

Bachelor of Nursing with Honours in  
General Health Care Programme

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# CLINICAL PRACTICUM

(General Health Care)

NURS S107F

NURS S207F

NURS S217F

NURS S317F

NURS S417F

Student Practicum  
Handbook  
(2017 Cohort Onwards)



香港公開大學

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY  
OF HONG KONG

政府創辦·多元創新

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## Introduction

The practicum courses (a total of 40 credits) are the core courses in the Bachelor of Nursing with Honours in General Health Care Programme. The five practicum courses, namely *NURS S107F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) I*, *NURS S207F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) II*, *NURS S217F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) III*, *NURS S317F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) IV*, and *NURS S417F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) V*, are presented in each academic year from Year 1 to Year 5 respectively. Students are allocated to the University's approved accredited clinical practicum venues for a total of 42 weeks to take part in clinical practice in various clinical settings. The students are under the supervision of University-appointed Honorary Clinical Tutors (HCTs) during the clinical placement.

## Aims

The practicum courses, *Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) I-V*, aim to provide opportunities for students to practice in a variety of clinical settings to facilitate their integration of both theoretical and clinical nursing knowledge. Clinical practice helps to enrich students' clinical experience and helps students to master the clinical skills to achieve the competencies required for a Registered Nurse (General) as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong.

## Nature of clinical settings and clinical hours

Clinical settings	Duration (Weeks)
Medical nursing	11
Surgical nursing	9
Paediatric and adolescent nursing	2
Operating theatre nursing	2
Accident and emergency nursing	2
Specialty nursing: Obstetric nursing	2
Specialty nursing: Psychiatric nursing	2
Specialty nursing: Gerontological nursing	2
Specialty nursing: Community nursing	2
Specialty nursing: Primary health care	2
Medical OR Surgical nursing	6
Total	42

## Details of clinical placement

Year	Course	Course content	No. of weeks in clinical practicum venues
1	Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) I (NURS S107F)	Clinical placement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary health care</li> </ul>	2
2	Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) II (NURS S207F)	Clinical placement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical nursing</li> <li>• Surgical nursing</li> <li>• Operating theatre nursing</li> </ul>	8
3	Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) III (NURS S217F)	Clinical placement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical nursing</li> <li>• Surgical nursing</li> </ul> <u>Specialty nursing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gerontological nursing</li> <li>• Psychiatric nursing <i>(allocation in only ONE specialty)</i></li> </ul>	8
4	Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) IV (NURS S317F)	Clinical placement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical nursing</li> <li>• Surgical nursing</li> <li>• Paediatric and adolescent nursing</li> </ul> <u>Specialty nursing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gerontological nursing</li> <li>• Psychiatric nursing <i>(allocation in only ONE specialty with no previous placement)</i></li> </ul> <u>Specialty nursing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community nursing</li> <li>• Obstetric nursing <i>(allocation in only ONE specialty)</i></li> </ul>	10
5	Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) V (NURS S417F)	Clinical placement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical nursing</li> <li>• Surgical nursing</li> <li>• Accident and emergency nursing</li> </ul> <u>Specialty nursing:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community nursing</li> <li>• Obstetric nursing <i>(allocation in only ONE specialty with no previous placement)</i></li> </ul>	14

# Clinical assessment

## 1 Assessment of clinical performance

During the clinical practicum, students' clinical performance is assessed by both students and Honorary Clinical Tutors (HCTs).

## 2 Clinical assessment

The following three continuing clinical assessments (CCA) have to be conducted by clinical assessors:

- Aseptic Technique (AT)
- Administration of Medication (AOM)
- Professional Nursing Competencies (PNC).

CCA will be conducted in Medical and/or Surgical unit with continuous practicum period for 4 weeks. Interim evaluation of clinical placement should be conducted at week 2 and final evaluation should be conducted at week 4. If the student fails any items in the final evaluation, he/she will fail in the practicum course and is required to retake the course.

# Learning outcomes

## Overall learning outcomes

Upon completion of *Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) I to V*, students should be able to:

- 1 *Identify* the key principles of good nursing practice through observation and practice in simulated clinical environment and clinical realities;
- 2 *Integrate* and *apply* theoretical and clinical nursing knowledge in the following clinical realities:
  - Medical nursing
  - Surgical nursing
  - Paediatric and adolescent nursing
  - Operative theatre nursing
  - Accident and emergency nursing
  - Specialty nursing: Gerontological nursing
  - Specialty nursing: Obstetric nursing
  - Specialty nursing: Community nursing
  - Specialty nursing: Psychiatric nursing
  - Specialty nursing: Primary health care

- 3 *Demonstrate* an appropriate level of clinical competence across the spectrum of nursing practice as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong in *A Reference Guide to the Syllabus of Subjects and Requirements for the Preparation of Registered Nurses (General) in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region*.

## **Learning outcomes of practicum courses**

Clinical practicum is carried out in the following five practicum courses. For each practicum, students are expected to complete the set learning outcomes as listed below:

### **NURS S107F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) I**

Upon completion of the *Clinical Practicum I*, students should be able to:

- 1 *Demonstrate mastery of basic medical terminology;*
- 2 *Demonstrate familiarity with the primary health care settings;*
- 3 *Perform basic nursing care in the primary health care settings;*
- 4 *Demonstrate mastery of basic nursing skills and related nursing care;*
- 5 *Apply communication skills to communicate with patients, relatives and health care team members;*
- 6 *Commit to clinical practice according to legal, professional and ethical requirements;*
- 7 *Identify and implement basic nursing care in simulated clinical environments and primary health care settings.*



## **NURS S207F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) II**

Upon completion of the *Clinical Practicum II*, students should be able to:

- 1 *Demonstrate* familiarity with the ward and hospital settings;
- 2 *Demonstrate* efficiency in performing the routines of a ward;
- 3 *Apply* communication skills to communicate with patients, relatives and health care team members;
- 4 *Commit* to clinical practice according to legal, professional and ethical requirements;
- 5 *Identify and implement* basic nursing care in medical, surgical, and operative theatre nursing;
- 6 *Achieve* a pass in ONE of the following clinical assessments as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong's *Syllabus of Training for Professional Registered Part I: Registered Nurses (General)*:
  - a Aseptic technique;
  - b Administration of medication.

## **NURS S217F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) III**

Upon completion of the *Clinical Practicum III*, students should be able to:

- 1 *Demonstrate competency* in the provision of basic nursing care;
- 2 *Apply* communication skills to communicate with patients, relatives and health care team members;
- 3 *Commit* to clinical practice according to legal, professional and ethical requirements;
- 4 *Implement* with competency the nursing care in medical, surgical settings;
- 5 *Apply* the principles of emergency nursing and implement the appropriate nursing care;
- 6 *Apply* the principles of specialty nursing and implement the appropriate nursing care in the clinical specialties of gerontological nursing, and mental health nursing;

- 7 *Assess, plan, implement and evaluate* an individualized care plan using nursing process;
- 8 *Achieve* a pass in ONE of the following clinical assessments (which has not been completed in Clinical Practicum III) as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong's *Syllabus of Training for Professional Registered Part I: Registered Nurses (General)*:
  - a Aseptic technique;
  - b Administration of medication.

#### **NURS S317F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) IV**

Upon completion of the *Clinical Practicum IV*, students should be able to:

- 1 *Demonstrate* confidence in the provision of basic nursing care;
- 2 *Apply* communication skills to communicate with patients, relatives and health care team members;
- 3 *Commit* to clinical practice according to legal, professional and ethical requirements;
- 4 *Implement* with competency the nursing care in medical, surgical, accident and emergency nursing, and paediatric and adolescent;
- 5 *Apply* the principles of specialty nursing and implement the appropriate nursing care in the clinical specialties of gerontological nursing, community nursing, mental health nursing, and obstetric nursing;
- 6 *Assess, plan, implement and evaluate* an individualized care plan using nursing process;
- 7 *Achieve* a pass in the clinical assessment of 'Professional Nursing Competencies' as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong's *Syllabus of Training for Professional Registered Part I: Registered Nurses (General)*

#### **NURS S417F Clinical Practicum (General Health Care) V**

Upon completion of the *Clinical Practicum V*, students should be able to:

- 1 *Demonstrate* confidence in the provision of basic nursing care;
- 2 *Apply* communication skills to communicate with patients, relatives and health care team members;
- 3 *Commit* to clinical practice according to legal, professional and ethical requirements;

- 4 *Implement* with competency the nursing care in medical, surgical settings,
- 5 *Apply* the principles of emergency nursing and implement the appropriate nursing care;
- 6 *Apply* the principles of specialty nursing and implement the appropriate nursing care in the clinical specialties of, community nursing or obstetric nursing;
- 7 *Assess, plan, implement* and *evaluate* an individualized care plan using nursing process;
- 8 *Achieve* a pass in the clinical assessment of ‘Professional Nursing Competencies’ as stipulated by the Nursing Council of Hong Kong’s *Syllabus of Training for Professional Registered Part I: Registered Nurses (General)*.

## Areas of clinical learning

There are 12 areas of clinical learning for the Bachelor of Nursing with Honours in General Health Care. The learning outcomes of each area of placement, and its associated content, are as follows:

### Fundamental nursing care and skills

Upon completion of the clinical placement, the students should be able to:

A Provide a safe and comfortable environment:

- Proper ventilation, temperature and lighting, reduction of noise, cleanliness
- Fire prevention
- Others.

B Prevent common accidents in the ward/hospital:

- Implementation of hospital guidelines on safety
- Use of safety vests/limb holder
- Use of bed-side rails
- Others.

C Perform bed-making duties:

- Beds for admitted patients
- Operating theatre beds
- Others.

D Implement infection-control measures:

- Hand-washing
- Putting on and removing personal protection equipment (PPE)
- Aseptic technique
- Disinfection and disposal of infected materials
- Others.

E Provide nursing care in admitting a patient:

- Clinical admission
- Emergency admission
- Care of relatives
- Care of property
- Others.

- F Provide nursing care in positioning patients:
- Recumbent position
  - Lateral position
  - Prone position
  - Others.
- G Provide nursing care in maintaining personal hygiene:
- Oral care
  - Bed bath
  - Perineal care
  - Others.
- H Provide nursing care in preventing pressure ulcers:
- Proper use of pressure-relieving devices
  - Nursing care of pressure area(s)
  - Nursing care of pressure ulcer(s)
  - Others.
- I Provide nursing care in moving and lifting patients:
- In bed
  - Between the bed and the stretcher
  - Between the bed and the wheelchair
  - During ambulation
  - Others.
- J Perform nursing assessment and documentation:
- Health history
  - Temperature
  - Pulse
  - Apical rate
  - Respiration
  - Blood pressure
  - Mental state
  - Level of consciousness
  - Pain and discomfort
  - Body height and body weight
  - Intake and output
  - Skin condition

- Central venous pressure (CVP)
- Others.

K Provide nursing care in maintaining hydration and nutrition:

- Feeding of patient
- Insertion and removal of naso-gastric tube
- Naso-gastric tube feeding
- Gastrostomy feeding
- Others.

L Perform administration of drugs:

- Care and custody of drugs: storage, checking, recording
- Principles of drug administration: three checks and five rights
- Administration of drugs by:
  - mouth
  - intramuscular injection
  - subcutaneous injection
  - intra-dermal injection
  - intravenous injection
  - intravenous infusion
  - inhalation
  - rectum
  - vagina
  - other routes
- Blood transfusion
- Others.

M Provide routine pre- and post-operative nursing care:

- Provide routine pre-operative nursing care
- Provide routine post-operative nursing care.

N Perform aseptic techniques:

- Donning and removal of sterile gloves
- Performing wound care
- Removal of sutures
- Removal of drains/clips
- Others.

- O Provide nursing care in cold/hot therapy:
  - Using cold/hot compresses
  - Performing tepid sponging
  - Others.
  
- P Provide nursing care in maintaining oxygenation:
  - Oxygen therapy
  - Naso-oro-pharyngeal suctioning
  - Tracheostomy suctioning
  - Others.
  
- Q Provide nursing care in elimination:
  - Giving and removal of bedpan
  - Giving and removal of urinal
  - Giving and removal of commode
  - Administration of fleet enema
  - Male catheterization
  - Female catheterization
  - Bladder washout
  - Others.
  
- R Observe and collect specimens:
  - Urine
    - mid-stream urine
    - 24-hour urine
    - other urine specimens
  - Stool
  - Sputum
  - Drainage
  - Aspirate
  - Vomitus
  - Blood
  - Others.
  
- S Provide nursing care to patients while undergoing the following investigations:
  - Physical examination
  - X-ray examination
  - Endoscopic examination

- Blood testing
- Computerized Tomogram (CT scan)
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Ultrasonography
- Others.

T Provide nursing care in promoting rest and sleep.

U Provide health advice on discharge.

V Provide nursing care to terminally ill patients:

- Nursing care of dying patient
- Nursing care of the relatives
- Last office.

## **Medical-surgical nursing**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

(I) Adopt a nursing process approach to deliver holistic nursing care to clients with the following system disorders:

### **Cardiovascular disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with cardiovascular disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to cardiovascular disorders:

- Decreased cardiac output
- Excess fluid volume
- Altered tissue perfusion: peripheral
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with cardiovascular disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Electrocardiography (ECG)
- Cardiac monitoring
- Echocardiography
- Holter
- Others.



### **Respiratory disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with respiratory disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to respiratory disorders:

- Ineffective airway clearance
- Ineffective breathing pattern
- Activity intolerance
- Non-compliance
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with respiratory disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Pulmonary function test
- Metered-dose inhaler
- Bronchoscopy ± biopsy
- Bronchography
- Thoracentesis
- Closed chest drainage
- Endotracheal intubation
- Mechanical ventilation
- Others.

### **Neurological disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with neurological disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to neurological disorders:

- Tissue perfusion, altered: Cerebral
- Impaired verbal communication
- Risk for injury
- Risk for aspiration
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with neurological disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Electroencephalography (EEG)
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Cerebral angiography
- Lumbar puncture
- Computerized tomography (CT scan)
- Positron emission tomography (PET)
- Electromyography (EMG)
- Others.

### **Haematological and lymphatic disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with haematological and lymphatic disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to haematological and lymphatic disorders:

- Activity intolerance
- Fatigue
- Altered tissue perfusion
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with haematological and lymphatic disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Bone marrow aspiration
- Blood transfusion
- Chemotherapy
- Plasmapheresis
- Others.

### **Gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders**

A Perform health assessment of gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

- B Identify common health problems related to gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders:
- Altered nutrition: less than body requirements
  - Fluid volume deficit
  - Risk for infection transmission
  - Pain
  - Others.
- C Provide nursing care to clients with gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:
- Barium swallow
  - Oesophagogastroduodenoscopy (OGD)
  - Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)
  - Colonoscopy
  - Liver biopsy
  - Colostomy
  - Total parenteral nutrition (TPN)
  - Others.

### **Immunological disorders**

- A Perform health assessment of clients with immunological disorders:
- Health history
  - Focus assessment.
- B Identify common health problems related to immunological disorders:
- Risk for infection
  - Risk for infection transmission
  - Knowledge deficit
  - Others.
- C Provide nursing care to clients with immunological disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:
- Steroid therapy
  - Immunotherapy
  - Others.

### **Endocrine and metabolic disorders**

- A Perform health assessment of clients with endocrine and metabolic disorders:
- Health history
  - Focus assessment.
- B Identify common health problems related to endocrine and metabolic disorders:
- Risk to skin integrity
  - Risk of injury
  - Knowledge deficit
  - Others.
- C Provide nursing care to clients upon their receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:
- Radioactive iodine uptake test
  - Thyroid scan
  - Oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT)
  - Others.

### **Genitourinary and reproductive system disorders**

- A Perform health assessment of clients with genitourinary and reproductive system disorders:
- Health history
  - Focus assessment.
- B Identify common health problems related to genitourinary and reproductive system disorders:
- Fluid volume excess
  - Risk for infection transmission
  - Risk for infection
  - Knowledge deficit
  - Others.
- C Provide nursing care to clients with genitourinary and reproductive system disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:
- Cystoscopy
  - Cystography
  - Renal biopsy

- Urodynamics studies
- Bladder scan
- Bladder irrigation
- Peritoneal dialysis
- Haemodialysis
- Pap smear
- Colposcopy and cervical biopsy
- Endometrial aspiration and smear
- Mammography
- Others.

### **Skin disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with skin disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to skin disorders:

- Risk for fluid volume deficit
- Impaired skin integrity
- Risk for infection
- Body image disturbance
- Knowledge deficit
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with skin disorders upon their receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Skin biopsy
- Open method
- Closed method
- Others.

### **Ear, nose and throat (ENT), eye disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with:

i Ear disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

- ii Nose disorders:
  - Health history
  - Focus assessment.
- iii Throat disorders:
  - Health history
  - Focus assessment.
- iv Eye disorders:
  - Health history
  - Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to ENT, eye disorders:

- Impaired verbal communication
- Body image disturbance
- Self-care deficit
- Risk for infection
- Knowledge deficit
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with ENT, eye disorders on receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Snellen chart
- Ophthalmoscopy
- Ophthalmometry
- Rinne's test
- Weber test
- Otoscopy
- Ear syringing/irrigation
- Rhinoscopy
- Nasal packing
- Antrum washout
- Pharyngolaryngoscopy
- Others.

