6 months old). Patient reports that she loved to spend time with her pets. Pets lost in fire event.

#### Interpersonal Relationships/Resources
Patient describes her role in the family as a grandmother. Patients reports she lost her son to cancer last month and he was her main support. “I don’t see as much of my grandchildren as I would like now.”

#### Spiritual Resources
Reports attending church daily for mass. Reports a very strong belief in God and states “He will help me through this.” Denies having any specific religious practices that should be incorporated into the plan of care.

#### Coping and Stress Management
Reports feeling overwhelmed with being in the burn unit. Reports unable to sleep and feeling hopeless about ever getting to go home.

#### Cultural Practices
Denies any cultural influences on her health practices. Does not participate in any cultural practices or events regularly.

#### Socioeconomic Status
Reports having medical insurance. Reports that she has struggled with finances “it’s hard to live on social security.”
Patient: Ms. Locklear  
Current Age: 23 years old  
Gender: Female  
Race: Native American  
Ethnic Origin: American  
Religion: Christian  
Marital Status: Single  
Education: College graduate/BS degree  
Culture: Native American  
Insurance: Blue Cross/Blue Shield

Source of History  
Ms. Locklear is a reliable source of history. She was alert and oriented x3.

Reason for Seeking Care  
“I was brought to the burn unit after my car wreck—I still am not sure what happened it happened so fast!” I know I am in the intermediate unit to get me back to my normal self.

History of Present Illness  
Patient is 23 years old, single, injured and burned in a motor vehicle accident. Burns to chest, abdomen, right arm and right leg, crush injury resulting in amputation of the right foot, spent 4 weeks in the ICU before transfer to intermediate unit.

PAST HEALTH  
Accidents or Injuries  
Reports a four wheeler accident at age 15. Patient flipped the four wheeler in a ditch. Did not suffer any injuries. Reports a car accident at age 21. Vehicle rolled two and a half times and patient was taken to Regional Medical Center, by ambulance, for evaluation. Patient suffered only minor injuries (scratches and bruising).

Serious or Chronic Illnesses  
Denies any heart diseases, hypertension, diabetes, cancer, or seizures.

Hospitalizations  
Reports hospitalization for croup at 18 months old, denies any respiratory issues related to incident.

Operations  
Multiple skin grafts to chest, abdomen, and right leg with this admission.

Allergies  
Denies any allergies.

Current Medications  
Celexa 10 mg tablet daily. PRN medications include Percocet one-two tabs q4h for moderate pain, Tylenol 650 mg q4h (not to exceed 4 grams in 24 hrs) for mild pain.

REVIEW OF SYSTEMS  
General Overall Health State  
Height: 5'7½”. Weight: 127 lb. Prior to this accident no health issues.

FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT  
Self-esteem, Self-Concept  
Reports “feels ok” about herself. Reports, “I can’t seem to get a break sometimes. I seem to have bad karma—everything happens to me and its outside of my control.” Reports that she is concerned about her appearance with scarring from the burns and grafts, “I look so ugly.” Reports she does not handle stress well, “I’ve always been on something to help with my stress.” She considers herself shy before she gets to know someone.

Health Practices and Beliefs  
Patient expresses importance of having annual checkups and exams. Reports “I try to take care of myself.” Reports going to the doctor when she feels like she is getting sick or notices a problem.

Recreation, Pets, and Hobbies  
Reports she likes to read and was training for a 5K run with a group from work prior to the accident. Denies having pets.

Interpersonal Relationships/Resources  
Patient describes her role in the family as a daughter, granddaughter, and sister. Patient names her mother as her main support system.

Spiritual Resources  
Reports attending church “once in a while” when mother insists that she go. Denies having any specific religious practices that should be incorporated into the plan of care.

Coping and Stress Management  
Reports having stress due to pressures at work. Reports has always been “stressed” and tends to struggle with feeling down at times. Reports not dealing well with the burns, states, “I am so ugly now—I just can’t deal with it all.”

Cultural Practices  
Denies any cultural influences on her health practices. Does not participate in any cultural practices or events regularly.

Socioeconomic Status  
Reports having medical insurance, vision insurance, and dental through her job. Reports she was “doing ok” financially before the accident.
Family

*Family* is described as two or more individuals who provide physical, emotional, economic, or spiritual support while maintaining involvement in one another’s lives. Families come in many forms, living arrangements, and emotional connections.

You are the hospice nurse assigned to an elderly couple referred to your agency by their primary care provider. The husband has end-stage cardiac disease. He is adamant about staying in his own home and refuses placement in a long-term care facility as well as having any person coming into the home to provide personal care. The spouse is the primary caregiver and assumes responsibility for all his care. They have five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom live out of state. The daughters try to schedule visits so that one of them visits at least once a month entailing drives of 6 and 8 hours, respectively. They speak with you regularly, with their parents’ permission, to stay engaged in the plan of care for their father. The sons have voiced that care of the parents is “the girls’ job,” although the sons are now demanding placement for their father. They have commented, “The nursing home will make it easier on everyone if someone else has the responsibility for all the care that is needed. That is what those places are for anyway; why make it so hard on Mom? Dad is being selfish.” The sons’ lack of support for the father’s wishes has created conflict within the family.

The spouse has verbalized “I should be able to take care of everything; I am a retired nurse so I know what needs to be done.” You note that she is continuously preoccupied with the care routine to the extent that she lacks the time to meet her own personal and social needs. She confides in you that she really misses the ability to go to daily mass and attend her weekly exercise class at the health center. She is afraid to leave her husband alone. She admits to having difficulty sleeping, saying, “What if I don’t hear him call me at night when he needs something?” In addition she worries that she won’t always be able to provide all his care and she knows that bringing in outside help or placing him in a long-term care facility is not an option because that is
not what her husband has decided he wants done. She has verbalized, “I worry that they will force me to put him in a home.”

1. What type of family structure does this family represent? How does it differ from your own family structure? How does the understanding of family structure differences enhance your professional practice?

2. For this situation, which approach to family nursing is most appropriate: family as the context for care, family as the unit of care, or family as a system? Why?
3. The theory underlying your nursing care is that of Family Interactional Theory. Discuss how this theory supports your approach to family nursing.

How families cope with everyday life as well as the event of illness can influence the effectiveness of the plan of care. You as the nurse can promote adequate family functioning by addressing both individual and family concerns.

4. Based on the information provided, assess the family's health beliefs. How does the members’ perspective on caregiving affect implementation of a plan of care?
5. Assess the family's communication pattern and the family's coping processes.

6. After analyzing the data gathered from the family members regarding the situation, you identify a diagnosis of Family Processes, Interrupted.† What cues indicated the applicability of this diagnostic label for this family? Use the characteristics of a healthy family to determine deviation from norms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics of a Healthy Family</th>
<th>Analysis/Cues of Family Processes, Interrupted</th>
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<tr>
<td>State of family well-being</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sense of belonging and connectedness</td>
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<td>Clear boundaries between family members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sense of trust and respect</td>
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<td>Honesty and freedom of expression</td>
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<td>Time together; sharing rituals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relaxed body language</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flexibility/adaptability and ability to deal with stress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commitment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spiritual well-being</td>
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<td>Respect for privacy</td>
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<td>Balance of giving and receiving</td>
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<td>Positive, effective communication</td>
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<td>Accountability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appreciation/affection for each other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responding to needs and interests of all members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health promoting lifestyle of individual members</td>
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7. In addition you identify a diagnosis of Caregiver Role Strain.† What are the defining characteristics present in this care situation that validates this diagnosis?

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8. Identify an NOC outcome for each of these diagnoses as well as individualized outcomes specifically to this particular family situation.

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<tr>
<th>Diagnosis†</th>
<th>NOC</th>
<th>Individualized Outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Family Processes, Interrupted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caregiver Role Strain</td>
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9. Identify two NIC interventions for each outcome and individualize them to this particular family situation.

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<th>Diagnosis†</th>
<th>NOC Outcome</th>
<th>NIC Interventions</th>
<th>Individualized to Family</th>
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<tr>
<td>Family Processes Interrupted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caregiver Role Strain</td>
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10. Review one of the following resources available for caregivers and healthcare professionals and discuss how the information from the site is beneficial to both you as the nurse and your assigned family.

• http://www.caregiving.com—Family Caregiving
• http://www.caregiver.org—Family Caregiver Alliance
• http://www.nfcacares.org—National Family Caregiving Association
Culture and Ethnicity

Mia Yaj is a patient on your postpartum unit. She gave birth to a baby boy 7 hours ago. Her husband and her grandmother have been with her throughout the entire birth experience. Although she is a college graduate, Ms. Yaj feels pressured to adhere to her culture’s traditional ways of healing in the postpartum period to appease family expectations. Despite her desire to avoid any medications, she has had several doses of a medication for pain control. She lists her culture and that of her family as Hmong. The grandmother immigrated to the United States from Laos in 1977 along with her four children, one of whom is the patient’s mother. The grandmother does not speak/understand English well and Ms. Yaj normally acts as her interpreter. Ms. Yaj was born and raised in the United States. Her husband is also of the Hmong culture, having immigrated with his parents as an infant. He too is a college graduate. He is supportive of his wife’s adherence to the postpartum healing rituals.

1. How are the cultural concepts of socialization, acculturation, and assimilation portrayed by this family system?
2. Discuss any subcultural characteristics of this couple that make them different from the family’s main Hmong culture.

3. How would you designate their ethnicity and race on the mother’s electronic health record?

4. How could each of the following culture specifics influence the plan of care for Ms. Yaj?
a. Communication:

b. Space:

c. Time orientation:

d. Social organization:

This family system’s healthcare model is a combination of the indigenous healthcare system and the professional healthcare system. The couple chose to deliver the baby at the hospital with the use of a certified nurse midwife in attendance. The child will not be circumcised. The new mother will follow the Hmong birth recuperation process of restricting her diet to only chicken/white rice, warm water, and tea made with loose tea for 30 days after delivery. No other foods or cold drinks are allowed during this time. A regular diet will be resumed after this 30-day period. The grandmother will be the primary support/caregiver during this period. It is vital for you, as the nurse, to practice culturally competent care for optimal recovery and functioning of this family unit.

5. How does your cultural sensitivity and competence affect the development and delivery of patient care for this family?
6. In review of the many descriptions of culturally sensitive care including that of the ANA, QSEN, and models presented by Purnell and Leninger, what are the commonalities in concepts that are foundational to culturally sensitive patient care?

7. The intake nurse had completed a cultural assessment on this family unit upon admission (see the Cultural Assessment form). Using the information found in this document, identify the nursing diagnoses that could be applicable to this care situation. Which of the listed diagnoses have a potential for cultural bias? Explain.

8. What is the professional responsibility of the nurse in determining the applicability of these nursing diagnoses to the patient system?
9. The patient has an order for a regular diet but refuses all food except those within the allowances of her culture. Discuss the NIC standardized intervention of Cultural Brokerage and how it may be applicable to the plan of care for this patient and her family.

10. How do the modes of nursing decisions and actions according to Leininger support the intervention of cultural brokerage for this patient and family system?
11. Discharge instructions regarding signs and symptoms of infection, increased vaginal bleeding, and postpartum depression, “baby blues,” are given to the new mother, her husband, and the grandmother. How would you ensure a good understanding of the instructions in light of the language barrier present in this situation?
Cultural Assessment

Pt Initials: M.Y.  Age: 31  __ Male or ✓ Female

Admitting Dx: Pregnancy with labor

Family System: (List members of family significant to the patient system at this time)
- Vam Meej Yaj (Husband)
- Xi Li (Grandmother)

Cultural Uniqueness:
- Culture: Hmong
- Place of Birth: Los Angeles, CA

Communication
- Can you speak English? ✓ YES  __ NO
- Can you read English? ✓ YES  __ NO
- Native Language? English
- Do you speak or read any other language? Hmong
- How do you want to be addressed? __ Mr.  __ Mrs.  __ Ms.  First Name: Mia
- Eye contact: Direct
- Use of interpreter: States she is the interpreter for the family especially grandparents (grandmother accompanied patient and will be the primary caregiver/support during hospitalization and after discharge)

Social Organization
- Marital Status: Married
- Support people: Husband, grandmother
- Who are dominant family members? Husband and father, grandfather
- Who make the major decisions for the family? Shared with husband with input from father and grandfather
- Occupation in native country: N/A
- Present Occupation: 4th grade social studies teacher
- Education: Masters of Education
- Any cultural/religious practices/restrictions? If yes describe: I haven’t discussed this with the midwife because I am really at odds with it but right now I am planning on abiding the dietary restrictions of only rice/chicken and warm beverages for 30 days after delivery as dictated by my family. Even my husband feels we should go with this.
- Space: Comfortable with close physical contact with family and friends, prefer a “comfort zone” here in the hospital.

Biological Variations
- Pale skin color, fine bone structure, Asian features, states “I have always had problems taking medications for pain, they make me so constipated; I try not to take them no matter how much pain I am having. I can handle pain without any help. I also have a lot of trouble with anemia but then my whole family seems to have that problem.”

Environmental Control
- States has had a healthy pregnancy and has completed all prenatal visits as well as Lamaze training to prepare for childbirth. Believe she is in control of her ability to handle the labor and will not need any pain measures throughout the labor and delivery process. Plans to breastfeed her baby, states “it’s healthier for my baby.”
- What types of healing practices do you engage in? “I will only eat chicken/rice and have warm beverages for the 30 days after my son is born. My grandfather is a shaman so I will not have any major issues from the birthing process.”

Time
- Despite being raised in LA I know I am very present oriented – it drives my teaching team crazy on most days but I try to keep appointments when I have them. I only missed two prenatal appointments which I did make up.
While working with her assigned resident, Mrs. Edna Harrison, in the long-term care facility, Bethany Fisher, a first-year nursing student, is suddenly asked by the resident, “Do you believe in God?” Before she can answer the resident adds, “I’ve lost my ability to talk to God. It feels like God has forgotten us in this place. There is so much pain and suffering that just shouldn’t be.” Bethany recognizes that Mrs. Harrison is reaching out regarding spiritual issues in her life.

1. Bethany knows very little about the resident’s religious background or practices. Therefore, what should her first response be to these statements?

2. Discuss the barriers to spiritual care that may impede Bethany’s ability to meet the spiritual needs of this resident.
With guidance, Bethany completes a spiritual assessment using the HOPE tool. The assessment data include the following:

H: Sources of hope, meaning, comfort, strength, peace, love, and connection
My religious beliefs have always been a source of comfort and strength when dealing with my ups and downs but now it doesn’t seem to sustain me or even make sense. I have lost my belief, I think, as I have watched so many of us sicken, suffer, and die. I have always read my Bible, prayed, and attended services, but even those have gone by the wayside. They used to give me such strength to handle things—the hardest being when my husband and son both died in the same year and even when I first moved into the home.

O: Organized religion
I’ve always been active in the Presbyterian Church even when my husband was so sick. It was important to me to have that connection with other people as well as with my God. I felt closest to God when I was attending services. I am still a member and on occasion some of my friends do visit me here. The minister visits too but not as often as I need right now. I enjoy seeing them and it does help me feel better at times.

P: Personal spirituality/practices
I used to believe in God; well . . . I think I still do—he just seems to be absent in the life around here—does that make sense? I have always enjoyed my prayer time and reading my Bible. I like listening to hymns too but now they seem so mournful. I miss the joy.

E: Effects on medical care and end-of-life issues
Being here has changed how often I can participate in church activities. Being here has made me realize how futile so much of what we believe will help. Why
does there have to be so much suffering when you are sick or when you need help with daily activities like I do? Sometimes it seems that what they want me to do as far as healthcare seems to be at odds with what I believe is the will of God . . . which seems wrong somehow. For instance, they have this feeding tube in my stomach because I haven’t been able to eat safely since I had my stroke. Maybe I am not supposed to be still alive—maybe not being able to eat was a sign it was my time? I just don’t know what the answers are and I find it difficult to handle these days.

3. Bethany identifies the issue of Spiritual distress.† Identify the validating defining characteristics of this diagnosis from the initial interaction as well as the assessment data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defining Characteristics</th>
<th>Patient Data</th>
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</table>

4. As etiological factors, what nursing diagnoses could also apply to this situation? Identify the defining characteristics present in the initial interaction and the assessment data that support these diagnoses.
5. For the nursing diagnosis Spiritual Distress, identify the two NOC standardized outcomes most applicable to Mrs. Harrison’s problem and individualize the outcome statements to reflect her needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursing Diagnostic Label</th>
<th>Defining Characteristics</th>
<th>Patient Data</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>
6. Bethany chooses the NIC interventions active listening and spiritual support. Individualize the interventions to this resident’s protestant religion. How would the interventions change in light of the following differing religions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Modifications (if needed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protestantism (Mrs. Harrison)</td>
<td>Active Listening</td>
<td>Spiritual Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judaism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seventh-Day Adventism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Islam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buddhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American religions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Continued)
7. Mrs. Harrison asks Bethany to pray for her. What further information does Bethany need from the resident to best meet this request?

8. Compose a prayer that includes the information that Bethany has received from Mrs. Harrison.
Loss, Grief, and Dying

You are the hospice nurse at a residential hospice house caring for Mrs. Shona Williams, a 41-year-old African American female, who has been diagnosed with Stage IV breast cancer with metastasis to the bone. She has undergone surgery and chemotherapy but neither has stopped the progression of the disease and she is terminally ill. She is expressing the following sentiments as she deals with the outcomes of her disease:

- I feel I’ve lost all that makes me a woman.
- Sometimes I get so angry about this I cry out in frustration—I know I take it out on my daughters. . . They are so young, only 12 and 17 years old and it is unfair to them.
- I will never get to see my daughters go to college, get married, or have my grandchildren; I’ve lost the best years of my life that were yet to come.
- I am trying to figure out why this has happened to me—I’ve always been a good person.
- Why did God do this to me? To my family?
- My husband and children refuse to discuss plans of a future without me—I worry about them dealing with all this.
- I don’t want to suffer at the end—please don’t let me. How do I keep the system from prolonging my agony and that of my family?

1. Describe the categories of loss that are demonstrated by Mrs. Williams’s statements.
2. The diagnostic label Grieving† is identified for the patient. Write a three-part nursing diagnostic statement that reflects the patient’s response to this situation.

3. What other nursing diagnoses can be identified for this patient? Give the supporting data for each.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Rationale/Patient Data Supporting Dx</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

†© 2012 NANDA International
4. Discuss how hospice care is an integral part of meeting the needs identified in the nursing diagnoses listed for the patient.

5. As the hospice nurse, how would you explain the need for advance directives and a DNAR order with this family system?
6. During the last days of her life, Mrs. Williams becomes unresponsive. She is on pain medications to keep her comfortable, and her family has been with her most of the time. How can you best meet the needs of the family at this time?

7. Upon the death of Mrs. Williams, what should you do to support the family?

8. Discuss the delegation instructions you should give to the nursing assistant assigned to complete Mrs. Williams’s postmortem care.

9. The nursing assistant comes to you and states, “I can’t get the patient’s mouth to stay closed. What should I do?” How would you respond?

With the death of Mrs. Williams, the focus of nursing care shifts to care of the family and their needs in regard to their grieving the loss of wife/mother.
10. Discuss how the factors affecting grief as well as the developmental stage may affect the grieving process for Mr. Williams and each of his daughters.

---

11. A diagnosis of Grieving related to loss of significant other as evidenced by psychological distress and despair is identified. An NOC outcome of Family Resiliency is established with the family. Identify appropriate NIC interventions and individualize them to this family situation within the parameters of developmental and life needs.
12. As the healthcare provider, you too experience a sense of loss. How can you best take care of yourself? How could this experience help or hinder your role as a hospice nurse?
Beginning her clinical preparation the evening before, this morning Melanie Lindler finds she has been assigned to care for a 68-year-old male with a medical diagnosis of diabetic ketoacidosis and dehydration. She will be caring for him on his second hospital day.

