

DEU Clinical Experience Junior-Level DEU Students

First Three Weeks: Orientation to the Nursing Unit

The educational objectives for the first three weeks of the DEU clinical experience are for the student to gain beginning level clinical knowledge and skills and an appreciation for the patient care team and usual daily unit practices and nursing care provided.

All DEU students and CFCs are expected to follow this schedule.

Schedule of Activities

Week One: Students will meet their Clinical Faculty Coordinator (CFC) in the lobby. The following clinical learning activities will be completed by the student over a 1 to 2-day time period, with CFC support:

- Obtain IDs and gain an appreciation for the necessity of wearing them at all times for safety reasons and where to turn them in at the end of the semester
- Obtain computer access for use with patient documentation
- Tour the unit including utility rooms, medication rooms, patient rooms and location of IVs, code cart, EKG, fire safety, and other needed equipment
- Describe common illnesses, related patient care and common patient concerns for this unit's patient population and the related assigned text readings
- Utilize the documentation system of the unit. Using a fictitious patient document vital signs, I&O, admission data, and nursing assessments
- Utilize the call bell system of the unit, demonstrating room locations and how to respond to call lights.
- Describe common types of Precautions on the unit and the location of supplies and resources needed for caring for patients on specific types of precautions.
- Gain an initial understanding of the medication administration system by observing a nurse retrieving medications for a patient using the system.
- Review the following patient care skills: vital signs with specific equipment, emptying Foley catheters, turning and positioning patients, bed making- occupied and unoccupied, bathing patients, placing a bedpan or urinal and transferring patients and use of mobility devices (The use of an empty room would be ideal for this).
- Observe, then demonstrate beginning level competency with iMeds/iVacs/pumps utilized on the unit. Prime an IV and correctly insert into pump; respond to the alarm and trouble shoot appropriately. Verbally describe signs of infiltration of IV fluid with related nursing responses.
- Observe the O2 delivery systems utilized on the unit; then demonstrate beginning level of competency with the use of oxygen equipment and related nursing care- from assessment to evaluation.
- Reflect on first week experience in conference with CFC. CFC reviews planned activities with students and unit staff for Week Two student-CNA experience.

Week Two: Students will work with a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) in a 2-3:1 ratio, student to CNA. The following clinical learning activities will be completed by the student in this 12-hour day:

- Articulate specific teamwork and collaboration concepts in use while providing nursing care on the patient care unit
- Describe the role and responsibilities of the CNA; gain an appreciation for the role; and observe delegation and communication processes required by the RN –CNA team
- Assist in patient care with assigned CNA: AM care, meals, bed making, vital signs, I&O calculations, transferring patients, weighing patients, glucometry checks, O2 stats, setting up rooms for new patients, discharging patients, locating all needed supplies and resources
- Respond to call lights and interact with the nursing staff
- State an increase in overall comfort with the day to day workings of the unit; identify areas of discomfort
- Contact your Staff Nurse-Clinical Instructor (CI) to discover where your patient assignment will be posted for the first patient care day
- Reflect on second week experience in conference with CFC at end of experience
- CFC reviews planned activities with students and CIs for Week Three student-CI experience

Week Three: First week of nursing student with CI and assigned patient. Note: The student will work in student pairs caring for a patient, that is, 2 students with 1 patient, if possible.

The following clinical learning activities will be completed by the student in this 12-hour day:

- Obtain the patient assignment the day/evening prior to the first day. The assignment will be posted in a previously agreed upon place by the CI. The student will look up the patient's diagnoses, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, PMH, initial plan of nursing care, as well as have medication cards on patient's current meds.
- Provide a report to your CI regarding patient information and patient care obtained. The student will include priority assessments needed to provide safe and effective quality patient care.
- Perform am care (with student partner). Complete basic patient assessments with CI observing. Also complete bed-making, complete and document vital signs and maintain I&O.
- *Observe* your CI administering medications, and
- Assist with patient's dressings, and other nursing care and treatments.
- Communicate with assigned patient to develop a therapeutic rapport and increase comfort in providing psychosocial interventions, caring behaviors, and communication skills.

By the end of Week Three, the educational objectives to be met by students include:

- Verbalize any anxiety or concerns with CI and CFC and state beginning level comfort in providing nursing care on the patient care unit,
- Establish a working relationship with the CI for providing safe and effective quality patient care and for initiating, maintaining, and enhancing the teaching-learning experience, and
- Gain both a greater understanding of and appreciation for nursing and health care team members' roles and responsibilities and the student's role and responsibilities on the patient care unit through observations, interactions, and dialogue and reflection with CFC.
- Reflect on third week experience in conference with CFC at end of experience, including
- Assess and discuss individual learning needs; develop goals and verbalize plans for upcoming weeks.

CFC reviews the following planned activities of student with assigned CI for upcoming weeks:

- In upcoming weeks, students continue to perform patient care activities for assigned patient and further develop abilities to notice, interpret, respond to, and reflect on actions (developing clinical judgment).
- The CI and student focus weekly on learning goals and planned activities related to specific course content and nursing clinical and professional concepts.
- Students begin to verbalize and connect patient care to related pathophysiology and lab findings, connecting theory to practice, nursing knowledge and related skills, enhancing communication and clinical judgment skills, with consideration of patient-centered care and values, including cultural implications, patient teaching with patient, family or significant other, and with consideration of related ethical issues and transitional care provisions.
- The CI and students dialogue each clinical week to further develop clinical decision-making and reasoning skills and reflect on care provided, new learning, and for planning for upcoming weeks.
- Students will begin medication administration during weeks 5-6 upon CI assessment of student readiness -specific medication knowledge and skills for performing safe administration.
- Students continue to learn unit systems and develop abilities in accessing information and resources, attending to safety, teamwork and collaboration, patient centered care, evidence-based practices, quality improvement, and professional behaviors.
- The CI must be present with the student for medication administration and co-sign all related med. administration documentation and other documentation as appropriate.
- The CI provides ongoing feedback to student (strengths and areas for development and improvement) and addresses any learning issues for referral to on-campus learning resources with student and CFC.
- The CFC visits the nursing unit (s) weekly and communicates with CIs on ongoing basis for ongoing coaching, assessment of issues needing immediate attention, and assessment of student learning and ongoing performance evaluation.

Implementation Assessment for _____ **DEU Unit /Agency** _____

Date Assessment Completed: ____/____/____

By Whom: _____

Weeks One-Three	Information Source	Level of Implementation		
		Not completed	Partially completed	Fully completed
Week One				
Week Two				
Week Three				

Comments and areas for improvement: