



NURS 7621 – Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Practicum

The student will:

- Utilize the concepts of normal neonatal physiology and development when providing direct patient care.
- 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 the 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.
- Accurately interpret common diagnostic lab data, tests and radiographs.
- Develop objectives for individual learning experience in student's chosen area of interest (e.g, cardiac or surgical care, radiology, nutrition, end of life care, etc.).
- Demonstrate the ability to make independent judgments in clinical practice.

Course Description

The purpose of the NNP Residency is to provide students with learning opportunities that facilitate continued development in the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner role. Students will work with preceptors in a variety of clinical settings to advance the knowledge and skills acquired in previous didactic and clinical coursework. This course provides the student with an immersion into the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) role that allows development of increased skill and independence in decision-making as a NNP. Students are expected to identify, interpret, and apply current evidence to their practice and clinical decision-making. Students in the clinical residency will be directly precepted and observed by a licensed Neonatal Nurse Practitioner.

Topical Outline

- Obtaining and documenting neonatal and maternal histories
- Interpretation of diagnostic data including physical exam findings, intake and output, radiographs, surgical and interventional procedures, blood sample analysis, cerebral spinal fluid and urine analysis
- Developing and documenting the plan of care for neonatal patients with various neonatal diseases
- Electronic documentation of care
- Procedures (endotracheal intubation, umbilical artery and venous catheterization, lumbar puncture, intraosseous needle insertion, chest thoracotomy)
- Oral presentation of patient summaries, case analysis, and plan of care
- Quality and safety in NNP practice

Other Information:

During this clinical experience the student should take a 4-6 patients of moderate/high 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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