

Changes in Health and Therapeutic Interventions I

Course Description

The course reviews common health problems (pathophysiology); diagnostic tests; and related concepts of professional nursing practice, including the nurse's role in caring for clients. It is organized according to concepts that are essential to the knowledge base for successful nursing practices. Various diseases and illness are highlighted, from across the lifespan, and in various clinical settings. Concepts such as health promotion and illness prevention, the nursing process, ethical, legal and professional considerations, family, teaching and learning and collaboration are woven into the content of this course. Case studies are used to help students learn to apply knowledge to real-life situations, including a care plan assignment. Learners are to complete all required readings as well as study guide activities.

If this course is a requirement to meet educational gaps, Changes in Health and Therapeutic Interventions II will also be a requirement.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course the learner will:

1. Explain common diseases/conditions and associated nursing care typical of registered nursing practice in Canadian health care settings.
2. Describe altered health patterns and therapeutics in relation to providing primary, secondary, and tertiary preventive care.
3. Describe relevant skills and knowledge from pathophysiology and diagnostic tests to effectively plan and implement safe, comprehensive nursing care.
4. Identify principles of critical thinking and evidence-based practice from pathophysiology as they apply to medical-surgical nursing care.

Format of Course

The theory for this course is delivered entirely online; learners study and review materials on their own, complete quizzes and attend one online classroom session. This virtual classroom session will review theoretical information, foster discussion with classmates and provide opportunities to seek clarification from experienced faculty.

Content

Units	Topics
1	Fluid and Electrolytes: Basic Concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fluid Compartments and Movement• Osmolality of Fluids• Disorders in Fluid Balance• Electrolytes
2	Infection <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infectious process• Infectious diseases (e.g. <i>Clostridium difficile</i>, candidiasis, VRE, MRSA, otitis media, STIs)• Infection control
3	Inflammation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inflammatory process• Inflammatory bowel disease• Cholecystitis• Pancreatitis
4	Behavior - Mood <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Psychological nursing care• Dementia and delirium• Addiction (alcohol, substance, nicotine) and withdrawal• Depression
5	Sensation and Perception <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sensory deprivation, overload and deficit• Hearing loss• Vision loss
6	Glucose Regulation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diabetes
7	Nutrition <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eating disorders• Obesity• High cholesterol• GERD
8	Gas Exchange <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respiratory pathophysiology• Asthma/COPD

Units	Topics
9	Perfusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac pathophysiology • HTN • Heart failure • A-fib
10	Mobility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilization and positioning • Prevention of complications in the immobile client • Musculoskeletal injuries • Multiple Sclerosis • Spinal Cord Injury • ALS
11	Tissue Integrity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound care • Burns • Pressure ulcers
12	Elimination and Sexuality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinary tract infection • BPH/Prostate cancer • Constipation • Sexual health
13	Comfort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic and acute pain • End of life care
14	Cellular Regulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer - lung, colon • Anemia • Interpretation of Lab values
15	Immunity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immune system pathophysiology • Care of immunocompromised client • HIV/AIDs