

Clinical Course: Medical-Surgical

Course Description

Clinical Course: Medical-Surgical practicum provides nursing practice experience in caring for clients and families in a contemporary Canadian context. This clinical experience is designed for the development and integration of professional knowledge, skills, and values based on the expectations of entry-level registered nurses in the Canadian health care system. Emphasis is on understanding professional nursing practice and helping to apply knowledge. The learner is expected to build on previous nursing experiences, increase understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the registered nurse, and reflect on own professional growth.

The practicum consists of 160 hours of an instructor-led clinical, followed by 160 hours of a preceptored clinical, in an acute medical, surgical adult care setting. Nurses with no clinical experience in Canada as RNs must complete both instructor-led and the preceptorship clinical course components. Re-entry nurses complete the preceptorship only. Professional Conduct Service learners complete clinical as indicated by their referral from NSCN.

The instructor-led nursing practice experience assists to enhance critical thinking, organizational, and decision making skills. It is expected that the learner will be progressing satisfactorily towards meeting all of the clinical competencies at the end of this experience.

The preceptored clinical experience is intended to further develop practice as the learner is preceptored one-on-one by an experienced registered nurse. It is expected that the learner will have met all of the clinical competencies by the end of the preceptorship.

Prerequisites for the clinical course are successful completion of Changes in Health and Therapeutic Interventions II and the Clinical Skills course.

Course Outcomes/Competencies

The **RN Bridging/Re-Entry Program** is based on a roles based model, each with performance-based competencies that learners must meet at the end of the program (i.e., Clinical Course: Medical Surgical). These competencies are strongly linked to the concepts of the program and are based on the current entry level competencies:

1. **Clinician:** Provides safe, competent, ethical, compassionate and evidence-informed care across the lifespan in response to client needs. Integrates knowledge, skills, judgment, and professional values from nursing and other diverse sources into their practice.
2. **Professional:** Provides care as a professional, committed to the health and well-being of clients. Upholds practice standards and ethics and is accountable for care provided.

3. **Communicator:** Uses a variety of strategies and relevant technologies to create and maintain professional relationships, share information, and foster therapeutic environments.
4. **Collaborator:** Functions as a collaborative member of the health care team partnership.
5. **Coordinator:** Coordinates point-of-care health service delivery with clients, the health care team, and other sectors to ensure continuous, safe care.
6. **Leader:** Influences and inspires others to achieve optimal health outcomes for all.
7. **Advocate:** Advocates and supports clients to voice their needs to achieve optimal health outcomes. Supports clients who cannot advocate for themselves.
8. **Educator:** Identifies learning needs with clients and applies a broad range of educational strategies towards achieving optimal health outcomes.
9. **Scholar:** Demonstrates a commitment to excellence in practice through critical inquiry, continuous learning, and application of evidence to practice.

Format and Length of Course

Length: 320 hours - 160 hours instructor-led + 160 hours preceptored clinical