



Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston**  
**Education Resource Center**  
**Nursing Service: Competency Based Orientation**  
**RN Basic Competencies: Adult Intensive Care Units**

**Competency Statement:** Upon completion of orientation, the Registered Nurse in collaboration with the patient/family and health team members utilizes the nursing process and age-specific developmental principles when providing care for selected patients

Performance Criteria	Validation of Performance <i>Preceptor confirms: Performs according to standards, guidelines, and/or protocol</i>	Self Assessment				Date Competency Met/Validator's Signature	Learning Options <i>&gt;Patient care w/ preceptor &gt;Skill demo/return demo &gt;Read pertinent policies &gt;Read related section in reference texts.</i>	Action Plan	Comments
		Have you ever done this before		Are you competent performing?					
		Yes	No	Yes	No				
<b>Respiratory System</b> Cares for the patient in acute respiratory distress	-Performs rapid, focused assessment -Assesses pulse oximetry reading -Provides O <sub>2</sub> per appropriate modality -Instructs on use of incentive spirometry						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe: RRT</li> </ul>		
Cares for the patient with compromised respiratory status	Provides aggressive pulmonary toilet -incentive spirometry -planned mobilization -correlates I&O, hydration, and electrolytes to patient condition						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Observe: RRT</li> </ul>		
	<b>Mechanical Ventilation</b> -Identifies correct vent settings and modes -Recognizes inadequate ventilation/ bags patient -Monitors patient during weaning process -Monitors end tidal CO <sub>2</sub>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice; Skills/Equipment simulation</li> <li>Observe: RRT</li> </ul>		
	<b>Chest Tubes:</b> Assists with insertion: -Assembles equipment -Assesses for air leak -Applies/changes dressing -Changes pleurivac						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Thoracic Cavity Management" <a href="#">AACN</a></li> </ul>		

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	<b>Endotracheal Care</b> -Assists with intubation -Repositions/secures ETT -Assesses patency of tube -Suctions prn -Provides oral care -Assists with extubation					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend CXR rounds</li> <li>Observe:RT performing procedures</li> </ul>			
<b>Cardiovascular System</b> Cares for a patient with compromised cardiovascular function	Performs complete cardiovascular assessment. Obtains BP reading per non-invasive BP equipment. Operates cardiac monitor: -obtains readout -sets alarm limits -trends -reviews, sets, adjusts arrhythmia function alarms								
	<b>Cardiac Monitoring</b> -Applies electrodes -Identifies and sets alarms -Reviews trends -Obtains strips -Changes paper -Interprets and documents rhythm strip -Measures PR, QRS, QT intervals -Recognizes abnormal rhythm and relates findings to patients condition Asystole Heart Block Bradycardia Tachycardia V-Fib V-Tach A-Fib A-Flutter Paced rhythm					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Basic Dysrhythmia</li> <li>Practice: strip evaluation with preceptor</li> </ul>			

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	<b>Administers cardiovascular medications safely</b> -Nitrates -Beta Blockers -Ca Channel Blockers -Anticoagulant therapy -Vasopressors -Vasodilators -Antidysrhythmics -Antihypertensives -Coagulants						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Code 99</li> <li>Class: ACLS</li> </ul>		
	Observes geriatric patient for increased risk of drug reaction and interaction.								
	<b>Invasive Lines:</b> -Sets up line, zeros to patient -Identifies abnormal waveform -Obtains blood sample -Performs site care -Safely handles lines -Discontinues catheter a. Arterial b. Central Venous						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P&amp;P: Care of Arterial Pressure Lines</li> </ul>		
	<b>Central Venous line:</b> -Obtains pressure reading and relates findings to patient condition -Uses aseptic technique with lines and stopcocks, noting air and clots -Changes dressing -Obtains blood sample						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P&amp;P: Changing IV Tubing on Central Venous Catheters</li> <li>P&amp;P: Blood Drawing from Central Venous Catheters</li> <li>P&amp;P: Central Line Dressing Change.</li> </ul>		
Obtains blood specimens for laboratory testing	Obtains blood culture -Selects sites -Cleans sites -Injects media for designated tests								

