

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF NURSING
Master Resource Outline**

N563: Primary Health Care III for Aging Families

Semester offered: Fall

Credits: 6; lec 3, clinical lab 3

Prerequisite: N562

Course Description: Assessment, treatment and preventive care for aging families in primary health care settings. Physiological, pathophysiological, psychological, developmental, sociocultural and spiritual responses to acute and chronic conditions will be explored. Advanced nursing practice is developed through continued utilization of theoretical perspectives which serve as guides to the identification and treatment of the common health care needs of the aging family. There is added emphasis on the advocacy role of the nurse practitioner with this population.

Course Objectives:

1. Analyze nurse practitioner roles in providing treatment and preventive care for aging families with emphasis on rural, primary care settings.
2. Assess and interpret individual and family responses to health care issues, guided by a variety of relevant theoretical perspectives.
3. Formulate nursing strategies, guided by identified concepts and perspectives, for treatment and preventive care of aging families.
4. Implement nursing strategies (including traditional and non-traditional) for health promotion and intervention in response to primary health care needs of aging families.
5. Evaluate the effectiveness of nursing strategies used to provide primary care for aging families.
6. Integrate dynamics of culture and ethnicity into the development, implementation and evaluation of nursing strategies.
7. Critically review research and practice literature related to the field of aging and make appropriate application to clinical practice.

Recommended Content and Concepts:

- I. Role and issues for the Family Nurse Practitioner in caring for aging families
 - A. Role definition
 - B. Description of FNP practice boundaries
 - C. Conflict resolution with other providers
 - D. Referral and consultation issues
 - E. Interdependent and independent practice
- II. The Aging family
 - A. Theories of aging
 - B. Perceptions of aging
 1. From the client
 2. From the health care provider
 - C. Myths and realities of aging
 - D. Research in aging

- E. Learning theory in the aging family
- III. Role Development
 - A. Client advocacy with aging families
 - B. Communication with elderly
 - C. Wellness and self-care with aging families
 - D. Preventive services for aging families
 - E. Overview of geriatric screening
 - F. Community health/Elderly services
- IV. Physiological diagnosis and interventions for aging families
 - A. Skin responses (trauma, infections, aging skin care)
 - B. Sensory responses (function losses, injuries, infections)
 - C. Cardiovascular responses (congestive heart failure, peripheral vascular problems, chest pain, angina, stroke)
 - D. Respiratory responses (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, dyspnea)
 - E. Gastrointestinal/Liver/renal responses
 - F. Gynecological responses in aging clients
 - G. Musculoskeletal responses (debilitating arthritis, injuries, osteoporosis)
 - H. Endocrine responses
 - I. Neurological responses (traumas, strokes, dementias)
 - J. Nutrition responses
 - K. Immunology/immunizations
 - L. Sexuality
- IV. Psychological diagnosis and interventions for aging families
 - A. Developmental theory
 - B. Depression/suicide
 - C. Isolation/relationship networks
 - D. Self-esteem
 - E. Intimacy/Sexuality
 - F. Transitions/role change
 - G. Substance use/abuse
 - H. Widowhood/widowerhood
 - I. Powerlessness
- VI. Sociocultural issues in aging families
 - A. Housing
 - B. Retirement
 - C. Social isolation
 - D. Cohorts and culture
 - E. Personal security
 - F. Medical/legal issues
 - G. Elder abuse
 - H. Euthanasia
 - I. Ethics in aging society
- VII. Spiritual issues
 - A. Meaning/meaningless/hopelessness
 - B. Transcendence
 - C. Death and dying
 - D. Spirituality
 - E. Change of life/life of change

- VIII. Preventive Strategies
 - A. Thorough assessment
 - 1. Depression
 - 2. Substance use
 - 3. Isolation
 - B. Nutrition
 - C. Exercise
 - D. Independent living
 - E. Community involvement/worthwhileness
 - F. Empowerment

- IX. Skills
 - A. Laboratory assessments(Variation for previously learned skills for aging clients)
 - B. Adjuncts to physical assessments
 - 1. Performs/interprets anoscopy
 - 2. Orders/interprets x-rays, special tests
 - C. Therapeutic maneuvers
 - 1. Uses electrocautery, chemical cautery
 - 2. Performs incision and drainage

Examples of student learning activities;

1. Use of case studies derived from clinical practice to facilitate discussions related to advocacy and practice.
2. Critical review of research and practice literature related to aging families/individuals.
3. Student interviews with elders.
4. Student presentations on:
 - a. specific theories/models of aging
 - b. nursing theories/models appropriate for aging populations
 - c. non-traditional treatment/healing modalities.
5. Written case analysis of elder family cared for by the FNP student, utilizing selected nursing theories and comparison of care to standards of practice.

Approved & Modified by GAAC: 8/94; 6/95; 3/97; 4/00; 10/01; 4/07
Approved by Faculty: 10/94; 8/95; 4/97; 4/07