1. What type of information can Melanie find in each of the following documentation forms? Why is that information vital to her preparation for care of her assigned client?
   - Nursing admission data form:
     - 
     - 
     - 

   - Graphic record:
     - 

At 0700 the morning of her clinical day she and her co-assigned RN receive the following report from the off-going shift RN:

Mr. Howard Devon in 3115 is a 68-year-old male admitted yesterday with DKA. He is allergic to codeine. His admitting glucose was 758 with severe dehydration. He is AAO × 2, a little confused about where he is at but he’s been through so many changes in the last 24 hours. He reorients easily. He has O₂ on at 2 L/min via NC, O₂ sats running 90–91, lungs are clear, he gets breathing treatments every 6 hours and prn, he has COPD. Heart rate irregular in the 70s, I think they said he has a-fib—he is on dig for that. Skin is warm and dry, still got pretty bad skin turgor, abdomen soft with active bowel sounds, no bowel movement since admission. His FBS this morning was 287 and he received coverage with 6 units of Novalog. Make sure he eats a good breakfast, will you? He has NS at 125 mL/hr into his right hand, it's a #20, site looks good. The pump has beeped a lot—I think it is positional and I told him to keep it up on a pillow. He is voiding well. He has a UTI, which is probably what put him into DKA this time. He needs help getting to the bathroom because of the pump and he has a sore foot. We have been assisting him to use the urinal. He is on Fall Precautions. He has an ulcer on his right foot that the wound team has been treating on an outpatient basis. Right now we are just doing wet to moist dressing changes bid, I changed the
dressing around 2100. There is a surgical consult for it, it looks pretty bad and he might lose part of that foot. He is on IV antibiotics too. He gets one Percocet for the foot pain every 6 hours, last one was at 0120 so he is probably due for another. He rates his pain at a 10 before his meds and a 6–7 afterward. He might need something besides the Percocet. He had a pretty good night except for the pump, any questions?

2. There is a lot of information received on this patient in the abbreviated language of nursing. Using your resources, interpret the terms used in this report.

3. Identify the descriptors that inadequately present patient status and replace them with professional or more complete terms. When reporting information it is important to give objective (fact-based) descriptors rather than subjective (opinion: good, bad, ok) descriptors. You may need to seek assistance in understanding all the information regarding this patient to correctly document his status.

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4. Organize the patient data from the corrected report into a standardized format using the PACE format. Not all parts will be readily evident in the given scenario but organize the information that you have.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PACE</th>
<th>Corrected Patient Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P (Patient/Problem)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A (Assessment/Actions)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (Continuing/Changes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>E (Evaluation)</td>
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</table>

Melanie goes in and completes a shift assessment on Mr. Devon. She will need to document this information into the electronic health record (EHR).
5. The co-assigned RN states to the student, “I sure miss the paper chart. They were so easy to work with.” In comparing the advantages and disadvantages of the two types of charts (paper and electronic) discuss the reasons that a nurse might prefer a paper chart system.

6. The software program used in this facility is a combination of source-oriented and problem-oriented record styles. Describe what each of these formats presents in the health record.

7. Using the following data, document a CBE note and a focus note (DAR) using correct documentation terms and abbreviations. Use the forms provided.

Restless, oriented to person, place, and time. Skin pale, cool, and moist. States, “I don’t feel so good and my foot is really hurting me. I didn’t feel like much breakfast—it’s hard to eat when all you can think about is a painful foot.” V/S 149/88 – 98 – 26 – 99.1 O2 sat 94% on 2l/min via NC. Lungs clear bilaterally. Refused scheduled breathing treatment at this time stating to respiratory technician “I just don’t feel like it right now.” Apical pulse irregularly irregular. Peripheral pulses intact with diminished pedal pulse to right foot. Abdomen soft, round with active bowel sounds. IV NS @ 125 mL/hr via pump to right
hand, site without redness, edema, or tenderness. IV started yesterday. Dressing to right foot dry and intact. Pt states pain is a 10 on a scale of 1–10 and describes it as intense, stabbing pain. States, “I need some pain medication. I should have asked for it earlier though it doesn’t seem to help much.”

CBE Entry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Parameters</th>
<th>WNL*</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neuromuscular</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alert; follows commands; oriented to person, place, and time; opens eyes spontaneously; able to move all extremities with full ROM, handgrips strong and equal; coordinated movements, steady balance and gait; no abnormal sensations or reflexes; face symmetrical; speech clear and coherent; No pain.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Respirations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cardiovascular</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Heart rhythm regular, heart sounds normal (S₁, S₂), no edema; capillary refill less than 3 seconds. Color normal. No calf tenderness. Radial and pedal pulses palpable 2+ and equal bilaterally. No neck vein distention. No pain.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gastrointestinal</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Abdomen soft, no distention, non-tender. Bowel sounds present in all four quadrants. Formed BM in last 3 days without chemical or mechanical stimulation. No pain.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Integumentary</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Warm, dry, intact, elastic turgor. No redness or open areas. No pain.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IV Therapy/Venous Access</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>IV site without redness, edema, or leakage. Site and tubing within date. Type and rate of fluids documented.</td>
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*Within Normal Limits
DAR Entry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/29/13</td>
<td>Pain</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>0830</td>
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<tr>
<td>0940</td>
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8. The ordered pain medication/schedule is not adequate to treat Mr. Devon’s pain. Using the SBAR format, write down how you would discuss this situation with the primary care provider.

S (Situation) |   
B (Background) |   
A (Assessment) |   
R (Recommendations) |   

9. You receive the following updated orders via fax from the primary care provider:
   • Discontinue Percocet one tab orally every 6 hours prn for pain
   • Tylenol #3 one to two tabs orally every 4 hours prn for moderate pain rated at less than a 7 on the pain scale
   • Dilaudid 2 mg IV every 4 hours prn for severe pain rated at equal to or greater than 7 on the pain scale

Which order should you question and why?
Vital Signs

After 6 weeks in the nursing arts lab learning basic skills of nursing assessment, Malinda Upchurch is assigned to a medical-surgical nursing unit. Her first day there is to help her acclimate to the unit. She is asked to take the vital signs on the six patients, ranging in age from 51 to 89, assigned to her co-assigned RN.

1. What are the expected values of temperature, pulse rate, respirations, and blood pressure for these patients?
2. What information about the facility equipment does Malinda need before starting her rounds in regard to facility equipment?

3. Discuss the key aspects of infection control when assessing vital signs among a group of patients.

Consider each of the following situations as Malinda completes her rounds on these patients.

- Mrs. Rojas, 84 y.o., does not understand English, with new onset hypertension
- Mr. Oxendine, 51 y.o., on oxygen therapy with a partial rebreather mask for hypoxia breathing rapidly through his mouth
- Mr. Hines, 77 y.o., with congestive heart failure, requiring multiple cardiac medications
- Mrs. Tescarelli, 72 y.o., being evaluated for episodes of syncope
- Mr. Leuong, 89 y.o., confused, with fever from an acute urinary tract infection

4. Discuss each of the following aspects Malinda needs to consider when preparing to measure the vital signs for each of these patients:
   a. Identify factors that may affect each of the measured parameters and the etiology of the change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Etiology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pulse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
b. For each patient, which values should Malinda anticipate might be outside the normal parameters? Identify the contributing factors for these variations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Pulse</th>
<th>Respirations</th>
<th>Blood Pressure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Rojas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Oxendine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Hines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Tescarelli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Leuong</td>
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</table>

c. Which factor can affect all aspects of vital signs? What does this mean in the provision of nursing care?

d. The facility uses electronic thermometers to assess temperature. Which site, oral, rectal, or axillary, would be best for assessing each patient’s temperature? Give a rationale for each choice.
e. If unknown, how would Malinda determine the baseline for inflating the cuff in order to accurately measure the blood pressure?

5. Mr. Leuong’s temperature reads at 101.2°F. He is restless and complains of chills. His skin is hot and dry. Four hours ago his temperature was 97.4°F.
   a. What is the appropriate nursing diagnosis for this situation?

   b. Identify an NOC standardized outcome and individualize it to this patient.

   c. Identify two NIC standardized interventions and the specific activities that are appropriate for this patient.
d. The unlicensed person assisting with care tells Malinda, “They put a cooling blanket on him yesterday and we had him shivering that fever out in no time.” Discuss this information in view of desired outcomes and evaluation of pyrexia.

6. Mr. Oxendine has a respiratory rate of 28 breaths/min. He states that he feels better after having the “extra oxygen put on” with the mask. He knows that he is being monitored for his breathing. How can Malinda unobtrusively assess his respiratory pattern?

7. To facilitate ease of breathing, what intervention can Malinda easily implement that addresses a factor that influences respirations?

8. As Malinda is going into Mr. Hines’s room the co-assigned nurse tells her “Get a full set of pulse characteristics for me will you? I need the apical pulse as well as the peripheral pulses before I give him all his medications and it will be good practice for you. Thanks!”
   a. What equipment does she need to complete these tasks?
   b. What characteristics should be assessed in the pulses?
c. Is the assessment of the apical-radial pulse indicated in this situation? Why or why not?


d. What is the correct location to auscultate the apical pulse?


e. For patients with congestive heart failure, the heart enlarges due to increased cardiac workload. Picturing the heart as it sits in the chest, would this enlargement change how Malinda would auscultate the apical pulse rate? Why or why not?


9. Upon entering Mrs. Tescarelli’s room, Malinda finds her standing at the bedside with the intent of ambulating to the bathroom. Mrs. Tescarelli says, “I sure feel woozy-headed when I get up but I need to go to the bathroom. I know I should ask for help, but you girls are just so busy.”

a. Knowing the patient’s admission diagnosis, should Malinda immediately take the patient’s blood pressure while Mrs. Tescarelli is standing at the bedside? Why or why not?


b. To determine the safety in ambulation for Mrs. Tescarelli, what important assessment should be made prior to ambulation? How should Malinda instruct an unlicensed assistant to complete this task?
c. In monitoring the skill competency of the UAP as he completes the blood pressure measurement using a sphygmomanometer, which of the following steps indicates a need for remediation of this skill? Indicate the correct procedure of that step.

- Patient positioned on edge of bed with legs dangling freely
  - Measurement arm placed at heart level
  - Snugly wrapped around the upper arm but avoid discomfort
  - Uses the 200 mm mark as standard for inflation pressure
  - Carefully places the diaphragm of the stethoscope under the edge of the cuff.
  - Releases cuff pressure slowly at 2–3 mm Hg per second

d. How may the errors skew the blood pressure readings for this patient?
Communication and Therapeutic Relationships

Working in an acute care/rehabilitation center you are assigned as primary nurse to Gabe Huston, an 18-year-old admitted for rehabilitation after sustaining a T-6 spinal cord injury that resulted in paralysis from his waist down. He was also blinded in one eye. He is one of four patients roomed together to enhance socialization and support. Gabe has good family support from his mother and his older brother and he is expected to return to his home and his normal activities with some accommodations after discharge.

The facility transfer report states that he is still dealing with the loss and is often withdrawn or angry regarding the circumstances. The first interaction often sets the stage for future outcomes of all interactions with the patient.

The key to the therapeutic use of self is your professional communication skills. Effective communication, the exchange of information as well as feelings, is a tool that facilitates the attainment of patient goals in any healthcare setting.

1. Prior to your first interaction during the admission process, consider the many factors that can interfere with effective communication. Discuss how each of the following factors might influence communication with this patient in this setting:
   - Environment
   - Developmental stage
   - Gender
   - Personal space
   - Sociocultural factors
   - Roles and relationships
2. Upon Gabe’s admission to the unit, you need to orient Gabe, as well as his mother and brother, to the routines and expectations of the rehabilitation experience. How can you set the tone of this initial interaction using your understanding of the factors that affect delivery of the message? Discuss the following verbal and non-verbal aspects of communication:

- **Verbal:** vocabulary, word meanings, pacing, clarity/brevity, timing, and relevance
- **Non-verbal:** posture, gestures, and touch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Influence on Communication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developmental stage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociocultural factors</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roles and relationships</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Gabe’s mother and brother have many questions regarding the process and outcomes intended for him. You explain to both Gabe and his family that with a T6-level injury, the expected outcomes include living independently without assistive devices in feeding, bathing, grooming, oral and facial hygiene, dressing, bladder management, and bowel management. He will need a manual wheelchair for mobility but will be able to transfer to/from the chair independently. Gabe remains silent through the orientation process, allowing his family to speak for him.

3. You direct your communication to Gabe and ask him, “What are your thoughts, here at the beginning, about your rehabilitation?” He replies, “It doesn’t matter to me. I am never going to walk again so why bother with any of this? I will have to live with my mother the rest of my life and depend on her to take me everywhere and that just #$!!#!” Integrating the key characteristics of empathy, respect, and honesty in therapeutic communication, how would you respond to Gabe? (The response may be several sentences long.)
As Gabe’s primary nurse, you begin to work with him every day in supporting his learning through the various therapies that will ensure his optimal independence upon discharge from the facility. His biggest hurdle is acceptance of his need for, and understanding of how to best use, a wheelchair to facilitate his mobility and independence. Prior to his accident Gabe was a cross-country runner in his first year at the university. He states one day while you are preparing his medications, “I don’t know why you guys bother with all this. I am never going to be what I used to be.” Although he has been compliant with his therapy, this is the first time he has expressed his feelings regarding his outcomes.

4. Using the interventions that enhance therapeutic communication, which techniques would be appropriate for you to use at this time to respond to this statement? Write down a response reflecting the use of the techniques you identified.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

It is often easy to put up barriers to communication when interactions are based on social parameters rather than grounded in a framework of a professional therapeutic relationship.

5. For each of the following responses to Gabe’s statement, identify the communication barrier and reflect on why a response like that is often used in discussing a patient’s concerns.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nurse Response</th>
<th>Communication Barrier</th>
<th>Reflection on Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Now, you know you are not a bother at all; it’s my job.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“You are young and will bounce back from this just fine—all you kids do.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“If I were you I’d take my love of cross-country running and think about doing that with my wheelchair.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“You should not feel that way. You have so much going for you.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Don’t worry; you will be even better in a different way when you are done here.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Why don’t you think you can do things again like you used to? That’s the whole purpose of being here.”</td>
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</table>

6. After a difficult day in therapy, you mention to Gabe the possibility of obtaining a driving evaluation to facilitate his learning to drive a car again with adaptive equipment. He is taken with the idea and asks, “Can you do that—like, now?!” You know that the therapist, Ms. Greene, who manages this case often resents it when other disciplines present information felt to be within her scope of practice. Formulate how you will communicate with this therapist using the SBAR model.
### S (Situation)

<p>| |</p>
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### B (Background)

<p>| |</p>
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### A (Assessment)

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### R (Recommendations)

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Health Assessment

Douglas (Dougie) Moore is a 58-year-old patient admitted to your medical unit from a group home for developmentally challenged adults. He is being admitted with bacterial pneumonia. He has Down syndrome and has the developmental level of an 8-year-old. He is in moderate respiratory distress, compounded by anxiety related to admission to an unfamiliar environment. His assigned residence aide has accompanied him to provide reassurance for Dougie per facility policy.

1. Taking Dougie’s developmental stage (school age) into consideration, how will this change your approach as you prepare yourself, the environment, and the patient for the examination?
2. How would you explain each of the five techniques of physical examination to Dougie during the examination to allay some of his anxiety?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technique</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inspection</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Palpation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auscultation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Olfaction</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3. In light of Dougie’s status, which aspects of the full physical assessment would you defer at this time? Why?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Pertinent Assessment Data</th>
<th>Deferred at this time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General physical survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integumentary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Neck</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breasts and axillae</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chest and lungs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abdomen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neurological</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genitourinary</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4. For each of the following parts of the physical examination, describe the equipment you will need and the procedure/critical points of the assessment.

- Skin color, temperature and turgor, edema
- Pupillary reaction and cardinal fields of gaze
- Mucous membranes
- Breath sounds
- Heart sounds
- Abdomen characteristics
- Bowel sounds
- Capillary refill
- Peripheral pulses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Special Equipment</th>
<th>Critical Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skin color, Temperature and</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>turgor Edema</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pupillary reaction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardinal fields of gaze</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mucous membranes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breath sounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heart sounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abdomen characteristics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowel sounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capillary refill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peripheral pulses</td>
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</table>
5. The following data are found on the physical examination. Correctly document the findings using correct terminology and professional language.

Dougie knows he is in the hospital because he can’t catch his breath and he tells you “my chest hurts when I breathe and I don’t feel so good”, he is constantly rubbing at his chest, blue-gray color to lips and facial features, hot feel to skin, pinched skin on back of hand stays in place, swelling in feet, pressure makes an indent of about 1/8 inch which fills in rapidly when pressure removed, pale color to nail beds, when pinched pink color comes back quickly, small mouth with tongue sticking out, mucous membranes dry looking, lungs with snoring, continuous low pitched sounds when breathing in and out, spitting out sticky green yellow sputum, breathing at 28 breaths per minute, working at breathing, apical pulse heard in correct anatomical position with no extra noises, pulses in neck, wrists, legs and feet easily felt, belly normal shape without pain, rumbling noted at regular intervals in all areas of abdomen.
Promoting Asepsis and Preventing Infection

You and a classmate are assigned to assist in meeting the self-care/hygiene needs for the following group of post-operative hip surgery patients on the orthopedic surgery/rehabilitation unit.

- Mr. Joseph Hernandez, 74 years old, right hip replacement, history of lung disease, suspected of having influenza, on droplet isolation
- Ms. Pamela Guy, 91 years old, left hip replacement, has dementia, must be fed all meals
- Mrs. Edna Watson, 84 years old, left hip fracture repair, positive for MRSA in her urine, on contact precautions
- Mrs. Alicia Flowers, 89 years old, right hip replacement, currently receiving chemotherapy for skin cancer, on protective isolation
- Mr. Frank Centralli, 67 years old, left hip replacement for degenerative joint disease, history of smoking 3 ppd × 45 years
- Ms. Ruth McNally, 87 years old, right hip fracture repair secondary to a fall at home, history of diabetes and hypertension

For all the patients, attention to promoting asepsis and preventing infection is a mainstay of safe patient care. For the
assigned patients, consider each of the following key aspects during your provision of basic care and comfort measures:

1. Describe each link in the chain of infection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Links</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infectious agent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reservoir</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portal of exit</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode of transmission</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Portal of entry</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Susceptible host</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. Discuss the commonalities of the assigned patients’ risk for development of an infection based on your understanding of the chain of infection.
3. What key indicators can be assessed that would indicate the use of the body's secondary defenses in response to pathogen invasion?

4. Differentiate the two types of specific immunity that make up a patient's tertiary defenses by the following characteristics:
   a. Type of lymphocyte
   b. Site of action
   c. Method of protection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Humoral Immunity</th>
<th>Cell-Mediated Immunity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Lymphocyte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site of Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>Method of Protection</td>
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</table>

5. Based on an understanding of the lifestyle factors which support the patients' own host defenses against infection, what interventions can you identify that are within your scope of practice as a nursing student?
### Lifestyle Factor | Interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene</td>
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</table>
Which factors in the physiology of each of the assigned patients increase the risk for infection during this hospitalization? List the eight factors in the left column of the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lifestyle Factor</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rest &amp; Exercise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stress Reduction</td>
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</table>

6. Which factors in the physiology of each of the assigned patients increase the risk for infection during this hospitalization? List the eight factors in the left column of the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Hernandez</th>
<th>Guy</th>
<th>Watson</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
<th>Centralli</th>
<th>McNally</th>
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</table>
7. Which diagnostic testing results should be monitored for ongoing assessment of Mrs. Watson’s infection and response to treatment?

8. In implementing hygiene modalities, how do the mandates of medical asepsis fit into the care measures for these patients?
9. What will be different when providing care for Mrs. Watson, Mr. Hernandez, and Mrs. Flowers?

- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water after contact with blood, body fluids (except sweat), excretions and secretions, mucous membranes, any break in the skin, or contaminated objects REGARDLESS of whether you have been wearing gloves.
- Wear clean gloves whenever there is potential for contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, non-intact skin, or contaminated materials.
- Remove gloves immediately after use. Avoid touching clean items, environmental surfaces, or another patient.
- Change gloves between tasks or procedures on the same patient if you have made contact with material that may contain a high concentration of microorganisms.
- Wash your hands with soap and water after removing gloves, between patient contacts, and between procedures on the same patient to prevent cross-contamination of different body sites.
- Wear a mask and eye protection or a face shield to protect mucous membranes of the eyes, nose, and mouth during patient care activities that are likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions.
- Wear a clean, non-sterile gown to protect skin and prevent soiling of clothing whenever there is a risk of spray or splash onto clothing. Promptly remove the gown once it is soiled. Avoid contaminating clothing when removing the gown. Wash hands after removing the gown.
- Clean reusable equipment that is soiled with blood or body fluids according to agency policy.
- Do not reuse equipment for the care of another patient until it has been cleaned and reprocessed appropriately.
- Dispose of single-use equipment that is soiled with blood or body fluids in appropriate biohazard containers.
- Carefully handle contaminated linens to prevent skin and mucous membrane exposures, contamination of clothing, and transfer of microorganism to other patients or the environment.
10. How can the key procedures of surgical asepsis impact care for patients on this surgical unit?

11. Mrs. Flowers states, “I just feel so alone in my room.” Discuss the interventions that address this verbalized need.
12. Based on your understanding of the knowledge and practice base for the promotion of asepsis and prevention of infection, use the Critical-Thinking Model (CTM) to approach your patient care assignment so that you and your classmates are well prepared and able to function safely in meeting your patient’s self-care/hygiene needs.