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	Performs arterial sampling -Performs Allen test -Prepares equipment -Performs arterial puncture -Assures timely disposition of specimen -Identifies abnormal values								
Cares for a patient with altered hemodynamic status	-Recognizes fluid and electrolytes imbalances, relates findings to pt -Monitors/replaces fluid and electrolytes								
Cares for a patient requiring cardiopulmonary resuscitation	-Calls for assistance -Documents concisely assessment findings, interventions, response and outcome on Resuscitation Flow Sheet -Calculates drug dosages					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class: Code 99</li> <li>• Class: ACLS</li> </ul>			
<b>Peripheral vascular system</b> Cares for the patient with altered peripheral/vascular circulation	Assesses neurovascular status of patient requiring antithrombolytic hose								
<b>Neurological system</b> Cares for patient with altered or compromised neuro status	Provides a safe environment -Performs eye/skin care of comatose patient -Tests cough and gag reflexes -Documents characteristics of seizure								
Cares for the patient recovering from anesthesia	-Considers type of anesthetic agent when planning care: local, general, and/or neuromuscular blockade								

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Cares for the patient receiving analgesic medication	-Assesses pain -Administers medication -Assesses/Documents response to pain medication -Seeks further orders for inadequate pain relief, i.e., calls MD if pain remains unresolved						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Pain Management</li> <li>Class: Conscious Sedation</li> <li>Class: Epidural Analgesia</li> <li>P&amp;P: Pain and Comfort Management</li> </ul>		
<b>Genitourinary System</b> Cares for a patient with compromised/altered renal status	-Identifies inadequate urine output, including factors related to decreased output -Recognizes fluid volume overload								
<b>Gastrointestinal System</b> Cares for a patient with compromised GI function	Uses NG tube; irrigates, aspirates, obtains gastric pH Uses wall/portable suction, notes secretions -Sets suction in accordance w/ pt need and physician order.								
<b>Nutritional/Metabolic System</b> Cares for a patient with compromised nutritional/metabolic status	Performs enteral feeding -Inserts weighted feeding tube -Monitors feedings -Positions patient -Uses feeding pump								
	-Initiates TPN infusion, uses strict asepsis -Monitors labs								
<b>Integumentary System</b> Cares for a patient with altered mobility	Determines need for specialty equipment, consults Skin Care consultant -Uses specialty beds -Performs decubitus staging and identifies treatment modalities						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Pressure Ulcer Prevention Workshop</li> </ul>		
	-Observes geriatric patient for increased risk of skin breakdown								
Cares for a patient with altered skin integrity /wound	-Assesses for signs and symptoms of infection, hemorrhage, or dehiscence						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>AACN</u> Wound Care</li> </ul>		

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<b>Musculoskeletal System</b> Cares for a patient with compromised/altered musculoskeletal system	Recognizes abnormal assessment findings related to: -Range of motion -Muscle strength -Gait -Endurance -Balance -Sensation Maintains proper body alignment and promotes patient comfort while positioning -Log rolling -Patient transfer								
<b>Safety</b> Safely uses and maintains specialty equipment	-Bedside monitors -Transport monitors -Non-invasive BP monitor -Specialty beds -Defibrillator -Infusion pumps -Blood warmer -Temperature control devices -Pulse oximeter -PCA Pump								
Cares for a patient from a correctional facility	Removes sharp objects from room/area -Identifies role of guard -Does not allow phone calls or visitors -Communicates appropriately -Performs discharge/-transfer procedure to the correctional facility					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Security Awareness</li> </ul>			

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Cares for a patient post-mortem	Demonstrates post-mortem care					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• P&amp;P: Dispositioning of Deceased Patient</li> <li>• P&amp;P: Post Mortem Care of Isolation Patients</li> <li>• P&amp;P: Withholding or Withdrawing Life Support Without an Advance Directive</li> <li>• P&amp;P: Withholding or Withdrawing Life Support Without an Advance Directive.</li> </ul>			

AACN = AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care