NRSG 454: Urgent and Palliative Care
Credits: 6 (3 lecture; 3 clinical laboratory)
Semesters Offered: F, Sp
Prerequisites: NRSG 352 NRSG 336, NRSG 346, NRSG 348, NRSG 341

Course Description:
The focus of this course is application of theoretical and empirical knowledge to nursing care for complex clients across the adult lifespan requiring urgent and palliative care in a variety of settings. Clinical decision making, triage, and symptom management are emphasized. This course builds upon and integrates knowledge gained from nursing, sciences, and the humanities.

Course Objectives: The student will:

1. Utilize evidence-based nursing practice and informatics (nursing, computer, and information science) to communicate and manage care for clients requiring urgent and palliative care. (F2-13; T1, 2, 3, 7, 10)
2. Collaborate with health care team members to design, implement, delegate and evaluate urgent and palliative care throughout the adult lifespan. (F2-13; T1, 7-9, 11)
3. Determine treatment priorities based on principles of triage. (F2-13; T4)
4. Students will demonstrate behaviors that are congruent with the ANA Code of Ethics in all class related interactions. (F2-13; T 4, 5)
5. Demonstrate therapeutic relationships and cultural sensitivity with individuals and families requiring urgent and palliative care. (F2-13; T6)
6. Synthesize previously learned and new knowledge into care of clients requiring urgent and palliative care. (F1-13; T1-3, 7, 10)
7. Promote health and optimal functioning or death with dignity for clients requiring urgent and palliative care. (F2-13; T2, 4, 7)

Recommended Content and Concepts:

1. Nursing care of adults with problems of nutrition/metabolic/endocrine, hydration, elimination, activity/exercise, oxygenation, sleep, pain, neurosensory, infection and inflammation, cellular proliferation related to emergent and terminal illness.
2. Triage, Stabilization, Treatment or Transfer of persons with emergent and life-threatening conditions (eg, organ failure, trauma, shock, burns, fluid loss, arrhythmias, head injury, ICP, poisoning, medication overdose, HIV, dementia, cancer, cardiac, pulmonary, and renal disease and other conditions that may lead to death)
3. Implementing advance directives, withholding/withdrawing treatment, use of technology in urgent and palliative care, community resources/referrals
4. Technical skills: Code situations, disasters, basic first aid, splinting, assessment of common symptoms associated with the end-of-life (eg., pain, dyspnea, constipation, anxiety, fatigue, nausea/vomiting, altered cognition)
Suggested Student Learning Activities:
Active participation in group discussion
Direct care in clinical/community areas congruent with content areas
Analysis of laboratory data
Psychomotor technical skills
Delivery of safe urgent and palliative care
Communication and documentation of the professional nurse

Approved by UAAC: April 19, 2012
Approved by Faculty: May 3, 2012