NU7551: Principles of Peri-Operative Nursing

Specialism
Peri-operative Nursing

Module Leader
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Module Lecturers
Educational facilitators, clinical facilitators, clinical staff, multi-disciplinary guest lecturers.

ECTS
10

Rationale and Aims

Advancements in anaesthetic and surgical management of patients in the operating department results in the need for a comprehensive educational programme to facilitate nurses to practice in a competent and safe manner within the peri-operative environment.

This module focuses on the principles of peri-operative nursing incorporating knowledge, skills and attitudes that are required to become a competent practitioner in this specialist field of nursing.

The aim of this module is to enable students to develop specialist knowledge in addition to clinical and technical expertise in order to provide comprehensive physical, emotional and spiritual support to the patient during their peri-operative experience. Within this module the multi-faceted roles and responsibilities of the peri-operative nurse are explored with reference to three specific aspects- anaesthetic, intra-operative, and post-operative (recovery) aspects of nursing.

Module Content

Anaesthetic Nursing Care
- General Anaesthesia and techniques/ Types.
- Anaesthesia of patient with intercurrent disease,
- Anaesthetic drugs
- Airway management ( induction, maintenance, reversal and extubation)
- Rapid sequence induction, Difficult intubation, LMA’s, ET’s
- Principles of ventilation/ ventilation settings/ care of the ventilated patient
- Malignant Hyperthermia
- Regional anaesthesia
- Haemodynamic monitoring
- Inotropes
- Principles of paediatric anaesthesia, Paed airway/ Paed equipment, special consideration, premed, fasting, heat conservation and positioning. Recovery paed patient and discharge criteria. Paed post operative complications, pain management and drug calculations

Intra-operative Nursing Care
- Patient Positioning
- Sutures /needle selection/stapling devices
- Diathermy
- Tourniquet
- Principles of Thermoregulation/Hypothermia/ Inadvertent Hypothermia
- Bariatric Surgery

Recovery Nursing
- Recovery room nursing and discharge criteria
- Principles of Pain Management
- Principles of Managing Post operative complications
- Wound Drain Management
- Recovery room nursing and discharge criteria
- ECG and Reading/ MI’s
- Pharmacology/ pharmokinetics/ dynamics

**Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Critically examine the current role of the peri-operative nurse and explore the potential and limitations of professional practice.
- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and competence in the use of specific equipment used in the theatre department.
- Critically evaluate the effectiveness of care delivered and review practice in accordance with relevant recent research findings.
- Apply in-depth specialist knowledge and competence of the specific physiological and psychological needs of patients in the peri-operative setting.
- Ensure and maintain optimum patient safety and comfort in the intra-operative phase while attaining a high level of accuracy in the assessment and delivery of care.
- Evaluate the peri-operatives nurse’s role in relation to specific anaesthetic, intra-operative and recovery issues.
- Demonstrate skill and safe practice in all aspects of peri-operative nursing.

**Methods of Teaching and Student Learning:** Group work, lecture, guest speakers, guided discussion, practical demonstrations, self-directed learning

**Methods of Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students must answer 3 questions out of 4:</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One question from Section A of the Paper;</td>
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<tr>
<td>One question from Section B of the Paper;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student can answer the third question from either Section A or Section B.</td>
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**Contact Hours**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Direct Contact: Class and Online</th>
<th>30</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Student Effort</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specified Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Contact: Supervision</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
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**Indicative Resources – more detailed lists may be provided by lecturers**