13. How does the infection control nurse contribute to the institutional goal of promoting asepsis and preventing infection in regard to both the institution and its healthcare workers?
14. How can the nurse facilitate surveillance of infection in the community setting?
Thad Lutz is a 54 y.o. admitted for a deep vein thrombosis (DVT) of the left leg. Five days ago, he had surgery for a left ruptured Achilles tendon sustained during a local 10K race. He has never been hospitalized prior to his outpatient surgery. Post-operative instructions include no weight-bearing on the left leg for 4 weeks. He has crutches, but admits instead to “hopping around at home holding onto things” on his right leg. He has an IV line via infusion pump for heparin therapy for anticoagulation. He still requires oral pain medication for post-operative pain compounded by the pain of the DVT. He is on complete bedrest with allowed use of a bedside commode (BSC).

1. As part of the routine admission assessment, a Morse Fall Scale is completed. Explain the variables that pertain to Mr. Lutz for this admission.
2. After reviewing the Medicare “never events,” which ones could present a risk to Mr. Lutz during this hospitalization?

3. The nurse identifies a potential diagnosis of Risk for falls† related to imbalanced gait with an outcome of no episodes of falls during hospitalization. The nurse discusses the diagnosis with Mr. Lutz, but he does not view falling as a hazard. He states, “I am young and in great shape and getting around on one leg works just fine for me.” How would you approach this perspective so that a collaborative plan of care can be implemented with this patient?

Despite agreement on measures to ensure his safety, Mr. Lutz continues to “ambulate” to the bathroom without assistance instead of using the BSC. He uses the infusion pump and its rolling stand for balance and tells the nursing assistant that he does not want to bother anyone when he can figure it all out on his own. The nursing assistant tells the nurse, “That man needs to be tied down before he hurts himself.”

4. With the knowledge that Mr. Lutz still needs pain medication every 4 to 6 hours, would any kind of restraint be appropriate in this situation? Explain your rationale.

†© 2012 NANDA International
5. Recognizing that pain medications can impair cognition, discuss the interventions that you can put in place to avoid the need for restraints for this patient.

6. It is decided to implement the use of a bed exit alarm for Mr. Lutz. How will this device help decrease the incidence of falls for this patient?
7. The nursing assistant tells you, “I don’t know how to use one of those.” How would you demonstrate and instruct the assistant on how to implement a bed exit alarm?

8. What important teaching points should be communicated to Mr. Lutz?

Mr. Lutz has recovered from his DVT, is regulated on his warfarin sodium (Coumadin) therapy, an oral anticoagulant medication, and is ready for discharge. Discharge instructions are completed with him and his wife regarding medications, pain control, and ambulation parameters. His wife states, “I sure hope he behaves. I bet he didn’t tell you he fell several times at the house trying to hop around on his good foot.”

9. Discuss six key points with Mr. and Mrs. Lutz concerning the prevention of falls in the home.
10. In addition, Mrs. Lutz explains that her elderly father-in-law lives with them. She worries about his ability to get around safely and asks you, “How can I know if Dad is at risk for falls? He’s as stubborn as his son!” Explain the “Get Up and Go Test” to Mrs. Lutz.
Self-Care Ability: Hygiene

Ms. Juanita Morganson and Ms. Hannah Lithgrow are nursing students co-assigned to care for a resident during their long-term care rotation. They will be working with this resident for 5 weeks. Based on the assessment of functional abilities as well as data gathered through the assessment guidelines for hygiene, they are to implement a plan of care to meet the self-care needs of the resident.

Addie Johnson is a 52-year-old morbidly obese female with diabetes mellitus. She has had a stroke and has right-sided paralysis (hemiplegia). She tends to slow, cautious behavior and needs frequent instruction and feedback to complete tasks. She has retinopathy (affects her eyesight) and peripheral neuropathy (affects sensation in legs) from her diabetes mellitus. Her Katz Index of Independence in Activities of Daily Living indicates that she is very dependent in the areas of bathing, dressing, transferring, and toileting.

1. Discuss how this resident’s health status has affected her self-care ability.
2. During assessment of self-care, the students consult with the resident to assess her willingness and ability to perform ADLs. Why is this step vital to the plan of care and how will it affect the completion of hygiene care for this resident?

The initial interview with Ms. Johnson elicits the following information from the resident:

- “I can’t do anything for myself without a lot of help since my right side doesn’t work.”
- “My sugars have really made me sick over the years; it has affected my eyes and my feet.”
- “I want to help take care of myself but I am just too slow at it and I will admit my size makes it hard.”
- “I’ve always taken my bath before I went to bed but here I am on the Thursday morning bath list, with ‘spot washes’ in between. They use the shower chair and have me scrubbed up in no time. It’s just easier for the girls here.”

3. For each of the responses given by Ms. Johnson, write an open-ended question to elicit more detail to her responses. Why is this important to the development of an individualized plan of care for this resident?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Response</th>
<th>Examples of Open-Ended Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“I can’t do anything for myself without a lot of help since my right side doesn’t work.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“My sugars have really made me sick over the years; it has affected my eyes and my feet.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I want to help take care of myself but I am just too slow at it and sometimes I forget what I am doing.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I’ve always taken my bath before I went to bed but here I am on the Thursday morning bath list, with ‘spot washes’ in between. They use the shower chair and have me scrubbed up in no time. It’s just easier for the girls here.”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4. The students identify a nursing diagnosis of Bathing/Hygiene Self-Care Deficit† for Ms. Johnson. Based on the initial interview data as well as potential responses to the follow-up questions write a three-part nursing diagnostic statement to reflect this individual need of this resident.

Using the Assessment Guidelines, hygiene, the following data are documented regarding Ms. Johnson’s physical status as it relates to hygiene needs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assessment Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Room warm, “stuffy,” stale odors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin</td>
<td>Ashen gray color, skin moist, red rash that “burns and itches” present under both breasts, skin folds on abdomen, in both axilla, crevices of groin, musty odor to areas, shiny, thin skin to lower extremities, receiving treatment for fungal infections of the skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feet</td>
<td>Dry, reddened area to right heel, moist reddened skin between toes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails</td>
<td>Hard, thick toenails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
<td>Lips smooth and pink, oral mucosa and gums pink, moist, wears upper and lower dentures, teeth aligned well, pairs in chewing position, redness noted on left lower gum under dentures, “sore”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair</td>
<td>Dry, coarse hair at present contained in braids, scalp dry, no lesions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyes</td>
<td>Wears glasses to read, history of diabetic retinopathy, no redness or drainage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Based on Ms. Johnson’s capabilities, which type of bath would best fit this situation and why?
6. Ms. Johnson tells you during the bath, “In the hospital they had prepackaged bath kits. I wish they had them here. I could do parts myself using them.” These products are not available in this facility. How could you provide a similar experience for this resident?

7. During the partial baths done in her room, how would you ensure privacy, safety, and comfort for this resident? Think: What would you desire if you were in this same situation?
8. In addition to the medication ordered by the primary care provider to address Ms. Johnson’s fungal infections of the skin, what other interventions can be done to decrease the skin problems associated with being morbidly obese that are individualized to this resident?

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9. What kind of positioning, skin care, and procedural steps would you need to implement to provide adequate/individualized perineal care for Ms. Johnson?

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10. The charge nurse asks the students to complete the Brief Oral Health Status Examination (BOHSE). Based on the information that has been obtained through the hygiene assessment, what would you expect the results of this examination to be? What further interventions are needed at this time based on the results?

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11. Ms. Johnson asks the students to help her brush her dentures while they are in her mouth stating, “I like to feel like I am brushing my teeth again and I think it’s the best way to clean my dentures.” What should be the appropriate response to this request? What teaching points could be included in the response?

12. After completion of her care, the linens need to be changed on Ms. Johnson’s bed. The hydraulic lift to move her to the chair at the bedside is not available. Consider the following as you work through this problem:
   a. What are two or more alternatives to ensure that the task is completed?
   b. Who else can help develop more alternatives?
   c. Of the alternatives, which one is most reasonable to implement? Why are the others not as reasonable?
d. What aspects of this situation require the most careful attention?
Medication Administration

You have been assigned to be the medication nurse in a long-term care facility to a group of 20 residents, of which 7 are there for short-term rehabilitation after total hip replacement. It is the first time you have worked with this group and therefore are unfamiliar with their medication routines and preferences.

1. The 1900–0730 shift nurse has completed his report and asks you if there are any questions. What information regarding the residents themselves would be beneficial for you to know in order to organize the administration of medications for the shift?
2. The distribution system for this facility is a combination of stock supply and unit dose. Why would these two systems be most appropriate for a long-term care facility?

The Medication Administration Record (MAR) for one of your assigned residents, Mrs. Lowery, is provided for you to use for your shift 0700–1930.

3. For medications you are unfamiliar with, what resources could you use to learn about these medications prior to administration? Which one is the best source of nursing implications?

4. The MAR reflects the “standard” administration times used in the facility when transcribing the medication orders. Based on an understanding of pharmacodynamics and medication interactions for the oral medications, which administration times are not appropriate? Explain.
5. Using an SBAR format, how would you approach the primary care provider to address this issue?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S (Situation)</th>
<th>B (Background)</th>
<th>A (Assessment)</th>
<th>R (Recommendations)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

6. For each of the medications listed on the MAR:
   a. What equipment will you need to prepare and administer the medications?
   b. What key physical assessments and/or lab data are needed prior to administering these medications?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Patient/Lab Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitro-Dur patch</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NovoLog</td>
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<td>Lanoxin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caltrate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coumadin</td>
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<td>Lyrica</td>
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(Continued)
7. Describe the “Rights of Medication” and the “Three Checks.” How do these facilitate a culture of safety in medication administration?
8. Mrs. Lowery tells you, “I am not taking all those nine o’clock pills. I can’t swallow them—they get stuck in my throat.”
   a. What information do you need about the ordered medications to address this problem?

   b. What alternatives are available to help with this swallowing issue?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Usual Dosage Form</th>
<th>Can It Be Crushed?</th>
<th>Alternatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caltrate with</td>
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<tr>
<td>vitamin D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyrica</td>
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</table>

   c. How would you administer the medications to Mrs. Lowery?

9. The medication Lyrica is not available in the resident’s routine medication drawer. What could be the cause of this problem and how will you obtain the medication when needed?
10. You go to place the Nitro-Dur patch on Mrs. Lowery and note that the patch from yesterday is still applied to her chest. The MAR indicates that it was removed the previous evening as ordered. What should be your first action? How will you address this occurrence?

11. Mrs. Lowery prefers to insert her own eye drops. As you observe her doing so, what key aspects of the administration procedure should she be doing to ensure correct technique?
12. Mrs. Lowery refuses the extender or spacer for her Combivent inhaler, telling you, “It’s too much trouble.” How would you explain the benefits of its use to her?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

13. The cyanocobalamin solution is provided in a vial with a concentration of 1 mg/1 mL.  
   a. Calculate the correct volume for the ordered dose.
   b. What type of syringe and needle gauge will you use for administration? Are there others that can also be used for this? Explain.
   c. Where will you administer this injection? Give a rationale for your choice.
d. How can you minimize the discomfort of the injection for Mrs. Lowery?

14. Mrs. Lowery tells you, “I always have an allergic reaction to this drug. I get diarrhea for a few days each month after I get it.” What information do you need and how would you address this concern?
RESIDENT: Mrs. Elizabeth Lowery  DOB: 03/27/1926

Medical Hx: early onset dementia, atrial fibrillation COPD, IDDM, glaucoma, hx left hip fx w/ORIF, MI, cardiac pacemaker, MRSA

Precautions: Falls, Aspiration  ALLERGIES: Latex, Penicillin, Sulfa drugs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes for Injection Sites</th>
<th>Initials</th>
<th>Signature/Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A: Left deltoid</td>
<td>1: Right deltoid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: Left lateral arm</td>
<td>2: Right lateral arm</td>
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<tr>
<td>C: Left ventral arm</td>
<td>3: Right ventral arm</td>
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<tr>
<td>D: Left anterior thigh</td>
<td>4: Right anterior thigh</td>
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<tr>
<td>E: Left lateral thigh</td>
<td>5: Right lateral thigh</td>
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<tr>
<td>F: Left ventrogluteal</td>
<td>6: Right ventrogluteal</td>
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<tr>
<td>G: Left upper abdomen</td>
<td>7: Right upper abdomen</td>
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<tr>
<td>H: Left lower abdomen</td>
<td>8: Right lower abdomen</td>
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<tr>
<td>I: Left upper back</td>
<td>9: Right upper back</td>
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<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Hour</th>
<th>Day Of The Month</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitro-Dur patch 0.2 mg/hr to skin daily</td>
<td>0900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nitro-Dur patch REMOVED at HS</td>
<td>2100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Novolog 70/30 24 units Subq daily ac breakfast</td>
<td>0730</td>
<td>site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Novolog 70/30 12 units Subq daily ac dinner</td>
<td>1630</td>
<td>site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lanoxin 0.25 mg daily at 1700</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>AP rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caltrate 500 mg with Vitamin D TID</td>
<td>0900</td>
<td>1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coumadin 3 mg daily at 1700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donepezil 5 mg daily HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combivent 2 puffs QID with MDI</td>
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<td>1300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actonel 5 mg daily</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timoptic 1 drop to both eyes BID</td>
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<td>2100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyrica 50 mg TID</td>
<td>0900</td>
<td>1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyanocobalamin 200 mcg IM monthly</td>
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Teaching and Learning

Haley is a 7-year-old girl who received a new percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG). Due to having eosinophilic esophagitis (EE), she has been unable to maintain an adequate nutritional status for healthy growth and development and it was decided that supplemental enteral feedings would be beneficial. Her primary caregiver is her 72-year-old grandmother, Mary, who has cared for Haley since she was 3 months old. Haley will be receiving bolus feedings as well as two medications through the PEG. As the primary nurse you are responsible for development and implementation of a teaching plan for this family system.

Mary has expressed to you that “I’ve never seen anything like this before. I hope I can do this right. They want to send us home soon and I just want to be ready. I don’t want to hurt my baby by doing it wrong. When the doctor was telling me everything, it seems hard to do but I want what is best for Haley. It is a relief in a way to finally have a way to help Haley feel better and grow better. She has been sick for so long. I want this to be a ‘fun thing’ for Haley and I know once it settles in she will feel better too. I don’t have a lot of learning, I left school in the 6th grade, but I know we can figure this out. I didn’t get a lot of what the doctor was telling me about the whole thing here, she talked so fast and I don’t hear real well, but I want to get this, OK? I will need to see it and do it a lot to be good at it. I am used to
working hard and getting by and I want Haley to know she can do anything she puts that pretty head to.”

1. Having met Mary and Haley, discuss the impact of the following factors on their ability to learn this procedure:
   a. Motivation
   b. Readiness
   c. Learning environment
   d. Diagnosis
2. The teaching plan/session will also include Haley as an active learner. Discuss how her development stage will affect how you will design your teaching session.


3. In the teaching session with Mary, how can you promote her health literacy?


4. Based on the information given to you by Mary, what is your interpretation of the following assessment data?
   a. Knowledge level:

   b. Physical and emotional readiness:

   c. Ability to learn:
The following nursing diagnosis is identified for this family system: Deficient knowledge† related to lack of exposure to the procedure of bolus enteral feedings and medication administration via tube as evidenced by grandmother’s statement that “I’ve never seen anything like this before.”

5. Identify the NOC outcome that best reflects the knowledge outcome for this specific topic.

6. Identify three teaching goals, each addressing the three domains of learning.

7. For each teaching goal, write two learning objectives that must be completed to accomplish the goal.

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<tr>
<th>Goal/Domain</th>
<th>Learning Objectives (Examples)</th>
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†© 2012 NANDA International
8. What is the NIC standardized intervention related to the learning need of this family system?

9. Using the provided form, construct a teaching plan for Mary and Haley that presents only the skill of administering two medications, one a crushable pill and the other a viscous liquid, via an enteral feeding tube. Remember to keep in mind developmental and cognitive factors of the learners.

To simplify the work, only one learning objective is required for each learning domain on the teaching plan. Review your lab book/textbook for the correct procedure for administering medication through an enteral tube.

Teaching Plan: Administration of two medications via enteral feeding tube (PEG)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deficient knowledge related to lack of exposure to the procedure of bolus enteral feedings and medication administration via tube as evidenced by grandmother’s statement that “I’ve never seen anything like this before”</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOC Outcome</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Location of teaching session: <strong>Patient’s room, privacy maintained</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional Materials (If you could have anything you wanted to teach this session—dream big)</td>
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10. Although the teaching session is focused on Mary, identify strategies that include Haley in the teaching/learning session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objectives</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Teaching Strategy with rationale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive:</td>
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<td>Affective</td>
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<td>Psychomotor</td>
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11. Discuss how you will evaluate each one of the teaching goals identified for this family system.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Teaching Goals</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
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During her first semester of nursing school, Tanisha Egwu made friends with another student, who like herself, was juggling work and family responsibilities along with school. Tanisha did well the first semester while her friend struggled with the academic rigors of the program. This semester, she has found herself assigned to the same clinical group as her friend. To help her friend get a good start to the semester, she agreed to work together in preparing their clinical assignments the night before they were due and, at the insistence of her friend, carpool to the clinical site together. Tanisha is somewhat apprehensive about the effect this may have on her own studies, as her friend tends to disorganization in her schoolwork as well as in other areas of her life. At present Tanisha’s husband is overseas with the military and her mother-in-law is reluctantly helping with the care of her 4-year-old and 10-month-old children. Her mother-in-law feels that Tanisha should be home to care for the children instead of “selfishly running off to school when my son is serving honorably overseas.” Tanisha’s husband is supportive of her school studies. Tanisha works one day a week at an assisted living center as a medication technician to help with income issues. Prior to school
she was employed full-time as a bookkeeper for a car dealership. Last month she was selected by the facility as employee of the month. It was the staff there that encouraged her and now supports her studies to get her nursing degree.

1. Using the Homes-Rahe Social Readjustment Scale, what are the stressors for Tanisha in the past year and the percentage score representing the chance of a major illness for Tanisha at this time in her life?

2. For the stressors identified by the scale, determine the category of stress they represent in her life. (A stressor may fit in more than one category.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Stress</th>
<th>Stressors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Distress</td>
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<td>Eustress</td>
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<tr>
<td>External</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internal</td>
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</table>
As the semester progresses, Tanisha is enjoying her nursing studies but growing concerned about her friend in the program. After a long day in clinical her friend tells Tanisha, “What a day in clinical! The instructor was checking me every second of the day! I am pretty good but I can’t look good with you in the group.”

3. Which psychological defense mechanism is being used?

4. How should Tanisha respond to this statement?

The next week Tanisha finds herself apprehensive about attending clinical with her friend. They did their clinical preparation together at the hospital the evening before, although her friend was over an hour late, explaining that her babysitter was running late for the evening. She told Tanisha, “I wish I had live-in help like you do with your mother-in-law.” In addition, she told her that she had not been feeling well due to “some kind of GI bug.” Tanisha tries to bolster a can-do attitude in her friend regarding the experience the following day, to which her friend responds, “It’s just up to the cosmos, I guess, and I’ll just have to go along with it. I think they have decided I am not going to do well.” This is different from Tanisha’s outlook in that she feels that the better the preparation, the more apt she is to do well and she looks forward to clinical.
5. Describe how the personal factors influencing adaptation to the stressors of clinical differ for these two students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Tanisha</th>
<th>Friend</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Perception</td>
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<td>Overall health status</td>
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<td>Support system</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardiness</td>
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<td>Other personal factors</td>
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6. Tanisha’s apprehension for her friend continues into the morning of clinical when she arrives a few minutes late to their established carpool routine and states, “I had to stop and go to the bathroom three times on the way here and I’ve been sick all night.” When Tanisha asks, “Do you think you feel OK to take care of patients today?” her friend erupts in anger and then dissolves into tears, stating, “I just don’t know why all this is happening; it seems I have been sick since the beginning of the semester. I just don’t know if I am going to make it—I just can’t handle all this at once.” Discuss the behavioral and physiological responses the friend is experiencing in relation to the stress of her nursing program.
7. It is obvious to Tanisha that her friend is in crisis. Using the goals of crisis intervention, how should Tanisha address this situation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Example of Response</th>
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After resolution of the situation, Tanisha recognizes that she too has a lot of stress in her life related to her many responsibilities and she wants to be able to deal proactively with the stress. She seeks assistance from the student health center/counseling services. The nurse practitioner (NP) identifies a nursing diagnosis with Tanisha of Readiness for Enhanced Coping.†

8. Identify an appropriate NOC outcome for Tanisha that reflects her desire to implement measures for stress mitigation through supporting coping abilities. Write two individualized outcomes for Tanisha.

