



NURS 7620 – Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Practicum

The student will:

- Utilize the concepts of normal neonatal physiology and development when providing patient care in the Simulation Learning Center and in the clinical setting.
- Identify the genetic and/or pathophysiologic basis of common neonatal health disorders.
- Manage the care of sick neonates of varying acuity with simple and complex medical problems under the supervision of an NNP preceptor.
- Demonstrate the advanced practice nurse practitioner role within the neonatal ICU setting consistent with established professional standards.
- Discuss indications, contraindications, & side effects of drugs commonly prescribed in the neonatal ICU.
- Apply the concepts of pharmacology of neonatal drug therapy in the clinical setting.
- Accurately obtain and record complete history and physical examination of the neonatal patient.
- Accurately document care of the neonatal patient in the medical record.
- Perform basic technical skills inherent to the neonatal nurse practitioner role.
- Present oral patient summaries and case analysis in a clear, concise and systematic manner.
- Demonstrate the ability to accurately interpret common diagnostic lab data and radiographic images.

Course Description

The purpose of the NNP Practicum is to provide students with learning opportunities that facilitate development of clinical expertise required to practice as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner. Students will work with NNP faculty and clinical preceptors in a variety of clinical settings to broaden their knowledge base and develop technical skills required for the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner role. In addition, students will learn to utilize clinically relevant evidence to develop a plan of care for a variety of neonatal patients.

During the first semester of the NNP practicum experience, students will apply knowledge and skills acquired in previous semesters regarding care of infant in the Simulation Learning Center or the neonatal intensive care unit. In the second semester of the NNP practicum experience, students will build upon the application skills learned during the first semester of the NNP practicum experience.

Other Information

In the first few days of the clinical the student should take a light load 1-2 patients of low intensity and progress throughout the semester in both patient numbers and intensity. Initially you will both examine the patient. By the end of the semester our goal for the student is to obtain an accurate and thorough history, perform an appropriate physical examination, identify a problem, and develop differential

diagnoses with beginning understanding of treatment recommendations specific to the diagnoses. Mastery of these skills will be a progression through their clinical experiences. You will always round with the student in attending rounds.

The student will receive two clinical evaluations conducted by a faculty member during the semester. At least one of these will be at your clinical site. During these visits we do not want to interrupt the normal flow of the unit. The faculty providing the site visit will not be involved in the care of the patient; rather we are there to observe the student's progression in obtaining a history, conducting an appropriate physical exam, and his/her interaction with you and the staff. We also would like to discuss with you any comments or concerns regarding the student or our program.

We do ask you to complete an evaluation of the student in the middle and the end of the semester and review this with the student. The student will need to receive the completed evaluation forms from you. Your evaluation of the student progression is important, and is used to determine the student's final grade. The student will provide you with the evaluation forms.

Lead Instructor Contact Information:

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