

Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Nursing Education
Rural Nursing Certificate Program

RN 4802
Coronary Care Nursing
Credits 3

Course Outline

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Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Nursing Education

COURSE OUTLINE

RN 4802 - CORONARY CARE NURSING
MINIMUM COURSE HOURS: 45

CLASSROOM: Self-study

LABORATORY: 0

CLINICAL: 0

CREDIT VALUE: 3 credits

COURSE PREREQUISITES: University transferrable health assessment course

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Coronary Care Nursing provides the nurse with the advanced knowledge and skills necessary to competently care for adult patients with coronary artery disease in a rural setting. Topics covered include reading electrocardiograms, interpreting and treating dysrhythmias, cardiopulmonary arrest management, pacemakers, and cardiac medications. The nursing care of patients with coronary artery disease and its sequela angina pectoris and myocardial infarction is presented in detail. Emphasis is given to health promotion through cardiac rehabilitation following a myocardial infarction. Students will briefly explore various other cardiac disorders through a written assignment.

Course Objectives:

1. Relate pathophysiology concept to coronary artery disease and its sequela angina pectoris and myocardial infarction.
2. Explain the role of the professional nurse in the management of a patient with coronary artery disease.
3. Explain the role of the professional nurse in health promotion activities related to coronary artery disease.
4. Draw inferences regarding the psychological implications of living with coronary artery disease.
5. Apply previously acquired knowledge and skills to a particular nursing focus.

- Critically consider nursing and other research relevant to the care of adult patients with coronary artery disease.

CORE COURSE CONTENT:

The course consists of the following 10 modules:

- Review of anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular system
- Patient assessment
- Coronary Artery Disease: Angina pectoris and myocardial infarction
- Introduction to electrocardiography
- Dysrhythmia analysis and treatment
- 12-lead ECG analysis
- Pacemakers
- Cardiovascular medications
- Cardiopulmonary arrest management
- Cardiac rehabilitation

PRINCIPLES:

- Students require prerequisite knowledge and skills for the course.
- Students advisement is an essential component prior to student enrolment in the course.
- The course contains substantive nursing knowledge related to coronary care nursing; as well as an integration of previous knowledge.

CORE LEARNING EXPERIENCE AND RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:

This is a distance delivery self-study course. Students work at their own pace using the text and a study guide. A tutor is available for consultation and direction as needed. A four hour seminar reviewing 12 - lead ECG analysis, dysrhythmia analysis, and arrest management is optional for students. Clinical experience in the management of cardiac patients occurs in conjunction with RN 4803 Emergency Nursing.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Students will be assessed on the basis of three assignments and a final examination. The distribution of grades is as follows:

Assignment #1

Dysrhythmia Analysis 25%

Assignment #2

A term paper comparing the experiences of a patient with Coronary Artery Disease to the theoretical framework of psychological adjustment presented in the course 20%.

Assignment #3

A term paper discussing a cardiovascular disorder of interest to the student 15%

Final Examination 40%

In order to receive credit for the course all assignments and the final examination must be completed. A grade of 80% is required to pass Assignment #1 Dysrhythmia Analysis. The passing grade for the course is an overall average of 65%.

Note: A detailed description of assignments is contained in the Student Course Manual.

Required textbooks

Kinney, M R. Packa, D R. Andreoli, K G. & Zipes, D P. (1991) *Comprehensive Cardiac Nursing* (7th ed) St Louis, MI Mosby Year Book.

Additional Major References

American Heart Association (1992) Adult advanced cardiac life support. Journal of the American Medical Association, 268 (16), 2199 - 2241.

Barredo, J (1990, December) What really interferes with pacemakers? American Journal a Nursing, 24 - 25

Brannon, P. H. B. & Johnson, R. (1992). The internal cardioverter defibrillator: Patient-family teaching Focus on Critical Care, 19(1), 41 - 46.

Donohoe Dennison, R. (1990, July) Understanding the four determinants of cardiac output Nursing 90, 35 - 40.

Drew, B. J (1982). Using cardiac leads the right way. Nursing '90, 50 - 54 (1986).
Emergency Defibrillation [video] Medifilm.

(1986). Endotracheal Tubes [video] Springhouse, PA: Springhouse.

(1991). Endotracheal Tubes [video]. Springhouse, PA: Springhouse.

Johnson, J. L & Morse, J. M (1990) Regaining control: The process of adjustment after myocardial Heart & Lung, 19(2), 126 - 135.

Merva, J. (1992, May). Providing electrical support for the heart: Temporary pacemaker. RN, 28 - 33.

Miracle, V A & Allnut, D R. (1990, April). How to perform basic airway management. Nursing'90, 49 - 51.

Miracle, V A & Allnut, D R. (1990, May). Using a manual resuscitator correctly Nursing'90, 49 - 51

(1992). Procedure Video: 12-Lead Electrocardiogram [video]. Springhouse, PA: Springhouse.

(1989). Video skill Series: Assessing Breath Sounds [video]. Springhouse, PA: Springhouse.

(1989). Video Skill Series: Assessing Chest Pain [video]. Springhouse, PA: Springhouse.

(1989). Video Skill Series: Assessing Heart Sounds [video]. Springhouse, PA: Springhouse.

(1989). Video Skill Series Identifying Cardiac Dysrhythmias [video]. Springhouse, PA Springhouse.

(1989). Video Skill Series Reading EKG [video] Springhouse, PA Springhouse

Witherall, C L (1990), December). Questions nurses ask about pacemakers: How they work - and what to do when they don't. American Journal a Nursing, 20 - 28.

See Appendix A for further resources.