9. Reviewing Tanisha’s information, discuss which of the stress-relieving interventions are relevant to this situation.

Together, Tanisha and the NP identify an NIC standardized intervention of Coping Enhancement. Most stress-relieving interventions work by one or more of the following means:

- Removing or modifying the stressors
- Supporting coping abilities
- Treating the person’s responses to stress

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10. With an understanding of Tanisha’s busy lifestyle and etiology of her stressors, discuss the health promotion activities that would be most appropriate for her to implement.
Nutrition

As part of his clinical rotation, Sean Martin is assigned to work with the nutritional support team at the hospital. The team includes a registered nurse, registered dietitian, pharmacist, and medical physician. Patients with actual or potential nutritional issues are referred to this team for management of their nutritional care as well as support for those caring for these patients including the nursing staff and family.

The census list for consultation for the day’s rotation includes the following patients:

- Mrs. Sharon Feinstein, an 81-year-old female with dementia and weight loss
- Mr. Adam Belcher, a 37-year-old male with severe hypertension
- Ms. Amelia Stroupe, a 77-year-old female with right-sided weakness and mild dysphagia
- Ms. Michelle Ryan, a 42-year-old female with difficulty breathing secondary to exacerbation of COPD

Ms. Ryan tells you, “I just don’t have much of an appetite anymore and I know I need to eat to get better.”

1. What measures can you delegate to the nursing assistant to stimulate the patient’s appetite at mealtimes?
2. How does dyspnea affect the attainment of adequate nutrition? What strategies can be employed to help with this? Consider the aspects discussed in stimulating a patient’s appetite as well as information found in caring for patients with oxygenation problems.

The nurse tells Sean that Mrs. Feinstein has the characteristics of malnutrition.

3. What results would support this interpretation? Consider applicable laboratory and body composition data.
4. What physical assessment data should Sean anticipate finding in this situation?

The family wishes to try trial feedings for 6 weeks to enhance her quality of life. Orders are received to place a feeding tube in preparation for enteral feedings.

5. Which type of feeding tube is indicated for this situation? Why?
6. The primary care provider orders a 12 Fr nasogastric tube to be inserted for the feeding trial. What equipment will Sean need to complete this procedure with this patient?

7. What modifications in the procedural steps will Sean need to make, considering Mrs. Feinstein's dementia?
8. Which bedside techniques to check for tube placement are appropriate for this patient situation? Give rationales for your choices. Why did you exclude the techniques that you did?

Mrs. Stroupe has been placed on aspiration precautions.

9. How should Sean implement this during meal times?
10. The nurse identifies the nursing diagnosis of Risk for aspiration. The outcome is aspiration prevention. Write two individualized outcomes that would demonstrate attainment of this goal.

11. Mrs. Stroupe is encouraged to be as independent as possible at meals. Discuss how Sean can best assist with feeding success in this situation.

12. He comments to Sean, “I just don’t feel like I am that overweight like the doctor says I am. I’ve always been big boned and played football—I still do some pickup games. I am 6 feet tall and only 265 pounds and in great shape.” What is this patient’s BMI? How would you explain it to this patient?

13. Describe how you would teach him how to use the MyPlate strategy to manage his nutritional intake.

Recommended resources:
http://www.choosemyplate.gov/myplate/index.aspx
14. How should Sean respond when he states, “I am thinking about switching to a vegetarian diet because I hear it is a healthier way to eat. How does it change this MyPlate strategy you told me about?”

http://www.choosemyplate.gov/healthy-eating-tips/tips-for-vegetarian.html

http://www.choosemyplate.gov/food-groups/downloads/TenTips/

DGTipsheet8HealthyEatingFor-Vegetarians.pdf
234  Unit 4  |  Supporting Physiological Functioning

15. In addition he asks, “How do I know how much salt I am really getting?” Discuss how Sean should teach this patient about reading nutrition labels for sources of salt.
The change of shift report tells you that Ms. Priscilla Barnes, a 47-year-old, admitted with acute asthma, had a restless night. She is still dyspneic at 28 breaths/min and still demonstrating inspiratory and expiratory wheezes, although not as acute as they were at admission. She is maintaining an oxygen saturation of 90% to 92% on oxygen at 4 L/min via nasal cannula. She is receiving breathing treatments every six hours and but needed a prn treatment around 0300. She is receiving IV fluids of NS at 150 mL/hr and an aminophylline drip at 35 mL/hr.

As you enter the room to do your shift assessment, Ms. Barnes tells you, “I don’t know what is going on with me. I have to go to the bathroom all the time and I just can’t make it there. I am so embarrassed—I just wet myself and the bed. I can’t catch my breath when I get up plus I can’t get there fast enough with all this stuff attached to me.”

1. What should be your initial response to Ms. Barnes?
2. You identify a nursing diagnosis of Urinary incontinence, functional† for this patient. Based on the patient information, identify the defining characteristics that validate this diagnosis.

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3. She asks you, “Why do I have to go to the bathroom so much?” How would you respond?

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4. What would you expect the characteristics and specific gravity of her urine to be, considering her situation?

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5. What “at risk” nursing diagnoses might need to be addressed for this patient care situation related to the problem of functional urinary incontinence?

____________________________________________________

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A toileting schedule is created to ensure that Ms. Barnes has adequate opportunity to void, therefore preventing episodes of incontinence.

6. Due to Ms. Barnes’s dyspnea, it is decided to have her use a bedpan rather than ambulating to the bathroom. How can you make this modality comfortable for Ms. Barnes? Consider both the physiological and psychosocial aspects of voiding.

Despite the interventions for her asthma, Ms. Barnes’s respiratory status deteriorates and she is unable to use the bedpan without compromising her oxygenation status. You receive an order to insert an indwelling catheter to bedside drainage to monitor and manage her urinary output.

7. What type of catheter will you choose to use for this intervention? Why?
8. How will you prepare Ms. Barnes both physically and psychologically for this procedure?

9. Ms. Barnes states, “I have to sit straight up or I can’t catch my breath—please don’t lay me down flat.” How will this affect the catheterization procedure for this patient?

10. In reviewing the steps of catheterization, discuss why organization is key to implementation of this procedure for this patient.
11. You write a nursing order for catheter care q8h for Ms. Barnes. What aspects of this order can be delegated to the nursing assistant?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals of Catheter Care</th>
<th>Aspects That Can Be Delegated to the UAP</th>
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12. During the shift you offer to assist the assigned aide, to help Ms. Barnes to move up in the bed. The aide places Ms. Barnes flat in the bed and carefully lays the drainage bag next to her thigh so it does not get pulled on during the repositioning, as this will cause discomfort. She instructs the patient to pull her knees up to help push with her feet and on the count of 3, you and the aide, using the drawsheet, pull Ms. Barnes up in the bed. The patient is placed back in high Fowler’s position and you ensure that the call light is within reach. The patient is appreciative of this repositioning. Which aspects of this task, if any, indicate that review of this basic patient care task needs to be done with the nursing assistant? Explain.

13. Ms. Barnes’s respiratory status improves and you receive an order to remove the catheter. What equipment will you need to implement this order? With the understanding of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI), are sterile gloves indicated for this procedure? Give the rationale for your decision.
14. After 8 hours Ms. Barnes is still unable to void post-catheter removal. She does not complain of discomfort and there is no abdominal distention. What measures can you implement to facilitate voiding?

15. During the evening medication rounds, Ms. Barnes says to you, “I sure hope I don’t get an infection like I did with that catheter after my second baby was born. I was so miserable when I got home from the hospital. I know that was a long time ago but I sure do remember how miserable I was and it seems I have been prone to them ever since.” Discuss the teaching you need to implement with her in the prevention of and/or surveillance for urinary tract infections.
Bowel Elimination: Constipation

You are the nurse in the student health center on the university campus. Sasha Wilkins, a freshman student, comes into the center 2 weeks into her first semester complaining of abdominal pain and states “I don’t feel good—there is something wrong with my stomach.”

1. Construct a broad opening statement that would encourage more information regarding her complaint.

2. Sasha tells the nurse, “My stomach is so bloated—I can’t even button my jeans.” What further questions should you ask Sasha to focus on bowel functioning?
3. You need to do a focused physical assessment for bowel elimination. Explain to Sasha how you will proceed. Defer the palpation of the anus and rectum at this time.

The physical assessment reveals that Sasha has a hard, distended abdomen with hypoactive bowel sounds. Percussion and palpation reveal a hard, distended descending colon in the left lower quadrant. She is extremely embarrassed and tells you, “I haven’t gone to the bathroom in 9 days. I have tried but I just can’t go. I hate living in the dorm and sharing a bathroom—I’ve never had to do that before.”

4. Identify specific questions that would explore the factors that may be affecting bowel elimination in this particular patient. Consider all the factors a new student may encounter in a new lifestyle at college.

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<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Interview Question</th>
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<td>Privacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sufficient time</td>
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<td>Foods and fiber</td>
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<td>Dietary supplements</td>
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<td>Fluids</td>
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<td>Activity</td>
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5. A rectal exam reveals that Sasha has a fecal impaction. The primary care provider orders a 90 mL oil-retention enema for Sasha. Discuss the procedure with Sasha to allay her anxiety and concerns.
6. After an hour, Sasha reports that the enema was not successful. The primary care provider orders digital removal of the stool. How will you implement this treatment while minimizing Sasha’s embarrassment and discomfort?

7. Upon discharge from the center, Sasha needs teaching on how to promote regular defecation. Discuss the key points that need to be taught to Sasha to ensure a healthy bowel routine.
Bowel Elimination: Diarrhea

Mr. Greaves is a direct admission from his assisted care facility to the intermediate care unit with dehydration secondary to profuse diarrhea. He is awake, alert, and oriented (×3), has a low-grade fever, abdominal cramps, and diarrhea (5 to 10 watery stools a day). He tells you, “I don’t think I have gone this much in my entire life! I can’t even describe how bad my bottom feels! I was just getting over my chest infection with all those antibiotic pills.”

You receive the following orders from the primary care provider:

- Vital signs q4h while awake
- IV of lactated Ringer’s solution (LR) @ 150 mL/hr
- BRAT diet
- Stool for occult blood, O&P, and Clostridium difficile
- BR/BRP with assistance
- Skin/wound care consult

1. Which order will you implement first? Why?

2. You need to obtain a stool specimen for the ordered tests. Describe the process to complete this procedure considering Mr. Greaves’s situation.
3. The fecal occult blood test (FOBT) is done on the nursing unit. Describe the critical steps of this procedure that are necessary to ensure valid results.

4. Mr. Greaves says to you, “I think I need some medication to stop this diarrhea. Could you ask the doctor for something?” How should you respond to this question?

5. Mr. Greaves tells you, “I know this sounds crazy but I am hungry in spite of all this mess. What can you get me to eat?” Discuss the dietary order as you would for this patient.
Sensory Perception

You have received a report on the new admission to your short-term rehabilitation unit. Mrs. Ida Henson is an 81-year-old female with left hemiplegia, left-side neglect, and left visual field deficit (homonymous hemianopsia) due to a stroke. She has a history of hypertension and insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM), and she wears bilateral hearing aids.

Prior to this event she was an extremely active octogenarian, working daily as a volunteer at the local botanical gardens, driving, and “supervising” the family. Her granddaughter lovingly states, “She likes being in the middle of controlled chaos; quiet makes her nervous. She would carry on a conversation with anyone—though I doubt she could ever hear half of it despite her hearing aids.”

The transfer report includes the following nursing diagnoses for the plan of care:

• Disturbed sensory perception: auditory†
• Disturbed sensory perception: visual†

1. Discuss how this patient’s medical problems have affected the reception and perception components of the sensory experience.

† © 2012 NANDA International
2. Explore the potential impact of developmental variation and personality and lifestyle of this patient on sensory function.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Impact on Mrs. Henson’s Sensory Function</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developmental</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Personality &amp; lifestyle</td>
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</table>

3. Based on your understanding of the admission information on this patient, list the defining characteristics that would support each of the identified nursing diagnoses.

4. Is this patient at greater risk for sensory overload or sensory deprivation? Give a rationale for your decision based on an understanding of the causes and patient characteristics and situation.
5. Identify an appropriate NOC outcome and two individualized goals for this patient’s nursing diagnoses.

After several weeks Mrs. Henson is progressing toward her goals for her stroke rehabilitation. However, the physical therapy assistant reports to you, “I don’t know if it’s just fatigue or what, but she doesn’t seem to be hearing what I am telling her like she used to and I know she has her hearing aids in place.”

6. What assessments should you initiate to explore this information given to you?

It is determined that Mrs. Henson has impacted cerumen. You receive an order for carbamide peroxide (Debrox) two drops each ear bid × 3 days, to be followed by otic irrigation on day four.

7. In this facility otic irrigations are done with a rubber bulb syringe. You delegate the otic irrigation to the licensed practical nurse (LPN). What steps should this nurse be able to verbalize to you to validate her competency in this procedure?
8. The LPN reports to you a good result from the irrigation but states, “Mrs. Henson sure is complaining of dizziness now.” What does this indicate to you in your evaluation of the procedure? What remediation instruction should you give the LPN?

9. How will you evaluate successful outcomes for the otic irrigation for Mrs. Henson?

10. What generalized strategies can you put in place for the healthcare team to facilitate communication with Mrs. Henson in view of her hearing impairment and present health status?
Pain Management

Ms. Alanna Duffy, a nursing student is doing her preceptorship on the Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) dedicated medical unit. NICHE is a practice model for sensitive and exemplary care for all patients age 65 and older. NICHE supports the implementation of a variety of best practices, including prevention and management of pain (http://www.nicheprogram.org/niche_guiding_principles). Alanna has been assigned to care for the following patient:

- Mr. Robert White, 73 years old, 2 days’ post-operative for surgical decompression by laminectomy for cauda equina syndrome

Mr. White rates his pain as a 10 and is very irritable, stating, “All this questioning is aggravating; you know I have pain—just give me what the doctor ordered as often as I can have it.”

1. Formulate an appropriate response to this patient’s statement.

2. Discuss the factors that may be influencing his pain experience. You may be creative in identifying potential issues for a patient with surgery as extensive as this with a projected long recovery. Mr. White is not used to being incapacitated and dependent on others.
Alanna reviews the medication orders for pain relief and sees that Mr. White has the following:

- Morphine sulfate 2 mg IV q4h prn for severe pain rated 7 or above
- Percocet 2 tabs orally q4h prn for moderate pain rated less than 7

In the past 24 hours he has received morphine q4h for pain consistently rated at a 10. He has refused an oral medication, stating, “They won’t work. Even the shot I get doesn’t last very long.”

3. Using an SBAR format, how would you address this problem with the surgeon?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>S (Situation)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B (Background)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A (Assessment)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R (Recommendations)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The surgeon changes the pain medication orders for Mr. White, stating, “Let’s get him pain free in the next few hours, he had a pretty extensive laminectomy.” The orders read as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pain Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date/Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCA: morphine 1 mg/mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loading dose: 4 mg IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basal rate: none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand dose: 2 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockout interval: 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amitriptyline (Elavil) 50 mg orally bid, first dose now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naloxone (Narcan) 2 mg IV prn, may repeat every 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Explain each component of the PCA order.

5. Why is the naloxene an important component of these medication orders?

6. Discuss the patient teaching that Alanna will need to do with Mr. White to maximize effectiveness and safety of this method of pain control.
7. What aspects of this method of pain control can Alanna delegate to the UAP?

8. Mr. White refuses the amitriptyline, stating, “I am not depressed—I am in pain!!” How should Alanna respond to this statement?

9. Describe three interventions that Alanna can independently implement with Mr. White to enhance pain relief.
Twenty-four hours later, Mr. White is much more comfortable and has used the PCA often to obtain pain relief. The shift report includes the following information: “Mr. White has taken the maximum dosage of morphine for the shift. He doesn’t seem to be having any side effects from the morphine; I just think his pain can’t really be that bad—he just might like his drugs. I spoke to the surgical resident on call this morning and we may try using a placebo in the PCA pump and encouraging more use of oral pain medications.”

10. Alanna is uncomfortable with the intent to use a placebo drug in the PCA pump. Her preceptor asks her to explore the pros and cons of this treatment and decide if the order needs to be questioned. Discuss the use of placebos in the treatment of pain and how Alanna can best present her perspective to the surgical resident during morning rounds.

The surgeon discusses with Mr. White that the pain of this back injury and surgery may be an issue for at least a year, and he will need to schedule an appointment with the pain clinic upon discharge to facilitate full recovery. After this visit, Mr. White tells Alanna that he is afraid he won’t be able to handle it for very long and worries about completing the needed physical rehabilitation when pain is such an issue for him.

Alanna identifies a nursing diagnosis of Chronic Pain† with the following NOC outcomes:

- Pain: Disruptive effects
- Pain: Adverse Psychological Response

†© 2012 NANDA International
11. Identify two NIC interventions for each outcome and individualize them to Mr. White.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome: Pain: Disruptive effects</th>
<th>Individualized Interventions</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome: Pain: Adverse Psychological Response</th>
<th>Individualized Interventions</th>
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</table>
12. Mr. White asks Alanna, “What do you think they can do to help with the pain other than a bunch of drugs?” What nonpharmacological pain relief measures can Alanna discuss with Mr. White that may be ordered at the pain clinic?
Activity and Exercise

You have been assigned to care for Mr. Rich Tilly, a 32-year-old admitted to your short-term rehabilitation unit after a lengthy hospitalization following a bike crash that occurred during a triathlon competition. He had sustained a closed head injury resulting in a 14-day coma but is now awake, alert, and oriented. He also had fractures to the right femur and tibia and right radius. The leg fracture sites were stabilized with external fixation devices. He has a fiberglass cast on his right arm extending from his hand to his elbow. He can bend the right elbow. He is permitted no weight-bearing on the right leg. Goals of his rehabilitation include reconditioning and independence in mobility and self-care activities.

1. Due to the prolonged recovery from his head injury as well as musculoskeletal compromise, Mr. Tilly is at risk for the hazards of immobility. Discuss the system changes you should be looking for during the admission assessment. Include both a subjective (how would the patient verbalize the problem) and the objective measurements (physical assessment data) of the potential system effects. It may be helpful to reference the health assessment chapter of your textbook/laboratory book for normal and abnormal findings correlating to these system effects.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System Effects of Immobility</th>
<th>Objective Data</th>
<th>Subjective Data</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pulmonary</td>
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<td>Cardiovascular</td>
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<td>Metabolic</td>
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<td>Integumentary</td>
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<td>Gastrointestinal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genitourinary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychological</td>
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</table>
Mr. Tilly says to you during your morning assessment, “I just don’t know how I will ever recover from this—I can’t do anything for myself—I am so used to training every single day and now I can’t do anything I would call exercise. How can I get ready for all this rehab work?”

2. What type of exercise should be initiated with Mr. Tilly to regain muscle strength?

3. Mr. Tilly wants to be able to help himself reposition in the bed telling you, “I am either stuck in one spot or sliding down in the bed. I want to be able to move myself instead of asking the staff to help me.” Keeping his injuries and treatment methods (external fixation and casting) in mind, what kind of positioning devices would be appropriate for him to use?

After completion of admission protocols the physiatrist writes the following orders:

- OOB to chair for all meals, no weight-bearing to right leg
- May ambulate to bathroom with assistance, instruct in use of walker

4. Mr. Tilly wants to get out of the bed as soon as possible. You sit him on the side of the bed but he complains of being “woozy and nauseated.” What is happening to him and how will you intervene?
5. How could you have assessed for the potential of this event occurring in this patient?

6. In consideration of the methods available to transfer patients out of bed, which method would be best to implement for Mr. Tilly at this time? Give a rationale for your decision.

7. Discuss the proper body mechanics that are imperative to safe patient care and transfers in any situation.

A week after admission Mr. Tilly is progressing slowly in his rehabilitation. He has verbalized frustration at his inability to ambulate freely. He states, “I just don’t know
if I am ever going to get better and some days don’t even feel like trying.” He has difficulty walking the required distances due to his musculoskeletal impairment and fatigue and has resorted to using a BSC instead of using the bathroom with assistance.

8. Formulate two nursing diagnoses, using a three-part format, that reflect the present issues being experienced by Mr. Tilly.

9. For each nursing diagnosis, identify the two most appropriate NOC outcomes for this patient. Develop an individualized goal for each that reflect the uniqueness of Mr. Tilly’s present situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>NOC Outcome</th>
<th>Goals/The Patient Will:</th>
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<tbody>
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10. Using NIC interventions, formulate three appropriate nursing interventions to facilitate the goal of activity tolerance and endurance that are individualized to Mr. Tilly’s present health status.