### **Musculoskeletal disorders**

A Perform health assessment of clients with musculoskeletal disorders:

- Health history
- Focus assessment.

B Identify common health problems related to musculoskeletal disorders:

- Impaired physical mobility
- Pain
- Body image disturbance
- Self-care deficit
- Risk for infection
- Knowledge deficit
- Others.

C Provide nursing care to clients with musculoskeletal disorders upon their receiving the following diagnostic investigations and/or medical management:

- Arthrocentesis
- Closed reduction: casting
- Closed reduction: skin/skeletal traction
- Debridement
- Cold/hot compress
- Others.

(II) Provide nursing care to clients upon their receiving the following drug management:

- Anti-anginal drugs. Examples: Adalat, Elantan, Isordil, Nitroglycerin
- Anti-coagulants. Examples: Warfarin, Heparin
- Thrombolytics. Examples: Tissue Plasminogen Activator, Urokinase, Streptokinase
- Anti-dysrhythmic drugs. Examples: Amiodarone, Propranolol, Diltiazem
- Cardiac glycosides. Examples: Digoxin
- Diuretics. Examples: Lasix, Aldactone, Mannitol
- Anti-hypertensive drugs. Examples: Aldomet, Adalat retard, Norvasc, Atenolol
- Anti-ulcer drugs. Examples: Nexium, Pepcidine, Pariet
- Anti-diarrheal drugs. Examples: Lomotil, Imodium
- Antibiotics. Examples: Augmentin, Ampicillin, Cloxacillin, Zinnat
- Anti-pyretic drugs. Examples: Aspirin, Ibuprofen
- Laxatives. Examples: Lactulose, Fleet enema, Senokot, Dulcolax
- Steroids. Examples: Dexamethasone, Prednisolone, Hydrocortisone
- Analgesics. Examples: Lignocaine, Morphine, Panadol

- Anti-inflammatory drugs. Examples: Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Prednisolone
- Anti-histamine drugs. Examples: Piriton, Clarityne, Atarax
- Hypoglycemic drugs. Examples: Metformin, Diamicron, Actrapid
- Anti-epileptic drugs. Examples: Dilantin, Epilim, Carbamazepine
- Bronchodilator. Examples: Ventolin, Salbutamol, Bricanyl
- Mucolytic drugs. Examples: Bisolvon, Fluimucil
- Anti-tuberculosis drugs. Examples: Isoniazid, Rifampicin, Pyrazinamide, Ethambutol
- Chemotherapy agents. Examples: Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Cisplatin
- Hormonal supplement. Examples: Tamoxifen, Estradiol, Testosterone
- Ear, nose, throat, eye preparation. Examples: Diamox, Chloramphenicol eye drops/ointment, Methylcellulose eye drops, Dequadin, Tarivid Otic
- Nutrient supplement (eye drops/ointment). Examples: Aminoleban, Intralipid, Nutriflex
- Others.

## **Medical nursing**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

Adopt a nursing process approach to deliver holistic nursing care to clients with the following medical disorders:

### **Cardiovascular disorders**

- Angina pectoris
- Acute myocardial infarction
- Cardiac dysrhythmias
- Congestive heart failure
- Rheumatic heart disease
- Infective endocarditis
- Hypertension
- Varicose veins
- Others.

### **Respiratory disorders**

- Asthma
- Pneumonia



- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Pulmonary tuberculosis
- Pneumothorax / Haemothorax
- Pleural effusion
- Bronchiectasis
- Respiratory failure
- Lung cancer
- Occupational lung disease
- Others.

#### **Neurological disorders**

- Cerebrovascular accident
- Seizure disorders / epilepsy
- Meningitis
- Parkinson's disease
- Myasthenia gravis
- Multiple sclerosis
- Alzheimer's disease
- Others.

#### **Haematological and lymphatic disorders**

- Iron deficiency anaemia
- Pernicious anaemia
- Aplastic anaemia
- Leukaemia
- Hodgkin's disease
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphomas
- Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP)
- Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC)
- Others.

