



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

**The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston**  
**Education Resource Center**  
**Nursing Service: Competency Based Orientation**  
**Basic RN Competencies: Telemetry Unit**

**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 >Patient care w/ preceptor >Skill demo/return demo >Read pertinent policies >Read related section in reference texts.	Action Plan	Comments
		Have you ever done this before?		Are you competent performing?					
		Yes	No	Yes	No				
<b>Cardiac Monitoring</b> Cares for the patient requiring cardiac monitoring.	Applies electrodes Connects to telemetry transmitter Identifies and sets alarms Reviews trends Removes interference Interprets and documents rhythm strip Follows up for abnormal rhythms Troubleshoots equipment problems. Responds to telemetry telephone calls						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classes: Basic Dysrhythmia, Code 99</li> <li>Practice: strip evaluation with preceptor</li> <li>Computer-based module: Viridia System</li> </ul>		
Evaluates ECG rhythm	Measures -PR interval -QRS interval -QT interval								
Recognizes abnormal rhythm	Relates findings to pt's condition Asystole V-fib V-tach Tachycardia Bradycardia Heart block A-fib A-flutter						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Code 99</li> <li>Class: ACLS</li> </ul>		

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Administers cardio-vascular medications	Demonstrates administration technique, verbalizes precautions -Nitrates -Beta Blockers -Ca Channel Blockers -Anticoagulants -Antiplatelets -Antidysrhythmics -Antihypertensives -Inotropes								
Obtains 12 lead ECG	Places leads Enters data Obtains readout								
Cares for the pt undergoing cardiac diagnostic tests	Assesses pre/post procedure Teaches pt preprocedure Verbalizes potential complications Cares for pt undergoing -Stress test -Radionuclide studies -Echocardiogram studies -Cardiac catheterization -Electrophysiology testing								
Cares for the pt undergoing cardiac intervention	Cares for pt pre/post procedure per critical pathway -Angioplasty -Stent placement					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read critical pathways</li> </ul>			
Cares for the patient undergoing anticoagulant therapy	Evaluates coagulation values Titrates medications per protocol Verbalizes potential complications								
Performs coagulation monitoring	Performs electronic calibration Documents QC check Performs coagulation test Document on BST log sheet					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read coagulation protocol and manufacturer's guide</li> </ul>			

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Cares for the patient with a pacemaker	Recognizes type of pacing Identifies pacer spikes Identifies pacemaker capturing and sensing ability								
Cares for the patient requiring external pacing	Applies external pads Connects to the Zoll pacemaker/defibrillator with adequate R wave Adjusts parameters per MD order								
Cares for the patient requiring analgesia	Assesses pain and ECG evaluation Administers medication Considers interactions with current medications Assesses/Documents response to pain medication Follows up w/ MD for unresolved pain					<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>			
Cares for a patient with altered hemodynamic status	Recognizes fluid overload and deficit Recognizes electrolytes imbalances Relates findings to pt and associated ECG changes Monitors/replaces fluid and electrolytes								
<b>Respiratory System</b> Cares for the patient in respiratory distress	Performs rapid, focused assessment Assesses pulse oximetry reading Recognizes need for and 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>			

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<b>Safety</b> Cares for the patient from a correctional environment	Adheres to security regulations according to policy and/or protocols: -Does not leave unnecessary equipment in room -Limits conversations with inmates to medical care Performs discharge and transfer procedures to the correctional facility					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Security Awareness</li> </ul>			
<b>Miscellaneous</b> Cares for the patient using special equipment	Ensures maintenance of special equipment: -Telemetry transmitter -Transport monitor -Tympanic thermometer -Doppler					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class: Skills/Equipment Lab</li> <li>Review manufacturer's guidelines for equipment</li> </ul>			