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11. At the sixth week of his recovery, the cast on his right arm is removed after diagnostic radiology shows that the fracture to the right radius has fully healed. The wrist and hand joints are very stiff and weak, and he is encouraged to move them as much as possible. Describe the aspects of range of motion of those joints that you should teach Mr. Tilly to do to facilitate a full return of function in that extremity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joint</th>
<th>Range of Motion/Exercises</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wrist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hands/fingers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thumb</td>
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</table>

12. Gaining strength in the arm has been a positive enforcer for his recovery. He asks you, “Why can’t I have a pair of crutches instead of that walker to help me get around?” Using an SBAR format, how would you address this with the physiatrist?
13. Describe how you would teach Mr. Tilly to use crutches. What are the safety concerns you should address with him in the use of this modality?
Sexual Health

As a cardiac rehabilitation nurse, you have been working with Mr. Fred Cavanaugh. He had an episode of sudden cardiac death due to dysrhythmias 2 months ago and received an implantable defibrillator. He is also taking amiodarone (Cordarone) to suppress ventricular irritability. He is progressing well in his rehabilitation. His wife accompanies him to all his visits to help facilitate success at home. Mr. Cavanaugh lovingly refers to his wife as “the warden,” stating, “She keeps me in line but she will help me stay healthy. We’ve been together over 45 years. I couldn’t do without her.” In confidence Mrs. Cavanaugh discloses to you that her husband is worried about being unable “to perform.”

1. Discuss how you would explore Mrs. Cavanaugh’s concerns using the guidelines for taking a sexual history.
2. Formulate three open-ended questions to obtain more information regarding the nature of this concern. Examples:

In the history, Mrs. Cavanaugh tells you that her husband is still struggling with depression regarding his cardiac event and change in lifestyle. She tells you, “They have given him escitalopram [Lexapro] for it and it has helped him feel better about everything but still he isn’t back to normal. I miss our close times.”

3. Discuss the health and illness factors that may be affecting Mr. Cavanaugh’s sexuality.

4. You identify a nursing diagnosis of Sexual Dysfunction† related to altered body function with the NOC outcome being Sexual Functioning. Identify two individualized outcomes for Mr. Cavanaugh.

5. The suggested NIC intervention is sexual counseling. Formulate the dialogue you could initiate using the first two steps of the PLISSIT model (P-LI).

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During the counseling session, Mr. Cavanaugh states, “I never had any problems until this heart problem, and it got even worse when they started giving me this pill for my depression. What good is feeling better if it interferes with how I function?”

6. How would you respond to his concern?

7. Using the SBAR format, how would you communicate this concern to the primary care provider?

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<th>S (Situation)</th>
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<th>B (Background)</th>
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<th>A (Assessment)</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>R (Recommendations)</th>
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</thead>
</table>
8. The primary care provider orders a trial of sildenafil (Viagra) for Mr. Cavanaugh. Discuss the patient teaching that needs to be completed in regard to facilitating a normal sexual response.

A physical therapist assistant student has been shadowing you at the cardiac rehabilitation center. She says to you, “I thought once you got old, sex wasn’t really a concern anymore.”

9. How would you address this comment from an understanding of developmental stage in aging adults?

In addition she says, “I would be hesitant to discuss this kind of stuff with patients. How do you handle some of the off-color comments that are often expressed? I know it’s more insecurity than personal but it would really upset me.”

10. What would you tell this student in regard to dealing with inappropriate sexual behavior that may be encountered in a healthcare setting?
Sleep and Rest

This week in clinical Damita is assigned to care for Mr. Henry McAllister, who is recovering from an acute myocardial infarction (MI). It was found that severe sleep apnea contributed to his cardiac event. He is recovering well from his MI but is now on a CPAP machine at night to help with his sleep apnea. The CPAP treatment requires that a snug-fitting mask be worn over the nose and mouth during the night. The patient has found it difficult to get used to wearing the mask. Damita visits the patient the evening of her clinical preparation and the patient tells her, “I don’t think I am ever going to get any sleep wearing this thing. I am so drowsy during the day and I can’t even think straight. I am so overwhelmingly tired. I feel like I am going to suffocate even though I know it is helping me. It’s hard enough to get any rest in the hospital without adding this to it all. I miss the simple things that helped me to sleep at night like my music and my air conditioner running.”

1. What did the patient mean by “It’s hard enough to get any rest in the hospital”? 

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276  Unit 4  |  Supporting Physiological Functioning

2. What data from this short interaction validate a nursing diagnosis of Disturbed Sleep Pattern?†

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3. In addition, the patient tells Damita, “I know that I had a pretty big heart attack but ever since I've gotten treatment I been having weird dreams—almost like nightmares.” How should Damita explore this comment? What could be the potential etiology of this aspect of the patient’s insomnia?

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In preparation for her clinical day, Damita develops a plan of care to facilitate restful sleep for this patient. She identifies the following nursing interventions to promote sleep:

- Sleep Enhancement
- Environmental Management: Comfort

4. For each of the following interventions used to promote sleep, write a nursing action that individualizes it to this patient’s care situation:

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5. She adds to the interventions “back massage daily at HS.” Considering this patient’s status, is this an appropriate intervention at this time? Why or why not?

6. The patient inquires about the possibility of “getting a pill to help me sleep.” Using the SBAR format, construct the dialogue for use with the primary care provider. Consider all the data Damita has collected regarding the patient’s history/experience of MI and from her conversation with the patient the evening of her preparation work.

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<th>S (Situation)</th>
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<tr>
<th>R (Recommendations)</th>
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7. How can Damita best measure the quality of sleep for this patient after implementation of the nursing interventions?
Skin Integrity

Marya, a first-semester nursing student, will be doing a rotation with Francis Obermyer, RN CWCN, one of the nurses on the wound care team at the hospital. Francis is a certified wound care nurse. In preparation for the rotation she was provided with the following census printout for some of the patients that Francis will be rounding on the following day. Marya will have the opportunity to do wound assessments as well as the indicated interventions for wound care.
1. For each of the patients, discuss the factors that could be affecting their skin integrity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Primary &amp; Secondary Medical Diagnoses</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Wound Type</th>
<th>Dressing Type</th>
<th>Treatment Orders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Diabetic ketoacidosis; renal insufficiency, diabetic neuropathy</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Diabetic foot ulcer, left great toe (arterial ulcer)</td>
<td>Gauze</td>
<td>Wet-to-moist saline dressing bid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Deep vein thrombosis (DVT), right leg, peripheral vascular disease, hypertension</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>Venous stasis ulcer, left lateral malleolus</td>
<td>Alginate</td>
<td>Alginate dressing daily, Irrigate wound with NSS with each dressing change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Colon cancer, s/p exploratory laparotomy with hemicolecotomy, morbid obesity</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Surgical incision with staples</td>
<td>Gauze Penrose drain</td>
<td>Advance Penrose drain 6 mm daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Urosepsis, dementia, cachexia, hypertension, coronary artery disease, incontinence (bladder &amp; bowel)</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Pressure ulcer (coccyx)</td>
<td>New admission—to be determined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Factors** | **Impact on Skin Integrity** | **Patient(s) Affected**
--- | --- | ---
Age-related |  |  |
Mobility |  |  |
Nutrition/hydration |  |  |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Impact on Skin Integrity</th>
<th>Patient(s) Affected</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sensation/cognition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Circulation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Medications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moisture on skin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contamination/infection</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifestyle</td>
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2. For the first three patients, what are the expected characteristics of the type of wound for each that the student can anticipate finding when the dressings are changed during the day’s rounds?
3. Explain why the dressing ordered for each wound is appropriate to the situation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Wound Type</th>
<th>Expected Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Diabetic foot ulcer, left great toe (arterial)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Venous stasis ulcer, left lateral malleous</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Surgical incision with staples</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wound Type</th>
<th>Dressing</th>
<th>Rationale for Ordered Dressing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diabetic foot ulcer, left great toe (arterial)</td>
<td>Gauze</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Alginate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical incision with staples</td>
<td>Gauze</td>
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</table>

4. How will Marya know what/how much dressing materials will be needed for each type of dressing?

5. When planning for implementation of these wound care procedures, what are the commonalities of procedural steps in readying the patients for the dressing change?
6. Marya plans to use a gown and face shield for each of the ordered treatments. Is doing so appropriate to the procedures? Give a rationale for your decision.

The day’s rounds begin with a visit to the post-operative patient. The dressing needs to be changed and the Penrose drain advanced 6 mm per physician orders. This is the first time that the Penrose drain order will be implemented.

7. What equipment will be needed to implement the order?

8. The patient has Montgomery straps holding the dressings covering the Penrose drain. What is the purpose of these straps?

9. The patient is extremely apprehensive about “anyone pulling on something sticking out of me.” Describe how Marya should explain the procedure to the patient.

The next dressing procedure involves irrigation of the wound and placement of the alginate dressing.

10. How should the patient be positioned to complete the irrigation?
11. What would signify that the alginate dressing is no longer indicated as treatment for this type of wound?

The last patient to be seen this morning is the new admission with the pressure ulcer on the coccyx area. This patient’s Braden score shows 1’s for sensory perception, moisture, activity, mobility, and friction and shear. No information is available regarding nutritional intake.

12. What other information can be used to determine the nutritional status of this patient? Consider the laboratory and diagnostic data found on the patient’s chart.

13. Assessment of the wound reveals the following characteristics: oval wound 10 cm length × 7.5 cm width, maceration, erythema, edema, and large amount of slough noted. To help with débridement of the wound, Marya orders a wet-to-dry dressing to be changed bid for 2 days. Why is this dressing indicated, and why is it limited to 2 days?

14. The wound care nurse assesses the student’s technique in placing the wet-to-dry gauze dressing into the pressure wound. She notes that Marya spends extra time pulling the gauze apart to expand its bulk before placing it into the wound instead of using the gauze pads as packaged. What should be the wound care nurse’s critique concerning this step of the procedure?
15. Describe the most appropriate method to secure this dressing in place. What factors did you consider in making your decision regarding securing the dressing?

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16. Prevention of further pressure wounds is important in the care of this patient. Using the available patient data and the present situation, according to the decision-making tree for management of tissue loads, which type of support service is indicated for this patient?

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17. A diagnosis of Impaired Tissue Integrity† is identified for this patient. How do the defining characteristics of this diagnosis differentiate it from a diagnosis of Impaired Skin Integrity?

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18. The NOC outcome of Wound Healing, Secondary Intention is chosen and the NIC interventions address pressure ulcer care. In review of the individualized interventions appropriate to this problem, which interventions can be delegated to the unlicensed assistive personnel?
The senior students are participating in an outreach program to enhance the pulmonary health of the community. They are involved in two aspects of the program, prevention/teaching, and symptom surveillance and diagnostic testing for infectious pulmonary diseases with referral as indicated.

In preparation for their work the instructor asks them to study the following entities in pulmonary disease: upper respiratory infection, influenza, pneumonia, and tuberculosis. The common pathological processes in these diseases include inflammation, infection, production of secretions, and compromised oxygenation.

Every person visiting the program has the following assessments done:

- Health history: assessment of risk factors inclusive of any smoking history
- Vital signs and pulse oximetry
- Pulmonary assessment: breathing pattern/effort, lung sounds, and presence/absence of cough

1. The nurse at the outreach program says to the students, “We get a lot of older adults coming for appointments; they have developmental changes that put them at risk for many pulmonary problems.” Discuss what the nurse meant by this statement.
The first visitor the students see is Mr. Eli King, a 67-year-old male requesting help with smoking cessation. He tells the students, “I know I need to quit especially since I have gotten this cough in the last week that brings up so much phlegm. Some days I feel so rotten—almost like I am taking a chest cold. I have been smoking two packs a day for 50 years.”

2. Formulate three questions to elicit further information regarding this patient’s complaint.

3. The student is having difficulty obtaining a pulse oximetry reading using the patient’s left index finger. Discuss strategies to use to ensure accurate readings.

4. The protocol for the program is to obtain a sputum specimen for any patient complaint of productive cough. How will you instruct the patient to obtain this specimen?
5. Discuss the teaching that is needed for this patient to enhance the mobilization of his secretions that he can do at home.

6. What aspects of smoking cessation can be addressed at this visit and which ones need to be referred?

The next patient is a mother with three children. She is concerned regarding prevention of common respiratory problems during the upcoming winter months; she is particularly concerned about the flu. The youngest child, a 3-year-old, is in day care, the middle child in the 4th grade, and the eldest will be starting college in the fall.

7. What simple modality can you teach the parent and children to help prevent the spread of infection? How would you approach the teaching for each of the children based on age? Take into consideration the place and time constraints of the program.
8. Using the NOC outcome of Respiratory Management with the NIC intervention of Promoting Optimal Respiratory Functioning, what key points should the students address with this parent in regard to preventative strategies for influenza?

This day the program also is doing follow-up readings for purified protein derivative (PPD) tests administered 3 days ago.

9. This test screens for what respiratory infection?

10. Develop three questions to ask patients to determine possible exposure risk to this disease.

11. The nurse laughingly says to the students, “The best nurse for this job is a blind nurse.” Why is this comment applicable to the reading of the PPDs?
Despite intervention, a week later the students learn that Mr. King was admitted to the hospital with a diagnosis of community-acquired bacterial pneumonia. He requires oxygen therapy and chest physiotherapy. One of the outreach program nurses does a follow-up visit to Mr. King and two of the students accompany him on this visit. Mr. King tells the nurse, “It seems all that junk was just pneumonia after all. The worst of it is in my right lung. They are giving me medicine in my IV and this oxygen helps though I hate having this tubing all over my head and in my nose.”

12. Mr. King is receiving oxygen therapy at 2 L/min via nasal cannula prn to keep $O_2$ saturation greater than 94%. The primary nurse has identified a nursing diagnosis of Risk for Impaired skin integrity.† Why is this applicable to this patient’s situation? Relate the defining characteristics of the diagnosis to your answer.

13. The patient asks, “Can I take this oxygen tubing off to go to the bathroom?” What is the appropriate response to this question? What variables will drive your response?
14. The respiratory therapy technician comes in to do chest physiotherapy with Mr. King. To best clear the secretions from the middle and lower lobes of his right lung, what positions should be used to facilitate success of secretion mobilization and removal?

15. The primary diagnosis for Mr. King is Impaired gas exchange† related to alveolar-capillary membrane changes secondary to inflammation and infection. The NOC outcome is Respiratory Status: Gas Exchange. Individualize patient outcomes for Mr. King.

16. Mr. King asks the nurse for “help staying away from cigarettes when I get home.” Using an SBAR format, how should the nurse address this issue with the primary care provider?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S (Situation)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B (Background)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A (Assessment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>R (Recommendations)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

† © 2012 NANDA International
Mr. Theodore Jeffers is a 73-year-old admitted to the progressive coronary care unit with a diagnosis of atypical chest pain and congestive heart failure. He has a history of acute myocardial infarction, deep vein thrombosis, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and gouty arthritis. He reports “spasm-like” chest pain over his breastbone and difficulty “catching my breath.” His admission data includes the following:

- Chest pain rated as a 4 on a scale of 1 to 10; states, “It feels like my heart is clenching like a fist—I am not sure I can call it pain.”
- BP: 172/100 – 102 – 30
- Temperature: 99.2°F
- O₂ saturation: 90% on room air
- Lungs: fine crackles throughout all lung fields
- Heart sounds with S₃ present
- 4+ pitting edema, decreased peripheral pulses bilaterally, feet cool to touch
- Height: 72 inches; Weight: 231#; BMI: 31.3

1. Mr. Jeffers is placed on continuous cardiac monitoring. As the primary nurse, what are your responsibilities in the care of a patient requiring this type of monitoring?
2. For the patient with cardiac dysrhythmias, what is the nursing diagnosis that drives the prioritization of care? Is this the correct diagnosis for this patient? Why or why not?

3. The NOC outcome that is determined for Mr. Jeffers is cardiac pump effectiveness. Based on Mr. Jeffers’s status, write four individualized expected outcomes that will demonstrate resolution of the diagnosis.

4. Mr. Jeffers tells you during the morning assessment, “I know I have had this happen before but I think I just might die this time around.” How should you respond to this statement?
5. As the day progresses, Mr. Jeffers becomes confused. Based on your understanding of oxygenation and perfusion, what is the probable etiology of this change in status?

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6. Mr. Jeffers is a “full code.” If he should need resuscitation, can you legally and ethically delegate basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to unlicensed assistive personnel within the hospital setting? Give a rationale for your response.

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Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Balance

As a senior student you are assigned to work with a preceptor in the Emergency Department. It is a very busy day and it seems as if every patient, regardless of chief complaint, has an issue with fluid, electrolyte, and/or acid-base balance.

The first patient you see is a 37-year-old landscaper who is brought to the ED after collapsing on a job at the local country club. He is slightly confused but is able to tell you he feels dizzy and weak. His skin is flushed, dry, and with poor turgor. He has dry, sticky mucous membranes. The nurse identifies a nursing diagnosis of deficient fluid volume.

1. Describe how each of the following would change and the rationale for the change in the presence of deficient fluid volume:
   - Heart rate
   - Blood pressure
   - Serum hematocrit
   - Urinary output
   - Urine specific gravity
   - Weight
2. What is usually the first indicator that an individual needs more fluids?

3. The ED physician orders IV fluids for this patient. What types of fluids are indicated for a fluid volume deficit due to dehydration?

The preceptor tells you to go ahead and initiate an IV site and start the fluids. The fluid order is to start 1000 mL of fluid as ordered at 150 mL/hr. The infusion tubing has a drop factor of 15 gtt/mL.

4. This infusion will run by gravity rather than an infusion pump. How many drops per minute should you time the infusion at to ensure the correct hourly rate?

5. What factors should you be concerned about that may compromise the gravity infusion rate? How will you intervene for these factors?
6. The patient has a “full sleeve” tattoo on both arms. Discuss the implications of this finding and how you will initiate the intravenous site.

7. You have difficulty finding a vein in the presence of the deficient fluid volume. What strategies can you employ to help make a vein more visible/palpable?

8. Considering the diagnosis, patient presentation, and fluid orders, what size catheter is indicated in this situation? Give a rationale for your choice.
After 30 minutes of the infusion, the patient states, “My arm where the needle is feels funny.” What should you do first? What further data do you need from the patient?

Several hours later the patient is feeling better and is now oriented × 3. The ED physician wants the patient to be drinking oral fluids without difficulty prior to being discharged from the ED.

Discuss the strategies to increase fluid intake that are most appropriate to this setting.

The patient is discharged after adequate hydration. Discharge teaching includes ways to prevent this from happening again on the job. What key points should the nurse include in the teaching applicable to the job site?

The next patient is a 67-year-old patient who presents with a chief complaint: “I can’t sleep at night—I can’t lie down, I get so out of breath.” She is sitting in high Fowler’s position on the exam table. She has a history of heart problems. She is diagnosed with acute exacerbation of congestive heart failure, and you identify a nursing diagnosis of Fluid Volume Excess (FVE).†

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12. What is the term you should use to document the patient’s chief complaint regarding her breathing?

13. Besides the respiratory difficulty exhibited by the patient, what manifestation of FVE may be immediately visible on assessment?

The physician gives the following orders: (You may need to review your drug resources to help you understand the medication orders.)

- D5LR at 100 mL/hr
- Use infusion pump
- Furosemide (Lasix) 80 mg IV now
- Potassium citrate (K-Lyte) 10 mEq orally now and q4h × 2 doses
- O₂ 2–5 LPM to keep O₂ sat greater than 92%

14. Which order should the nurse question? Why?

15. Over the course of 4 hours the patient has a weight loss of 11 pounds. This represents how much fluid loss?

The patient was admitted to the facility and after 2 days is ready for discharge. Discharge orders include a low-sodium (2000 mg/day) diet and a fluid restriction of 1500 mL/day.

16. Describe the key information that the patient needs to know to follow these instructions.
Another patient is brought to the Emergency Department by a neighbor who noticed her sitting, confused, on her front steps. The patient is a 24-year-old female and unable to give a valid history at this time. Admission data include the following:

- Neurological: Confused
- Pulmonary: Respirations 28 breaths/min and shallow, lungs clear
- Cardiovascular: Irregular rapid pulse, ECG shows flattened T waves
- Gastrointestinal: Hypoactive bowel sounds
- Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness

17. The preceptor identifies a nursing diagnosis of Risk for decreased cardiac output related to electrolyte imbalance. What is the electrolyte imbalance that is being presented by this patient?

18. What is the specific NOC outcome for this electrolyte imbalance? Identify two expected outcomes for this patient.

19. In light of the patient’s confusion, what medication order can you anticipate from the ED physician to correct this electrolyte problem? What are your responsibilities in the implementation of the orders?
Due to a bed shortage, the patient remains in the ED for treatment for the next 12 hours. At that time her confusion has cleared and her apical pulse is now regular though still somewhat tachycardic at 102 beats/min. She tells you that she had been using her grandmother’s “water pills” to help her lose weight.