#### **Gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders**

- Gastroesophageal reflux disease
- Peptic ulcer
- Carcinoma of the stomach
- Gastrointestinal bleeding
- Gastroenteritis
- Peritonitis

- Hepatitis
- Hepatic encephalopathy
- Cirrhosis of the liver
- Gall stones
- Ascites
- Pancreatitis
- Carcinoma of the pancreas
- Carcinoma of the liver
- Others.

### **Immunological disorders**

- Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)
- Systemic lupus erythemia (SLE)
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Anaphylactic shock
- Others.

### **Endocrine and metabolic disorders**

- Diabetes mellitus
- Hypoglycaemia
- Diabetic ketoacidosis
- Hyperthyroidism
- Hypothyroidism
- Cushing's syndrome
- Hyperpituitarism
- Diabetes insipidus
- Others.

### **Genitourinary and reproductive system disorders**

- Glomerulonephritis
- Nephrotic syndrome
- Pyelonephritis
- Acute renal failure
- Chronic renal failure
- Sexually transmitted diseases
  - Syphilis
  - Gonorrhoea
  - Herpes genitalis

- Pelvic inflammatory disease
- Others.

#### **Skin disorders**

- Scabies
- Eczema
- Contact dermatitis
- Others.

#### **Ear, nose and throat, eye disorders**

- Otitis media
- Meniere's disease
- Epistaxis
- Sinusitis
- Nasopharyngeal carcinoma
- Tonsillitis
- Peritonsillar abscess / Quinsy
- Pharyngitis
- Laryngitis
- Conjunctivitis
- Glaucoma
- Cataract
- Others.

#### **Musculoskeletal disorders**

- Fracture
- Sprain
- Dislocation
- Osteomyelitis
- Osteoporosis
- Low back pain
- Prolapsed inter-vertebral disc
- Sarcoma
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Osteoarthritis
- Gouty arthritis
- Others.

## **Surgical nursing**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

Adopt a nursing process approach to deliver holistic nursing care to clients undergoing the following operations:

- A Perform general health assessment of clients receiving surgical operations, including:
  - Pre-operative health assessment
  - Post-operative health assessment.
  
- B Identify common health problems of clients related to surgical operations:
  - Acute pain
  - Impaired tissue integrity
  - Risk for aspiration
  - Risk for infection
  - Risk for injury
  - Knowledge deficit
  - Others.
  
- C Provide pre- and post-operative nursing care to clients on receiving the following surgical management/operation:
  - i Cardiovascular disorders
    - Health history
    - Cardiac catheterization
    - Pacemaker implantation
    - Coronary artery bypass surgery (CABG)
    - Percutaneous transluminal angioplasty (PTA)
    - Stripping and ligation of varicose veins
    - Others.
  
  - ii Respiratory disorders
    - Pneumonectomy
    - Lobectomy
    - Pleurodesis
    - Others.

- iii Neurological disorders
  - Craniotomy
  - Laminectomy
  - Others.
  
- iv Gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders
  - Total/hemiglossectomy
  - Oesophagectomy with oesophagogastric/colonic/jejunal anastomosis
  - Total/subtotal gastrectomy
  - Hernioplasty
  - Herniorrhaphy
  - Herniotomy
  - Appendicectomy
  - Haemorrhoidectomy
  - Colectomy
  - Abdominoperineal resection
  - Cholecystectomy
  - Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL)
  - Others.
  
- v Endocrine and metabolic disorders
  - Thyroidectomy
  - Parathyroidectomy
  - Hypophysectomy
  - Transphenoidal resection of pituitary adenoma
  - Others.
  
- vi Genitourinary and reproductive system disorders
  - Percutaneous nephrostomy
  - Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL)
  - Nephrectomy
  - Cystectomy ± ileal conduit
  - Urinary diversion
  - Mastectomy ± breast reconstruction
  - Hysterectomy
  - Total abdominal hysterectomy bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (TAHBSO)
  - Prostatectomy

- Ureterolithotomy
  - Others.
- vii Skin disorders
- Burns
  - Plastic surgery ± skin graft
  - Others.
- viii Ear, nose and throat, eye disorders
- Tympanoplasty
  - Mastoidectomy
  - Caldwell-Luc operation
  - Tonsillectomy
  - Total laryngectomy
  - Permanent tracheostomy
  - Enucleation
  - Laser surgery
  - Cataract extraction
  - Scleral buckling
  - Others.
- ix Musculoskeletal disorders
- Skin traction
  - Amputation
  - Total knee replacement
  - Total hip replacement
  - Open reduction ± internal fixation
  - Others.

## **Paediatric and adolescent nursing**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

A Provide nursing care in admitting a child/adolescent:

- Clinical admission
- Emergency admission
- Care of relatives.

B Apply basic paediatric skills and provide nursing care:

- Cot-making

- Vital signs measurement
  - Pain assessment
  - Level of consciousness
  - Maintenance of cleanliness: Bathe patients in bed and in the bathroom
  - Changing napkins
  - Bottle-feeding
  - Feeding a child
  - Collection of specimens
  - Administration of drugs
  - Intravenous infusion
  - Others.
- C Perform paediatric health assessment:
- Developmental assessment
  - Nutritional assessment
  - Others.
- D Perform adolescent health assessment:
- Developmental assessment
  - Nutritional assessment
  - Others.
- E Provide nursing care to assist the hospitalized child/adolescent and the relatives in adapting hospitalization:
- Establishing a therapeutic relationship
  - Reducing separation anxiety
  - Providing opportunities for sensory and motor development
  - Maintaining privacy
  - Relieving pain
  - Others.
- F Provide nursing care to children/adolescents with chronic/terminal diseases:
- Providing family-centred care
  - Facilitating positive grieving process
  - Meeting the children's physical and psycho-social needs
  - Referring hospice care
  - Others.

G Provide nursing care to children with the following common diseases:

i Cardiovascular disorders

- Congenital heart diseases
- Heart failure
- Others.

ii Respiratory disorders

- Asthma
- Acute bronchitis
- Pneumonia
- Others.

iii Haematological and lymphatic disorders

- Thalassaemia
- Leukaemia
- Haemophilia
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphomas
- Idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
- Others.

iv Neurological disorders

- Head injuries
- Spinal cord injury
- Cerebral palsy
- Hydrocephalus
- Others.

v Gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders

- Cleft lip, cleft palate
- Oesophageal atresia
- Congenital pyloric hypertrophy
- Gastroenteritis
- Intussusception
- Others.

vi Endocrine and metabolic disorders

- Diabetes mellitus
- Diabetic ketoacidosis
- Others.



## vii Genitourinary and reproductive system disorders

- Glomerulonephritis
- Nephrotic syndrome
- Hypospadias
- Phimosi
- Others.

## viii Musculoskeletal disorders

- Fracture
- Dislocation
- Osteomyelitis
- Duchenne muscular dystrophy
- Spina bifida
- Others.

## ix Communicable diseases

- Measles
- Chicken pox
- Rubella
- Mumps
- Others.

## x Miscellaneous

- Tonsillitis
- Burns
- Febrile convulsion
- Neonatal jaundice
- Prematurity
- Others.

## Operation theatre nursing

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Perform proper procedures in admitting patients in operation theatre.
- B Assist in positioning the patients for operations.
- C Maintain patients' safety.
- D Provide nursing care in the recovery room.

- E Be familiar with the autoclave and disinfection of materials in the operation theatre.
- F Adopt aseptic techniques in hand scrubbing, putting on surgical gown and donning of sterile gloves.
- G Adopt aseptic techniques in providing materials and equipment for operation.
- H Maintain asepsis in sterile fields.
- I Perform handover of patients through verbal reporting to ward staff after operations.
- J Act as a circulating nurse.
- K Act as a scrub nurse.
- L Perform other care/procedures in operation theatre.

## **Accident and emergency nursing**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Perform nursing assessment on patients in emergency situations.
- B Implement triage nursing.
- C Implement basic life support (BLS).
- D Assist in performing advanced cardiovascular life support (ACLS).
- E Provide nursing care for the following clients in emergency situations:
  - Trauma
  - Shock
  - Haemorrhage
  - Fracture
  - Poisoning
  - Bites and stings
  - Burns and scalds
  - Others.
- F Providing emergency wound care:
  - Wound cleansing
  - Surgical suturing.
- G Provide nursing care to clients in the observation ward.

- H Be familiar with the proper handling of police cases.
- I Assist in crisis management in disaster.
- J Perform other duties related to accident and emergency nursing.