20. What is the significance of this information?

21. It is decided to discharge her home with instructions regarding dietary intake to ensure good serum levels of the compromised electrolyte. What foods should be included in these instructions?

A patient presents to the ED a diagnosis of exacerbation of Crohn’s disease with malabsorption syndrome. He is also severely dehydrated from the excessive diarrhea associated with the disease. A concurrent concern is hypocalcemia.

22. What subjective data would you expect to gain from the patient that describe symptoms of hypocalcemia?

23. Describe how you would assess for hypocalcemia in this setting.

24. Your preceptor tells you, “Keep an eye on his breathing, okay?” What is the significance of this directive?
Hospitalization is required for this patient for stabilization and treatment of both the hypocalcemia and the exacerbation of his disease. At discharge orders, include oral calcium supplements and/or a diet high in calcium.

25. What is the best dietary source of calcium? What additional dietary supplement is necessary for adequate calcium absorption?

26. Discuss alternative dietary choices for the patient who states, “I don’t like milk products. I am lactose intolerant.”

The last patient you see today presents to the ED with a complaint of chest tightness, tingling in the hands, and headache. He has noticeable trembling of the hands. He tells you, “I swear I think I am having a heart attack!” His vital signs are BP 162/88 – 104 – 32 and afebrile. The ED physician orders laboratory work including cardiac panel, chemistry panel, CBC, and arterial blood gases (ABGs). He tells you “I think he is having an anxiety attack.”

27. What would you anticipate the ABG results to be (disorder and values) if this diagnosis is correct?

28. What is the most appropriate nursing diagnosis, NOC outcome, and NIC intervention for this acid-base disorder?

29. How would you assist the patient to compensate for this acid-base disorder?
Hillary Hockenberry has been a nurse for 4 years in a long-term care facility. Recently, the position of unit manager has become available and she is considering applying for it. Peers have encouraged her to consider doing so and have commented, “You are a born leader and manager and will do really well in the position.” Hillary Hockenberry is now asking herself the following questions:

- Am I ready for a position like this?
- What management skills will I need to be a good unit manager?
- What are the rewards and challenges to a management position?

She seeks input from both the former unit manager, who is now the assistant director of nursing (ADON), whom she views as a mentor, as well as the preceptor whom she originally worked with as a new graduate.
1. The preceptor states, “You’ve got good management skills—they are often inherent in what every nurse does in managing the care of patients.” Discuss what the preceptor means by this statement.

<table>
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<th>Qualities</th>
<th>Examples Inherent in Nursing Practice</th>
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2. Discuss the qualities and behaviors of followership that could be beneficial when moving into a leadership role.

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3. The ADON states, “The biggest challenge of management is juggling the needs of patients with the needs of the organization.” What does the ADON mean by this statement in light of the economic climate and the nursing labor market?

Hillary accepts the position, and 6 months into her role as unit manager she was asked to follow up on survey results indicating insufficient staffing to help feed patients at mealtimes, especially the breakfast meal. The majority of residents on the unit need assistance with feeding, from setting up trays to needing to be fed. On the 30-bed unit, the ratio of staff to residents is 1:10 inclusive of licensed and unlicensed personnel. Meals are encouraged to be taken in the dining room, but traditionally, the majority of residents in this unit eat in their rooms. A strategy must be implemented to ensure that feeding/nutritional needs are met for the unit’s residents.

4. One staff member says, “You’ve got the power to change this so do it.” Looking at the sources of power, how should Hillary respond to this statement?
5. How would each of the following behavioral theories be reflected in the leadership styles and implementation of strategies toward resolution of this problem?
   a. Behavioral Theory
   b. Task vs. Relationship
   c. Emotional Intelligence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theory</th>
<th>Styles</th>
<th>Example of Discussion for Identification of a Strategy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral</td>
<td>Dependent on the type of leadership style used by the unit manager:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Authoritarian; Autocratic/controlling/directive (individual &quot;top down&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>decision making; decision made and &quot;orders&quot; given) on how it is to be</td>
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<td></td>
<td>implemented, without group input; can be punitive or rewarding depending</td>
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<td>on situation; efficient method of decision making, and can lead to</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>high-quality/-quantity output.</td>
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</table>
6. In this situation describe how both the transformational leadership style and the transactional leadership style could be used to address this problem. Consider in your discussion whether there is a place for both types in any given situation.

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<tr>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>Participative; sharing of ideas, planning, and outcomes of a new strategy; less efficient but facilitates creativity and motivation within the staff; outcome tends to be high quality</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Laissez-faire</td>
<td>Permissive or nondirective; high degree of frustration because there is no goal, guidance, or direction and everyone does their own thing, but the outcomes are expected to be the same; no decision-making from the leader</td>
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</table>

**Task vs. Relationship**

- Leadership style is either focused on the tasks to be done or the “happiness” of the workforce, regardless of outcomes. Balance is needed between the two aspects to ensure that needs are being met for both the implementers (staff) and the outcomes (patient/institutional).

**Emotional Intelligence**

- Constant surveillance for how work/expectations/new strategies affect individuals and teams and how they feel about their work in terms of support, caring, and enthusiasm

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**Emotional Intelligence**

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It is decided that a new dining process will be implemented throughout the facility. All residents will be transported to the dining room for all meals unless contraindicated by health status. Residents/families are in support of this strategy, as it appears it will both ensure that residents are fed and encourage socialization of all residents, regardless of their cognitive level of functioning. All staff will be present in the dining room to assist with meal/feeding needs.

7. Identify possible factors within the three major sources that will cause resistance to change and implementation of this strategy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Resistance to Change</th>
<th>Possible Factors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychosocial needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Threats to position/power</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

8. What kind of actions/behaviors might you see in both your licensed and unlicensed personnel that indicate resistance to the change?
9. For each of the following comments that were made by staff members in resisting the change to the new dining process, write a response that reflects the four approaches to lowering resistance to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Resistance to Change</th>
<th>Examples of Actions/Behaviors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active</td>
<td>Passive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical concerns</td>
<td>Regardless of the source, active resistance is expressed directly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychosocial needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Threats to position/power</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions/Behaviors</th>
<th>Possible Comment Based on Strategy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commanding</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;I am not going to do this—it creates too much work for everyone.&quot;</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions/Behaviors</th>
<th>Possible Comment Based on Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“It is not my job to do the nurse aide work here.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Mrs. Smith doesn’t want to go to the dining room in the morning and I don’t want to upset her by making her do this.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“I couldn’t get the residents in the last four rooms to the dining room. I ran out of time so I am just going to get their breakfast meal to them in their rooms.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Sorry I didn’t help with the feedings. I got tied up giving medications down the back hall.”</td>
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</table>
Change is difficult for most organizations and their way of doing things. Look at the strategy to be implemented in the dining process. Implementing the change requires an understanding of the characteristics of the change.

10. Discuss each of the characteristics of this change in regard to the new dining process:
   - Magnitude of the change
   - Complexity of the change
   - Pace of the change
   - Stress level of those involved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Dining Process</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magnitude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complexity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pace</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stress level</td>
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</table>

11. How will Hillary, as the unit manager, evaluate the integration of the change?
After several months, conflict has arisen between the UAP of the skilled care unit and those on the custodial care/assisted living unit regarding feeding responsibilities during the meals. The UAP are very territorial regarding “their” residents and do not feel that they should have to assist other residents in the dining room since “their people” are there to help them. Due to the higher acuity of the skilled unit residents, they require more assistance with feeding than those who are more independent from the custodial/assisted living unit. The UAP from the assisted living unit feel that they should not have to “pick up the slack” with feeding needs of the residents from the other unit. As the unit manager, Hillary needs to resolve this conflict for optimal resident outcomes.

12. Using the steps of conflict resolution, how should the unit manager work through this problem?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identify the problem</th>
<th>Generate possible solutions</th>
<th>Evaluate suggested solutions</th>
<th>Choose the best solution</th>
<th>Implement the solution</th>
<th>Evaluate—is the problem resolved?</th>
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</table>

12. Using the steps of conflict resolution, how should the unit manager work through this problem?
13. Discuss how time management may be an important component in the integration of the dining process when one staff member says, "I can’t help feed residents when all I can think about is that I have to administer medications and complete the treatments on my 30 residents." Consider the suggestions for time management. Discuss which ones may be helpful in this situation.
Informatics

A new nurse is being oriented to the clinic’s computer system that includes the electronic health records as well as support programs that provide information needed in clinical decision-making. Examples include medication/pharmacology information, standardized nursing languages, and search engines for finding and validating best practices for nursing. It also provides an avenue for communication via electronic mail and synchronous modes with other users of the system. One of the members of the class remarks, “This is great—instead of ‘paint by numbers’ I have ‘patient care by numbers.’ All this information tells us exactly what, when, and how to do our job.”

1. Dispute this statement using the definition and elements of informatics as well as how these elements are integrative to the use of the nursing process.

2. Computers provide many avenues for communication within the context of nursing practice. The uses of these modalities are limited only by your imagination. For each of the types of electronic communication, list how this new nurse (and yourself as a nursing student) could use these methods to enhance your education and your practice. Be creative—some of
the uses may already be in place or you may very well design a new use for it within the profession.

- Electronic mail
- Text messaging
- Web conferencing
- Webinars
- Electronic mail (Listserv)
- Social networking
- Telehealth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>Example of Present Use</th>
<th>Potential Uses: Practice/Education</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic mail</td>
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<td>Text messaging</td>
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<td>Webinars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electron mail list (Listserv)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social networking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telehealth</td>
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After being trained on the computer system, the new graduate is using the system to update a patient’s EHR with data gathered during a follow-up clinic visit for a previously diagnosed viral infection. The patient asks the nurse, “Does all this computer work make your life easier or more complicated? I worry about people getting to my records—you know you hear all this stuff about people hacking into government systems.”

3. Based on the benefits and ethical use of EHRs, give an appropriate response to this patient’s concerns.
The patient further tells the nurse, “I really like my computer at home because there is so much information on it. I feel like I have a second doctor whenever I need one. In fact, I came across some great information on how to get rid of this infection after the doctor decided I didn’t need a prescription at the last visit.” The patient gives the nurse a printout from a Web site recommending colloidal silver as a home remedy for viral infections.

4. What simple instruction should the nurse give this patient regarding the credibility of Web sites?

5. Complete a Web search on the use of colloidal silver for viral infections. Critique three sites for the following characteristics:
   • Authority
   • Currency
   • Purpose
   • Content quality
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Content</th>
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6. Summarize your perspective on the authenticity of information found regarding this topic. How would you best use this information in your clinical decision-making?
Holism

Dr. Dale, a university professor, is a 67-year-old man in for his annual examination. He has no medical issues but mentions to the nurse that he feels he doesn’t sleep as well as he could. He states that he usually goes to bed around 2100, sleeps only about 2 to 3 hours at a time, and is usually up by 0400 each morning. The nighttime awakenings are described as “abrupt,” and he says he must work to “put myself back to sleep.” Although the quantity of sleep seems sufficient for him, he verbalizes the desire for “more peaceful and longer” sleep. In the past he has tried prescriptive sleep aids but had unpleasant effects including disorientation and sluggishness. He runs 8 miles each morning and participates in a yoga class two evenings a week. The yoga instructor suggested exploring complementary and alternative modalities (CAM) and a more holistic approach for self-care.

1. Does Dr. Dale fit the composite of a patient who would use CAM? Why or why not?
For this patient, the nurse identifies the following diagnoses: Readiness for enhanced sleep.†

2. From the situation, identify the defining characteristics that validate this diagnosis for this patient.

3. Identify two NOC outcomes for the diagnosis.

4. What is the major intervention pertinent to the outcomes that link well with holistic care?

Dr. Dale agrees with the diagnosis and states a desire to find therapy/therapies that best integrate with his lifestyle and his own philosophy of self-driven wellness. He states, “I don’t want any of that touchy-feely stuff or needles put everywhere.” He recognizes the need for traditional medicine but wants interventions that address all spheres of humanness: physical, emotional, cultural, and spiritual.

5. Which two categories of healing modalities would best fit with this patient’s life perspective? Explain your choices.
6. Describe to Dr. Dale each of the different interventions listed under the two healing modalities previously identified and how they might be used to enhance sleep. Choose three interventions that would be applicable for this patient situation. Give a rationale for each one of your chosen interventions.

7. The patient asks you, “Do you believe in these therapies or use them yourself?” Based on your own life situation how would you respond to this question and best support these interventions for the patient?
Health Promotion

A group of students in a nursing research course have been working in a concurrent course with geriatric patients at a local independent-living senior center. The individuals whom they have been interacting with are active seniors but have indicated a desire to “feel better” and be “more active.”

1. Does this situation represent health promotion or health protection? Why?

2. What level of prevention would be represented by programs to meet these desired outcomes?

As part of a research project, the students have decided to implement a program of wellness to see if it meets the needs of this group of individuals. The center is supportive of introducing modalities to promote wellness in this population.
Using Pender’s Health Promotion Model, what could be the group’s perceived benefits of action (positive or reinforcing consequences of undertaking a health behavior) as well as perceived barriers to action (perceptions of blocks, hurdles, and personal costs of undertaking a health behavior) within this setting?

What types of health promotion programs (the intervention) could be implemented in this setting? Give examples of what your group could do within the identified types that will address the issue to “feel better” and be “more active.”
5. Describe the parts of a health promotion assessment.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Description/Pertinence to a Wellness Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health history</td>
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<td>Physical examination</td>
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<td>Fitness assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifestyle/risk appraisal</td>
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<td>Stress review</td>
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<td>Analysis of health beliefs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutritional assessment</td>
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<td>Screening activities</td>
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</table>

6. For this group of participants, the majority of information can be found in their EHR associated with the facility. Rank (1 being the greatest and 8 being the least) the pertinence of the information to the development and implementation of a flexibility and balance program (changing lifestyle and behavior) that will be the first step in a comprehensive activity program for this group. Give a rationale for how you ranked the components.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<tr>
<td>Health history</td>
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<td>Physical examination</td>
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<td>Screening activities</td>
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</table>
7. Identify two wellness diagnoses and an NOC standardized outcome with a specific participant outcome for each diagnosis.

8. Provide a generalized NIC wellness intervention for each diagnosis.

9. Discuss how role modeling, providing health education, and providing and facilitating support for lifestyle change can each be implemented to meet the desired outcomes for this group.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Implementation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Role modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for lifestyle change</td>
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</table>
Mr. Bane Ka’uhane is a 66-year-old male admitted to the surgical unit with a diagnosis of abdominal mass. He has been complaining of vague symptoms for the past 3 months. These symptoms include intermittent indigestion, abdominal pain, and constipation. His medical history includes COPD, PVD, and insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus. He takes the following medications at home:

- Prednisone (Sterapred) 10 mg PO daily
- Insulin glargine (Lantus) 24 units SQ at 2200
- Ipratropium (Atrovent) inhaler 2 puffs QID
- ASA (Ecotrin) 81 mg PO daily

The nursing assessment/history done on admission includes the following data:

Objective data:

- Wt/Ht: 213# 70 inches
- VS: BP 140/88 – 84 – 20 – 97.8
- Lungs: clear with intermittent expiratory wheeze left lower base
Subjective:
- “I’m coming in to find out what’s going on in my belly.”
- “I’m sure it’s something fixable.”
- “I don’t want my wife to worry about me; I am not sure she is going to be able to handle all of this.”
- “I keep my sugar pretty well normal. My breathing problems give me more trouble.”

Mr. Ka’uhane is scheduled for an exploratory laparotomy at 0800 in the morning. His preoperative orders include:
- Labs: CBC with differential and a comprehensive metabolic panel
- NPO at 0600 and begin IV of 1000 NS at 50 mL/hr
- Prep abdomen with Phisohex scrub × 3. Cover abdomen with sterile towel after prep completed
- Have permit signed: I have discussed the surgical procedure/risks/expectations/outcomes
- Consult Pulmonary Services, re: Respiratory status
- Pre-op medications:
  - Atropine 0.4 mg with Demerol 50 mg IM on call to OR
  - Nembutal 25 mg IM on call to OR

1. In reviewing Mr. Ka’uhane’s orders, which order should be questioned by the nurse?

2. Based on knowledge of his underlying medical problems and risks associated with age, how could these problems and risks affect the perioperative experience?
3. How might Mr. Ka’uhane’s routine meds place him at a higher surgical risk?

4. Based on the subjective data, identify the priority nursing diagnosis to meet the psychosocial needs of Mr. and Mrs. Ka’uhane.

5. You are completing pre-operative teaching regarding the routine nursing measures that Mr. and Mrs. Ka’uhane can expect during the post-operative period. How should you respond to the following questions? (You may need to review what an exploratory laparotomy is to help with this answer.)

6. You are completing the pre-operative checklist. What is the last clinical procedure to be completed before administration of the pre-op medications?
7. What physiological effects can you anticipate secondary to the pre-op medications?

---

Mr. Ka’uhane is transferred to the OR table and readied for surgery.

8. Discuss the importance of the Patient Safety Goals and the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist in preventing mistakes in surgery.

---

Mr. Ka’uhane has completed surgery and is transferred to the PACU. His present status is:

- Extremely drowsy but arousable
- Respirations 14/min and regular and deep, on 40% face tent, O₂ sat 94%
- Skin cool and dry, color pale
- Cardiac monitor: normal cardiac rhythm, no irregular beats
- Abdomen: midline dressing dry and intact
- Jackson-Pratt drainage device with moderate amount of bloody drainage
- NG tube to LWS of brownish/clear gastric drainage
- No bowel sounds present
- Foley to BSD of 60–100 mL/hr, light-yellow urine
- IV therapy
  - #1: 1000 mL LR at 100 mL/hr
  - #2: 1000 D5 1/2 NS with 20 units of regular insulin at 50 mL/hr

He had an uneventful surgery and the mass was removed without incidence. The OR nurse reports that Mr. Ka’uhane had a total of 4200 mL of IV fluids and a urinary
output of 2700. Estimated blood loss was 525 mL. He did not require blood replacement. The abdominal incision was closed with staples and retention sutures and the dressing is dry and intact. Vital signs remained stable throughout the procedure.

9. He received general anesthesia throughout the procedure. The PACU nurse should assess for what frequent complaints related to this type of anesthesia?

10. In light of Mr Ka’uhane’s medical history, how might the anesthesia contribute to the development of post-operative complications?

11. In reviewing the data above, which data, if any, need to be brought to the attention of the surgeon?

12. Identify the sites most at risk for pressure compromise secondary to surgical positioning.
Mr. Ka’uhane remained stable in the PACU. His vital signs are stable, his urinary output is adequate, and he is exhibiting no signs/symptoms of hypo/hyperglycemia. He is discharged to the surgical unit. His postoperative orders include:

- Vital signs q1h × 4, then q2h × 4, then q4h if stable
- NG tube to low intermittent suction, irrigate q2h with 30 mL NSS
- NPO, I&O q4h
- O₂ 4 L/min nasal cannula, keep sats greater than 94%
- HHN Proventil 0.25 mg with 2 mL NSS q6h
- Incentive spirometry q1h while awake
- Foley to BSD
- IV D5 ½ NS at 125 mL/hr
- OOB to chair this evening
- SCDs
- May change dressing prn, begin in AM after surgical rounds
- Medications:
  - Sliding scale insulin per protocol
  - Morphine 2 mg IV q2h prn for moderate pain less than 7
  - Morphine 4 mg IV q2h prn for severe pain equal to or greater than 7
  - Zofran 4 mg IV q4h prn nausea
  - Lovenox 40 mg SQ daily

13. Based on knowledge of client condition and surgical procedure, what is the number one priority for Mr. Ka’uhane during the post-operative phase of his experience?

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14. How can nursing help with Mrs. Ka’uhane’s role as facilitator of Mr. Ka’uhane’s recovery?

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15. The nurse aide taking Mr. Ka’uhane’s vital signs reports to you that Mrs. Ka’uhane is very upset over how often they are being done and verbalized that “something must be wrong!” How would you respond to Mrs. Ka’uhane?

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16. The sequential compression device is in place when you receive Mr. Ka’uhane from the PACU. How will you check for proper fit to eliminate excess pressure and overcompression?

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17. You note that there is a small amount of drainage on the surgical dressing. The order reads that it is not to be changed prior to morning rounds. What is the appropriate action in this situation?

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18. You tell your preceptor that you are familiar with the policy of the NG irrigation procedure but that you have never done it. She offers to demonstrate it to you. Before completing this procedure she checks for bowel sounds and documents active bowel sounds × 4 quadrants as she can hear intermittent rhythmic “whooshing” upon auscultation. Prior to instilling the irrigant into the nasogastric tube she disconnects the NG tube from the suction source, pulls up the ordered amount of NSS and instills it into the tube using the piston action of the syringe. After this she reconnects the tubing to the suction source telling you, “It’s pretty simple.” Critique the steps of the assessment and procedure as you saw it done. What would you do differently, if anything? Give a rationale.

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19. In using his flow-oriented incentive spirometry Mr. Ka’uhane is proud that he is able to take brisk low-volume breaths that snap the balls to the top of the chamber. What is the appropriate response to his use of the IS?

20. Based on Mr. Ka’uhane’s history and present assessment data, he is at high risk for which major post-operative complication(s)? Give a rationale for the choices that you made. Identify collaborative interventions (interdisciplinary) that can help prevent these complications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complication</th>
<th>At Risk</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aspiration pneumonia</td>
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<td>Atelectasis</td>
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<td>Pneumonia</td>
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<td>Pulmonary embolus</td>
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<td>Thrombophlebitis</td>
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<td>Complication</td>
<td>At Risk</td>
<td>Rationale</td>
<td>Interventions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hypovolemia</td>
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<td>Hemorrhage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nausea/vomiting</td>
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<td>Abdominal distention</td>
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<td>Constipation</td>
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<td>Ileus</td>
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<td>Renal failure</td>
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<td>Urinary retention</td>
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<td>Urinary tract infection</td>
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<td>Dehiscence</td>
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<td>Evisceration</td>
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<td>Wound infection</td>
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Community-Based Care

As part of an introduction to the many career roles within the nursing profession, Javier Rivera-Sanchez is assigned to shadow a nurse from the county health department. The county demographics portray an aggregate at increased risk of adverse health outcomes as evidenced by a high percentage of elderly members of Asian descent. This vulnerable population was identified through review of statistics that indicated a high incidence of hospital admissions due to hip fracture secondary to osteoporosis with subsequent physiological compromise requiring the use of complex community resources.

2. Discuss how the threefold services of community-based care—community health, public health nursing, and community-oriented nursing—are necessary to the success of outcomes for this 2020 topic.

3. Describe possible community nursing interventions for this issue using the classification system of primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of care.
The health department has identified that inadequate nutritional intake of calcium and vitamin D, a sedentary lifestyle, and genetic factors related to biological variation found in this ethnic group to be related to the incidence of osteoporosis in this aggregate. Using the Omaha System (http://www.omahasystem.org/) and the problem classification scheme, the following domain and problems were identified:

- Domain: Health Related Behaviors
- Problem Classification Schemes: Nutrition, Physical Activity
- Problem modifiers:

4. Identify the two appropriate diagnostic statements that address the osteoporosis issue in this community using the Omaha Problem Classification Scheme.

5. For each of the diagnostic statements, create expected outcomes using the Omaha Problem Rating Scale.
6. Using the Omaha taxonomy, write two nursing interventions in the format of category + target for each of the nursing diagnoses you identified.

http://www.omahasystem.org/shminter.htm

Individualize each one in the nursing orders.

7. Describe how the roles of the community nurse are central to the implementation of these interventions.
As part of the surveillance of individual outcomes, the nurse takes Javier on a home visit to an elderly Asian woman who is now 2 days home from short-term rehab after surgery to repair a broken hip. She lives at home with her spouse who is the primary caregiver during her recovery. She still requires the use of a walker and assistance with toileting, and help getting on and off the toilet. She is able to complete self-care that does not require standing/walking (bathing, eating). Screening during her acute care admission demonstrated severe osteoporosis. The interventions developed for the aggregate within the health department strategies were implemented during the rehabilitation phase and now continue. In addition she was prescribed alendronate sodium (Fosamax) 70 mg weekly 1 hour before breakfast. The patient was referred to the county home health services for assessment of the need for skilled nursing services.

8. How is the goal of home healthcare central to the needs of this referral?

9. Discuss the distinctive features of home healthcare that make visiting this patient different from a routine visit to a patient in an acute care facility.
10. Based on the Medicare definition of skilled nursing care, discuss whether this patient should qualify for services.

11. Discuss the similarities and differences between a shift assessment in an acute care facility and an assessment in the home care environment.

12. One of the care components that the home care nurse identifies using the Clinical Care Classification (CCC) system is the Medication component related to the newly prescribed alendronate sodium (Fosamax) regimen. Write out a CCC nursing diagnosis and interventions to address this issue.

You may need to use your resources to learn about this medication and nursing implications related to educational needs and safe administration. In addition,
information about the CCC and a complete list of diagnoses, outcomes, and interventions can be accessed by using the tables tab at this Web site:

http://www.sabacare.com/Tables/Components.html
Ethics and Values

You are the charge nurse on a skilled nursing unit at the local long term-care facility caring for Mrs. Charlotte Boyer, an 91-year-old resident who had a stroke 6 months ago requiring placement in the facility. She requires assistance with hygiene and mobility needs, is unable to feed herself, has difficulty with speech and swallowing, and must be constantly monitored for aspiration. She has recently had an incident of aspiration pneumonia. Prior to this event she lived independently and was active in her community. For the past few days she has been refusing her meals, becoming agitated and angry during feedings. The primary care provider has recommended placement of a PEG tube for enteral feedings to maintain an adequate nutritional status. Her son is in favor of the feeding tube and states, “Not feeding mother is cruel and the tube is the right thing to do. Not feeding mother is almost like killing her. I do not think we should play God.” The daughter is ambivalent about the feeding tube in that she is aware that her mother would not have wanted any artificial measures, including a feeding tube, to keep her alive. In addition, she feels that her mother’s decision to refuse food indicates an attempt to be in control of her own life. She states, “I think I know how she feels and it’s almost like the golden rule—do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” The children share the power of attorney and power of healthcare for their mother. They have asked you to help them work through this decision-making process and the daughter states, “We need a tie-breaker, as we are at odds as to what to do.”
1. Discuss why changes in societal factors have contributed to the frequency of ethical problems for nurses in today's healthcare environment.

2. Discuss how each of the following concepts is integral to this patient care situation:
   a. Autonomy:
b. Nonmaleficence:

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3. Based on the comments/perspectives of each of the adult children, identify which Kohlberg's stage of moral development is being exhibited by each. Explain.

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4. Using the descriptions of the terms, describe your own beliefs, attitudes, and values regarding this situation.
5. Discuss how the moral framework of Ethics of Care would direct your approach to this care issue.

6. How does the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics or the Canadian Association Code of Ethics provide a foundation for ethical decision-making in this situation?
7. Using the assessment/analysis step of the nursing process, describe the problem and alternative approaches for this situation.

8. Next, use the MORAL Model to work through the situation to come up with alternative approaches for this family situation.
9. As an advocate, your first priority is the patient. You have identified the nursing diagnosis of Moral Distress* for this patient. What defining characteristics are present in this situation?

10. The NOC outcome of Personal Autonomy is identified. Discuss your role as patient advocate in this situation and determine appropriate NIC interventions that encompass the needs of both the patient and family.
Clinical practice is a process closely regulated by legal parameters to ensure safety of both the patients and the practitioners. Knowledge of the laws and regulations is vital to every nurse in practice to protect all parties involved in our complex healthcare delivery systems. The parameters that guide professional practice also guide your practice as a nursing student.

Betsy Sellars, a nursing student, has been assigned by the clinical instructor to assist in the care of the following patients during her clinical rotation in the Emergency Department at the local hospital:

- 42-year-old female who is unresponsive secondary to a narcotic overdose
- 2-month-old female with scald burns to lower extremities
- 91-year-old male with urosepsis/malnutrition
- 24-year-old female with suspected ectopic pregnancy

1. Discuss the importance of each of the following regulations in the provision of care to patients in this setting:
   a. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
   b. Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA)
   c. Patient Self Determination Act (PSDA)
2. Which of the admitted patients should be considered within the mandatory reporting laws? Discuss your rationale for your choice(s).

The 24-year-old is an acquaintance Betsy knows from church and she is surprised to see the admitting diagnosis. Beginning the admission assessment with the assigned RN, Betsy comments, “Hi Kelly, we are here to assess what is happening so that you can get the best care. It doesn’t matter what the diagnosis is, and I was telling the nurse here that you are not that kind of girl.”

3. Discuss whether the elements of defamation of character are present in this situation.
The patient admitted with urosepsis and malnutrition is slightly confused. He knows who he is and why he is in the hospital, but not what day it is. He wants to go home and does not see that it is necessary for him to stay. He has been stabilized and is scheduled for admission to the medical unit. He frequently attempts to get up off the ED bed and the staff is concerned for his safety. The orderly, showing a waist restraint to the patient says, “Mr. Wells, if you continue we are going to have to put a restraint belt on you and tie you down so you can’t get up.”

4. Can this action by the orderly be interpreted as an intentional tort in a court of law? Why or why not?

Orders are received for the care of the 2-month-old with burn injuries. The skin is cleansed and dressed per protocol and the child is to be admitted to the pediatric unit. The parent has decided against admission for the child and communicates to leave AMA (against medical advice). The parent states that she is able to care for the child at home and requests instructions for care of the burns.

5. How should the nurse handle this situation including aspects of informed consent regarding leaving AMA? Consider the elements of informed consent normally used in the healthcare setting.
After the patient with the narcotic overdose receives naxolone (Narcan), she is more awake but is now vomiting. An order is received for gastrointestinal intubation. The ED nurse asks Betsy to place the NG tube, to which she replies, “I’ve never done that before—I’ve just read about it.” The ED preceptor assures her that she will help her through the procedure. The ED nurse tells the patient that the physician ordered the tube “to help with the vomiting.” The patient requested medication instead of an NG tube to help with the vomiting. Without consulting with the ED physician, the nurse tells the patient that the doctor does not want to order any more drugs that might interact with the medications she had already taken. The patient reluctantly agrees to the tube placement. Betsy’s first attempt is unsuccessful because of the patient’s forceful gagging. On the second try the tube goes into place. The ED nurse verifies placement by auscultating an air bolus over the epigastric region. The patient complains, “It feels awful—I feel like I can’t breathe—please take it out.” The ED nurse assures the patient that it is a common feeling to have after an NG tube is placed. Twenty minutes later the patient is exhibiting respiratory distress and the abdominal x-ray for tube placement shows the nasogastric tube lodged in the right bronchus. This subsequently resulted in a pneumothorax (collapsed lung due to a puncture) requiring a chest tube. The NG tube is immediately removed but the patient continues to have respiratory compromise resulting in the need for endotracheal intubation and mechanical ventilation. The ED physician states, “She was going to need that anyway because of the amount of narcotics in her system—I didn’t think the Narcan would take care of it all.” Afterward, the patient is transferred to the ICU for further care. She recovers from this event and is transferred to a private psychiatric clinic for follow-up.

Six months later, the hospital, the ED staff, as well as the nursing student are named in a malpractice suit by this patient. She is suing for damages related to false imprisonment, enforced hospitalization, and the nasogastric intubation procedure.
with subsequent need for a chest tube that resulted in an insertion scar. The patient is a swimsuit model and this has negatively affected her employment opportunities.

6. Define the four elements necessary to prove a malpractice case and the aspects of this situation that indicate a “preponderance of evidence.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duty</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duty: The legal responsibility of the nurse for assigned patients and their care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breach of duty: Occurs when the nurse fails to meet standards in providing care in a reasonable and prudent manner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causation: The breach of duty is the direct and proximate cause of the injury suffered by the patient</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damages: Monetary award to remedy the harm suffered by the patient</td>
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</table>

7. Using the steps of the nursing process, decide if there is a “preponderance of evidence” in the breach of duty to this patient. You may need to read/review the procedure and evidence-based practices for proper nasogastric intubation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step of the Nursing Process</th>
<th>Breach of Duty</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment/Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diagnosis</td>
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</table>

(Continued)
8. How did Betsy violate professional standards in her student role in this situation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step of the Nursing Process</th>
<th>Breach of Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Index

A
Abdellah, Faye, 89
Acid-base disorder, 304
Activity and exercise, 261–267
- body mechanics for safe patient care and transfers, 264
- communicating with physiatrist, 266–267
- diagnosis, outcomes, and goals, 265
- hazards of immobility, 261–262
- nursing interventions, 265
- positioning devices, 263
- range of motion exercises, 266
- regaining muscle strength, 263
- SBAR format, 266–267
- teaching to use crutches, 267
Admission assessment data, analyzing, 46, 54–55
- clusters, 47–49
- cues, 46–47
- diagnostic labels and etiological factors, 49–50
- gaps, 48
Advance directives, 143
Aging adults. See Elderly
AMA (leaving against medical advice), 359
Ambulation, 263–264
Ambulatory care, 14–15
American Nurses Association (ANA), 6–7, 13, 130
- Code of Ethics, 353
- Standards of Practice, 32–33, 57
Anxiety, 113–114
Apical and peripheral pulses, 162–163
Asepsis and preventing infection, 177–186, 289–290
- chain of infection, 178
- community setting, 186
- Critical-Thinking Model (CTM), 185
- diagnostic testing, 182
- infection control, 158
- infection control nurse, 185
- lifestyle factors, 179–181
- patient factors that increase risk of infection, 181–182
- secondary defense indicators, 179
- standard precautions, 183
- tertiary defenses, 179
- types of specific immunity
  - cell-mediated immunity, 179
  - humoral immunity, 179
Authoritarian leadership style, 308
Autonomy, 350

B
Baseline, determining for inflating cuff to measure blood pressure, 161
Bathing/Hygiene Self-Care Deficit, 195
Baths, 195–196
Bed exit alarm, 189–190
Bedpans, 237
Behavioral theories of leadership, 308–309
Beneficence, 351
Benner’s model of clinical skills and judgment, 12
BMI, 232
Body Image Enhancement intervention, 114
Body mechanics for safe patient care and transfers, 264
BOHSE (Brief Oral Health Status Examination), 197
Bowel elimination: constipation, 243–246
- digital removal of stool, 246
- factors affecting elimination, 244–245
- focused physical assessment, 244
- rectal exam, 244
- oil-retention enema, 245
- questioning patient, 243
- teaching healthy bowel routine, 246
Bowel elimination: diarrhea, 247–249
- diet, 248
- fecal occult blood test (FOBT), 248
- medication request, 248
- stool specimen, 247
Breach of duty, 361–362
Breast cancer, 141
Brief Oral Health Status Examination (BOHSE), 197
Burn unit, 111–112

C
Calorie reduction, 232
CAM (complementary and alternative modalities), 323–325
Canadian Nurses Association (CNA), 6–7, 13
- Code of Ethics, 353
Cardiac dysrhythmias, 294
Cardiac pump effectiveness, 294
Care and comfort, 87–88
Caregiver Role Strain, 123
Care plan modifications, 76–78
Caring, 19, 28
Causation (in malpractice), 361
CBE note, 153–154
CCC (Clinical Care Classification) system, 346–347
Cell-mediated immunity, 179
Chain of infection, 178
Change
- evaluating, 313
- implementing, 313
- resistance to, 310–312
Chest physiotherapy, 292
Children. See Growth and development
Chronic Pain diagnosis and outcomes, 257–258
Citations, research, 92–93
Clinical Care Classification (CCC) system, 346–347
Clusters, data, 47–49
Index

Combivent inhaler extender or spacer, 207
Communication and therapeutic relationships, 165–170
communication barriers, 168–169
developmental stage, 165–166
environment, 165–166
gender, 165–166
nonverbal communication, 166
personal space, 165–166
roles and relationships, 165–166
SBAR format, 169–170
sociocultural factors, 165–166
techniques, 168
therapist, communicating with, 169–170
verbal communication, 166
Communication barriers, 168–169
Communication pattern and coping processes, 122
Community-acquired bacterial pneumonia, 291–292
Community-based care, 14–15, 186, 341–347
Clinical Care Classification (CCC) system, 346–347
Healthy People 2020, 341–342
home healthcare, 345–346
diagnoses, outcomes, and interventions, 346–347
Omaha Problem Classification Scheme, 343–344
osteoporosis, 341–347
Complementary and alternative modalities (CAM), 323–325
Conflict resolution, 314–315
Confusion, perfusion and, 295
Continuing education, 11
Continuous cardiac monitoring, nursing responsibilities, 293
Coping. See Stress-coping-adaptation
CPAP treatment, 275
Crisis intervention, 223
Critical thinking and the nursing process, 19–29
caring, 19, 28
characteristics of a critical thinker, 20
life skill as well as nursing skill, 20
critical thinking, definition of (Heaslip), 19
critical-thinking problem, 20–23
full-spectrum nursing, 29
model for critical thinking, 24–27
analyzing assumptions, 26
considering alternatives, 25–26
contextual awareness, 25
inquiry, 25
reflecting/making a decision, 26–27
nurse-patient dyad, 29
nursing knowledge, 27
nursing process, 28
critical thinking and, 28
today’s healthcare delivery system, 23
Critical-Thinking Model (CTM), 185
Crutches, teaching to use, 267
Cues, recognizing, 46–47
changes in usual behaviors, 47
changes in usual health patterns, 47
delayed growth and development, 47
deviation from population norms, 46
nonproductive of dysfunctional behavior, 47
Culture and ethnicity, 127–133
cultural assessment, 133
Cultural Brokerage, 131
cultural sensitivity and competence, 129–130
designating on health record, 128
Hmong culture, 127–128
influences on plan of care, 128–129
communication, 129
social organization, 129
space, 129
time orientation, 129
language barriers, 132
nursing diagnoses, 130
socialization, acculturation, and assimilation, 127

D
Damages (in malpractice), 361
Data clusters, 47–49
Data gaps, 48
Deductive reasoning, 89
Defamation of character, 358
Defense mechanisms, 221
Deficient fluid volume, 297–298
prevention, 300
Deficient knowledge nursing diagnosis, 214
Delegating activities to nursing assistive personnel (NAP), 85
“Five Rights of Delegation,” 85
Delegating interventions to UAPs
skin integrity, 286
Democratic leadership style, 309
Dentures, 198
Depression, 114–116
Developmental stage, 112. See also Growth and development
communication and, 165–166
teaching and, 213
Diabetes, 193
Diet
diarrhea, 248
instruction, 232
vegetarian, 233
Digital removal of stool, 246
Disturbed Sleep Pattern diagnosis, 276
Diversity, 5
DNAR order, 143
Documenting and reporting, 86, 149–155
assessment, 39–40
CBE note, 153–154
communicating inadequate pain medication/schedule to primary care provider, 155
electronic health record (EHR), 152–153
focus note (DAR), 153, 155
graphic record, 149
intake and output, 150
interpreting reports, 150–151
mandatory reporting laws, 358
medication administration record, 150
nursing admission data form, 149
organizing patient data into PACE format, 152
questioning primary care provider orders, 155
SBAR format, 155
source-oriented and problem-oriented records, 153
using documentation, 73
using professional terms, 151
Dosage calculation, 207
Down syndrome, 171–175
Dressings, 282–285
Duty (in malpractice), 361
Dying. See Loss, grief, and dying

E
Education
  continuing, 11
  pathways for registered nurse (RN), 10–11
  socialization, 11
EE (eosinophilic esophagitis), 211
EHRs (electronic health records), 152–153, 319
Elderly, 101–103
  exercise, 101
  incorporating Erickson’s developmental theory
  and the task stage, 103
  physical assessment, 102
  sexuality and, 272
  socialization, 101
Electrolyte imbalance, 302–303
  breathing, 303
  hypocalcemia, 303–304
Electronic health records (EHRs), 152–153, 319
Electronic mail, 318
Electronic mail (Listserv), 318
Elimination, bowel. See Bowel elimination, diarrhea
Elimination: urinary, 235–240
  “at risk” diagnoses, 236
  bedpans, 237
  facilitating voiding, 240
  indwelling catheter, 237–239
    care of, 239
    preparing patient for procedure, 238
    prevention/surveillance for urinary tract infections, 240
    removing, 239
    repositioning patient in bed, 239
    selection of type, 237
Urinary incontinence, functional (diagnosis), 236
Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), 357–358
Emotional intelligence, 309
Eosinophilic esophagitis (EE), 211
Erickson’s Psychosocial Development Theory, 90, 101, 103
Ethics and values, 349–355
  American Nurses Association Code of Ethics, 353
  autonomy, 350
  beneficence, 351
  Canadian Association Code of Ethics, 353
  Ethics of Care, 353
  Kohlberg’s stage of moral development, 351
  Moral Distress, 355
  MORAL Model, 354
  nonmaleficence, 351
  patient advocate role, 355
  Personal Autonomy, 355
  societal factors, 350
  veracity, 351
Eustress, 220
Evidence-based practice, 91
Examination, techniques of, 34
Exercise. See Activity and exercise
Extended care facilities, 14–15
Eye drop technique, 206

F
Falls, 187–191
Family, 119–125
  Caregiver Role Strain, 123
  communication pattern and coping processes, 122
  definition of, 119
  Family Interational Theory, 121
  family nursing approaches, 120
    family as context for care, 120
    family as system, 120
    family as unit of care, 120
  Family Processes, Interrupted, 122–123
  health beliefs, 121
  NIC interventions, 123
  NOC outcomes, 123
  resources, 123
  structure, 120
  Family Interactional Theory, 121
  Family Processes, Interrupted, 122–123
  Family Resiliency outcome, 145
Fecal occult blood test (FOBT), 248
Five Rights of Delegation, 85
  right circumstance, 85
  right communication, 85
  right person, 85
  right supervision, 85
  right task, 85
Flow-oriented incentive spirometry, 338
Fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base balance, 297–304
  acid-base disorder, 304
  deficient fluid volume, 297–298
  prevention, 300
  electrolyte imbalance, 302–303
    breathing, 303
    hypocalcemia, 303–304
  Fluid Volume Excess diagnosis, 300–301
  gravity infusion, 298
  increasing fluid intake, 300
  intravenous site
    catheter size, 299
Index

finding vein, 299
tattoo and, 299
questioning primary physician orders, 301
FOBT (fecal occult blood test), 248
Focus note (DAR), 153, 155
Fellowship, 306
Full code, CPR delegation and, 295
Full-spectrum nursing model, 3–4, 29, 32, 67

G
Gaps in data, 48
Gender, 5, 112
communication and, 165–166
“Get Up and Go Test,” 191
Goal statements, 61
collaborative problems, 61
Gordon’s Functional Health Patterns, 38–39
Graphic record, 149
Gravity infusion, 298
Grieving, 142, 145. See also Loss, grief, and dying
Growth and development, 95–103
elderly, 101–103
exercise, 101
incorporating Erickson’s developmental theory and the task stage, 103
physical assessment, 102
socialization, 101
health issues, 96
middle school, 97–101
appropriate issue for initial session with this group, 100
incorporating major psychological tasks (Erickson) of adolescence into teaching/learning strategies, 101
6 to 12 months, 96
variations in, 95–96

H
Health and illness, 105–109
having someone “in your corner,” 109
hip replacement, 105
part of admission process rather than object of admission, 108
rehabilitation, 105
stage of illness behavior, 106
Health assessment, 173
developmental stage, 171–175
deferring aspects of full physical assessment, 173–174
explaining techniques of physical examination, 172–173
documenting data, 175
equipment needed, 174–175
Health education, 330
Health history, 35–37
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), 357–358
Health literacy, 213
Health promotion, 327–330
assessment, 329
health education, 330
health protection and, 327
Pender’s Health Promotion Model, 328
programs, 328
role modeling, 330
support for lifestyle change, 330
wellness diagnoses, outcomes, and interventions, 330
Healthy People 2020, 341–342
Heaslip’s definition of critical thinking, 19
Henderson, Virginia, 89
HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), 357–358
Hip replacement, 105
Hmong culture, 127–128
Holism, 323–325
complementary and alternative modalities (CAM), 323–325
Readiness for enhanced sleep (diagnosis), 324
Home healthcare, 14–15, 345–346
diagnoses, outcomes, and interventions, 346–347
Homes-Rahe Social Readjustment Scale, 220
HOPE assessment tool, 136–137
Hospice care, 119, 141–146
Humoral immunity, 179
Hydraulic lift, moving patients without, 198–199
Hygiene. See Self-care ability: hygiene
Hypocalcemia, 303–304

I
ICN (International Council of Nurses), 6–7, 13
Immobility, hazards, 261–262
Impaired gas exchange diagnosis and outcomes, 292
Impaired Tissue Integrity versus Impaired Skin Integrity diagnoses, 285
Inappropriate sexual behavior, 272
Inductive reasoning, 89
Indwelling catheter, 237–239
care of, 239
preparing patient for procedure, 238
prevention/surveillance for urinary tract infections, 240
removing, 239
repositioning patient in bed, 239
selection of type, 237
Infection. See Asepsis and preventing infection
Informatics, 317–322
credibility of Web sites, 320–322
EHRs, 319
electronic mail (Listserv), 318
integration with the nursing process, 317
social networking, 318
telehealth, 318
text messaging, 318
Web conferencing, 318
webinars, 318
Injections
- minimizing discomfort, 208
- sites, 207
International Council of Nurses (ICN), 6–7, 13
Intravenous sites
- catheter size, 299
- finding vein, 299
- tattoo and, 299
K
- Kohlberg’s stages of moral development, 351
L
- Laissez-faire leadership style, 309
- Language barriers, 132
- Laws, 12–13
-Leading and management, 305–315
  - behavioral theories, 308–309
  - conflict resolution, 314–315
  - evaluating change, 313
  - followership and, 306
  - implementing change, 313
  - leadership styles, 308–309
  - transactional, 309
  - transformational, 309
- power, 307
- resistance to change, 310–312
- skills, 306
Learning. See Teaching and learning
Leaving against medical advice (AMA), 359
Legal issues, 357–362
- defamation of character, 358
- Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), 357–358
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), 357–358
- leaving against medical advice (AMA), 359
- malpractice, 360–362
  - breach of duty, 361–362
  - causation, 361
  - damages, 361
  - duty, 361
- mandatory reporting laws, 358
- Patient Self Determination Act (PSDA), 357–358
- professional standards, 362
- restraints, 359
Leninger, 130
Listserv, 318
Literature, reading analytically, 93–94
- Literature, searching, 92–93
- Long- versus short-term care, 58–59
Loss, grief, and dying, 141–146
- advance directives, 143
- care for the nurse, 146
- DNAR order, 143
- Family Resiliency outcome, 145
- Grieving, 142, 145
- hospice care, 141–146
- nursing diagnoses, 142–143
- postmortem care, 144
supporting family, 144
terminal illness, 141
M
- Malnutrition, 228–229
- Malpractice, 360–362
  - breach of duty, 361–362
  - causation, 361
  - damages, 361
  - duty, 361
- Management. See Leading and Management
- Mandatory reporting laws, 358
- Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, 38–39, 71–72, 90, 113–114
  - prioritizing problems by, 50–51
- Measurement scales, 62–63
- Medical diagnosis, problems with using, 44
- Medication administration, 201–209
  - applying patch when previous patch is still there, 206
  - Combivent inhaler extender or spacer, 207
  - communicating problems to primary care provider, 203
  - dosage calculation, 207
  - equipment needed, 203–204
  - eye drop technique, 206
  - information needed from previous shift nurse, 201
  - injection site, 207
- Medication Administration Record (MAR), 150, 202
  - minimizing injection discomfort, 208
  - physical assessments and lab data, 203–204
- Rights of Medication, 204
- SBAR format, 203
- stock supply and unit dose systems, 202
- swallowing issues, 205
- syringe type and needle gauge, 207
  “Three Checks,” 204
- unavailable medication, 205
- Middle school age, 97–101
  - appropriate issue for initial session with this group, 100
  - incorporating major psychological tasks (Erickson) of adolescence into teaching/learning strategies, 101
- Montgomery straps, 283
- Moral Distress, 355
- MORAL Model, 354
- Morbidly obese patient, 193–199
- Morse Fall Scale, 187
- Muscle strength, regaining, 263
- MyPlate strategy, 232–233
N
- NANDA taxonomy (labels), 51–53, 65
- Nasogastric feeding tubes, 229–231
  - aspiration precautions, 231–232
  - checking for placement, 231
  “Never events,” 188
- NG irrigation, 337
NIC (Nursing Intervention Classification), 65
Nightingale, Florence, 3
Nightmares, 276
Nonmaleficence, 351
Nonverbal communication, 166
Nurse-patient dyad, 29
Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE), 253
Nursing admission data form, 149
Nursing Intervention Classification (NIC), 65
Nursing orders
  prioritizing, 71–72
  writing, 70–71
Nursing process: assessment, 31–41
  ANA Standards of Practice, 32–33
documentation, 39–40
examination, techniques of, 34
follow-up, 41
four features of assessment, 31
health history, 35–37
importance to other steps of nursing process, 32
information sources, 33
organizing data, 38–40
  Gordon's Functional Health Patterns, 38–39
  Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, 38–39
overview, 31
special needs assessment, 33
validating conclusions, 37–38
Nursing process: evaluation, 73–78
care plan modifications needed, 76–78
documentation, using, 73
esential to all aspects of patient care, 73
goal achievement status, 75
in long-term care facility, 74
reassessment data, using, 74–75
Nursing process: implementation, 79–86
delegating activities to nursing assistive personnel (NAP), 85
  “Five Rights of Delegation,” 85
documentation, 86
explaining activities to patient, 82–84
feedback points, 84
grouping activities, 82
knowledge/skills needed, 79–81
Nursing process: nursing diagnosis, 43–55
analyzing admission assessment data, 46, 54–55
  clusters, 47–49
cues, 46–47
diagnostic labels and etiological factors, 49–50
gaps, 48
  collaborative problem, 52
determining, 44
etiologies, 52
five types, 44–46
  actual, 45
  possible, 45
  potential, 45
  syndrome, 46
wellness (health promotion), 46
helps to validate nursing as a profession, 43
importance to development of plan of care, 43
NANDA-I Taxonomy II: Domains, Classes and Diagnoses (Labels), 51–53
patient preference and, 51
prioritizing problems by Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and problem urgency, 50–51
problems with using the medical diagnosis, 44
quality, judging, 52–53
self-knowledge and, 51
verifying problems identified and contributing factors, 50
writing diagnoses, 51–53
Nursing process: planning interventions, 65–72
activities, identifying, 68–69
factors to consider in meeting goals, 66
full-spectrum nursing model, 67
interventions, identifying, 67–68
nursing orders
  prioritizing, 71–72
  writing, 70–71
overview, 65
parts of diagnostic statement and possible interventions, 66
resources, 66
Nursing process: planning outcomes, 57–63
evaluation, 63
four kinds of care, 58
goal statements, 61
  collaborative problems, 61
identifying outcome and indicators for diagnoses, 62
learning needs, 63
measurement scales, 62–63
ongoing process, 57
roadmap of patient care, 57
short- versus long-term care, 58–59
standardized care plans, 59–60
individualizing, 60
Nursing profession and practice, 1–15
American Nurses Association (ANA), 6–7, 13
Canadian Nurses Association (CNA), 6–7, 13
clinical skills and judgment (Benner's model), 12
definition of nursing profession, 5–7
diversity, 5
education
  continuing education, 11
  pathways for registered nurse (RN), 10–11
socialization, 11
exit competency for your program of study, 12
  “full-spectrum nursing,” 3–4
gender, 5
International Council of Nurses (ICN), 6–7, 13
laws, 12–13
Nightingale, Florence, 3
perceptions of, 2–3, 10
practice settings, 14–15
  ambulatory care, 14–15
  community health, 14–15
extended care facilities, 14–15
home care, 14–15
as a profession, discipline, and occupation, 9–10
purposes of nursing care, 14
race and ethnicity, 5
roles and functions of nurses, 8–9
societal and healthcare trends, 15
standards of practice, 12–13
Nursing theory, 87–90
care and comfort, 87–88
deductive reasoning, 89
Faye Abdellah, 89
inductive reasoning, 89
reasoning, importance of, 88–89
theories from other disciplines, 90
Erickson’s Psychosocial Development Theory, 90
Maslow’s Hierarchy of Human Needs, 90
Selye’s Stress and Adaptation Theory, 90
Virginia Henderson, 89
Nutrition, 227–234
BMI, 232
calorie reduction, 232
dementia, 230
dietary instruction, 232
dyspnea, 228
independence during meals, 232
malnutrition, 228–229
MyPlate strategy, 232–233
nasogastric feeding tubes, 229–231
aspiration precautions, 231–232
checking for placement, 231
sodium restriction, 232, 234
stimulating patient’s appetite, 227
vegetarian diet, 233
Nutritional status
skin integrity and, 284
O
Obesity, 193–199
Oil-retention enema, 245
Omaha Problem Classification Scheme, 343–344
Osteoporosis, 341–347
Otic irrigation, 251–252
Oxygenation, 287–292
chest physiotherapy, 292
communicating with primary care provider, 292
community-acquired bacterial pneumonia, 291–292
Impaired gas exchange diagnosis and outcomes, 292
older adults, 287
preventing spread of infection, 289–290
pulse oximetry reading, obtaining, 288
purified protein derivative (PPD) tests, 290
SBAR format, 292
smoking cessation, 288–289
sputum specimens, obtaining, 288
teaching to enhance mobilization of secretions, 289
P
PACE format, 152
PACU, 334–339
Pain management, 253–259
Chronic Pain diagnosis and outcomes, 257–258
communicating problems to surgeon, 254
factors influencing pain experience, 253
interventions, 256
nonpharmacological pain relief measures, 259
PCA, 255
amitriptyline, 256
naloxene and, 255
patient teaching, 255
placebos, 257
responding to patient medication request, 253
SBAR format, 354
Pain medication
falls and, 188–189
Parish nurses, 95
Patch, applying when previous patch is still there, 206
Patient advocate role, 355
Patient Safety Goals, 334
Patient Self Determination Act (PSDA), 357–358
PCA, 255
amitriptyline, 256
naloxene and, 255
patient teaching, 255
placebos, 257
Pender’s Health Promotion Model, 328
Penrose drain, 283
Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG), 211
Perfusion, 293–295
cardiac dysrhythmias, 294
cardiac pump effectiveness, 294
confusion and, 295
continuous cardiac monitoring, nursing responsibilities, 293
full code, CPR delegation and, 295
reassuring patient, 294
Perineal care, 197
Perioperative nursing, 331–339
admission nursing assessment history, 331–332
PACU, 334–339
Patient Safety Goals, 334
post-operative phase, 334–339
flow-oriented incentive spirometry, 338
NG irrigation, 337
preventing complications, 338–339
pre-operative teaching, 333
psychosocial needs, 333
questioning preoperative orders, 332
World Health Organization (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist, 334
Peripheral pulses, 162–163
Personal Autonomy, 355
Personal space, 165–166
Physiatrist, communicating with, 266–267
PLISSIT model, 270
Index

Positioning devices, 263
Postmortem care, 144
Post-operative phase, 334–339
  flow-oriented incentive spirometry, 338
  hip surgery patients, 177–186
  NG irrigation, 337
  preventing complications, 338–339
Power, 307
PPD (purified protein derivative) tests, 290
Practice settings, 14–15
  ambulatory care, 14–15
  community health, 14–15
  extended care facilities, 14–15
  home care, 14–15
Praying for clients, 140
Pre-operative teaching, 333
Problem-oriented records, 153
Professional standards, 362
Professional terms, using, 151
PSDA (Patient Self Determination Act), 357–358
Psychosocial health and illness, 111–117
  anxiety, 113–114
  Body Image Enhancement intervention, 114
  depression, 114–116
  developmental level, 112
  gender, 112
  health histories, 116–117
  internal influences, 112
  psychosocial influences, 111–112
  relationships, 112
  self-concept, 112–113
  suicide risk and prevention, 115
Pulse oximetry reading, obtaining, 288
Purified protein derivative (PPD) tests, 290
Purnell, 130
Pyrexia, 162

Q
Quantitative versus qualitative research, 92

R
Race and ethnicity, 5
Range of motion exercises, 266
Readiness for Enhanced Coping (diagnosis), 224
Readiness for enhanced sleep (diagnosis), 324
Reasoning, importance of, 88–89
Reassessment data, using, 74–75
Rectal exam, 244
Rehabilitation, 105
Religion. See Spirituality
Reminiscence therapy for persons with dementia, 91–92
Reporting. See Documenting and Reporting
Research, 91–94
  evidence-based practice, 91
  formulating searchable questions using PICO acronym, 92
  quantitative versus qualitative research, 92
  reading the literature analytically, 93–94
  reminiscence therapy for persons with dementia, 91–92
  searching the literature, 92–93
Resistance to change, 310–312
Respirations, 162
Rest. See Sleep and rest
Restraints, 359
Rights of Medication, 204
Risk for falls diagnosis, 188
Roadmap of patient care, 57

S
SBAR format, 155, 169–170, 203, 266–267, 271, 277, 292, 354
Secondary defense indicators, 179
Self-care ability: hygiene, 193–199
  Bathing/Hygiene Self-Care Deficit, 195
  baths, 195–196
  Brief Oral Health Status Examination (BOHSE), 197
  decreasing skin problems, 197
  dentures, 198
  effects of health status, 193, 195
  interviewing patient, 194
  moving patient without hydraulic lift, 198–199
  perineal care, 197
  willingness and ability to perform ADLs, 194
Selye’s Stress and Adaptation Theory, 90
Sensory perception, 249–252
  assessments, 251
  communication with hearing impairment, 252
  developmental variation, 250
  medical problems’ effect upon, 249
  otic irrigation, 251–252
  outcome and goals, 251
  personality and lifestyle, 250
  sensory overload/deprivation, 250
Sexual health, 269–272
  aging adults, sexuality and, 272
  communicating with primary care provider, 271
  health and illness factors, 270
  inappropriate sexual behavior, 272
  open-ended questions, 270
  patient teaching for sildenafil, 272
  PLISSIT model, 270
  SBAR format, 271
  sexual counseling, 270
  Sexual Dysfunction diagnosis and outcomes, 270
  sexual history, 269
Short- vs long-term care, 58–59
Sildenafil, patient teaching for, 272
Skin integrity, 197, 279–286
  delegating interventions to UAP, 286
  dressings, 282–285
  equipment, 283
    Montgomery straps, 283
    Penrose drain, 283
  factors affecting, 280–281
  Impaired Tissue Integrity versus Impaired Skin Integrity diagnoses, 285
  nutritional status and, 284
  wound characteristics, 281–282
Wound Healing, Secondary Intention (outcome), 286
  wound characteristics, 281–282
Sleep and rest, 275–277
communicating with primary care provider for medication, 277
difficulty getting in hospital setting, 275
Disturbed Sleep Pattern diagnosis, 276
measuring quality after implementation of nursing interventions, 277
nightmares, 276
nursing interventions, 276–277
SBAR format, 277
Smoking cessation, 288–289
Social networking, 318
Societal factors, 350
Sodium restriction, 232, 234
Source-oriented and problem-oriented records, 153
Space, 129
Special needs assessment, 33
Spirituality, 135–140
barriers to spiritual care, 135
HOPE assessment tool assessment, 136–137
praying for clients, 140
spiritual assessment, 136–137
Spiritual Distress diagnosis, 137–138
interventions, 139–140
Sputum specimens, obtaining, 288
Stage of illness behavior, 106
Standardized care plans, 59–60
individualizing, 60
Standard precautions, 183
Standards of practice, 12–13
Stock supply and unit dose systems, 202
Stool, digital removal of, 246
Stress-coping-adaptation, 219–225
Coping Enhancement intervention, 224
crisis intervention, 223
defense mechanisms, 221
health promotion, 225
Homes-Rahe Social Readjustment Scale, 220
outcomes, 224
personal factors, 222
Readiness for Enhanced Coping diagnosis, 224
stressors, identifying, 220–221
Suicide, 115
Swallowing issues, 205
Syringe type and needle gauge, 207

T
Tattoo and intravenous sites, 299
Teaching and learning, 211–217
assessment data, 213–214
Deficient knowledge nursing diagnosis, 214
developmental stage, 213
evaluating goals, 217
goals and learning domains, 214
health literacy, 213
learning ability, 212
teaching plan, 215–216
Teaching plan, 215–216
Telehealth, 318
Temperature assessment, site for, 160
Terminal illness, 141
Tertiary defenses, 179
Text messaging, 318
Therapeutic relationships, communication and. See Communication and therapeutic relationships
“Three Checks,” 204
Time orientation, 129
Transactional leadership style, 309
Transformational leadership style, 309

U
UAP, working with, 164, 286
Urinary incontinence, functional (diagnosis), 236

V
Values. See Ethics and values
Vegetarian diet, 233
Veracity, 351
Verbal communication, 166
Vital signs, 157–164
apical and peripheral pulses, 162–163
baseline, determining for inflating cuff to measure blood pressure, 161
expected values, 157–158
facility equipment, 158
factors affecting, 158–161
infection control, 158
nursing diagnoses, outcomes, and interventions, 161–162
pyrexia, 162
respirations, 162
site (oral, rectal, axillary) for assessing temperature, 160
UAP, working with, 164
Voiding, facilitating, 240

W
Web conferencing, 318
Webinars, 318
Web sites
credibility of, 320–322
World Health Organization (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist, 334
Wound care, 279–286. See also Skin integrity