## **Specialty nursing: Gerontological nursing**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Perform nursing assessment of elderly clients.
- B Implement therapeutic communication with elderly clients.
- C Provide nursing care to elderly clients with the following chronic or degenerative disorders:
  - Incontinence
  - Arthritis
  - Cardiovascular disorders
  - Chronic respiratory disorders
  - Parkinsonism
  - Alzheimer's disease
  - Fractured femur
  - Others.
- D Provide health education to elderly clients on home safety and daily living activities:
  - Nutritional needs
  - Fall prevention
  - Activity
  - Quality of sleep
  - Drug-taking advice
  - Others.
- E Provide nursing care to elderly clients experiencing the following conditions:
  - Physical limitations
  - Abuse
  - Depression
  - Suicide attempt
  - Others.

## **Specialty nursing: Community nursing**

Upon completion of clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Perform community health assessment.
- B Perform family assessment.
- C Adopt case management approach to provide community home care for clients with the following health problems:
  - Heart disease
  - Chronic lung disorders
  - Diabetic mellitus
  - Cerebrovascular accident
  - Wound care
  - Incontinence
  - Tracheostomy
  - Pressure sore
  - Others.
- D Complete documentation of community homecare services.
- E Provide community health education to clients and the relatives.

## **Specialty nursing: Obstetric nursing**

Upon completion of clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Assist in providing antenatal care in:
  - Antenatal assessment
  - Fetal assessment
  - Relieving minor discomforts
    - morning sickness
    - low back pain
    - others
  - Antenatal exercise
  - Antenatal education.
- B Assist in providing intra-natal care in
  - Normal labour
  - Abnormal labour
    - induction of labour

- vacuum extraction
  - Caesarean section.
- C Assist in providing neonatal care.
- D Assist in providing postnatal care in:
- Postnatal health assessment
  - Postnatal care related to:
    - retention of urine
    - involution of uterus and after-pain
    - episiotomy care
    - breast care
    - promotion of family adaptation, mother-infant bonding and family adjustment
    - postnatal exercises
    - breast feeding
    - artificial feeding
    - family planning and postnatal advice
    - common post-natal complications:
      - postnatal depression
      - postnatal haemorrhage
      - others.

## Specialty nursing: Psychiatric nursing

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Assist in providing a therapeutic environment for psychiatric patients:
- Familiar with the ward nature
    - sources of admission, transfer to another ward/hospital, and discharge of patient.
  - Familiar with the ward environment:
    - ward layout and use of rooms
    - locations of fire exits, fire hose, fire extinguishers, fire alarms and open/close switch for medical gas
    - locations with a high risk of accident
    - locations of emergency equipment
    - emergency telephone numbers.

- Perform ward routines:
  - daily, weekly and monthly ward routines.
- Perform general ward management:
  - lighting, temperature and ventilation
  - fire prevention
  - emergency and first aid drills.
- Carry out safety measures in the ward:
  - proper use and care of keys, including metal keys and electronic passes
  - proper use and care of potentially dangerous goods.
- Use communication skills to communicate with the following people:
  - ward staff
  - patients, relatives and visitors.

**B** Build up therapeutic relationships with patients:

- Demonstrate a therapeutic attitude
- Accept patients with a non-judgmental attitude
- Show respect, patience and empathy
- Encourage patients to use newly learned skills.

**C** Participate in providing total patient care to the following patients:

- Schizophrenia
- Depression
- Mania
- Dementia.

**D** Observe and report on the mental conditions of patients.

**E** Assist in preventing and managing the following psychiatric emergencies/crises:

- Violence
- Suicide.

**F** Participate in providing mental health education to patients, relatives and carers:

- Understanding mental illness
- Drug treatment

- Managing signs and symptoms of mental illness
- Preventing relapse of mental illness
- Accessing community resources.

## **Specialty nursing: Primary health care**

Upon completion of this clinical placement, the students should be able to:

- A Familiar with the roles of nurses in primary health care.
- B Assist in performing community assessment.
- C Assist in promoting primary health care in the community:
  - Health talks
  - Health promotion campaigns.
- D Assist in providing primary health care to clients from diverse communities:
  - Children
  - Adolescents
  - Women
  - Elderly people
  - Mentally disabled
  - Physically disabled
  - Others.
- E Assist in providing primary health care in various primary health care settings:
  - Day care centre
  - Clinic
  - Others.

## Conclusion

The clinical practicum of Bachelor of Nursing with Honours in General Health Care Programme includes medical nursing, surgical nursing, paediatric and adolescent nursing, operating theatre nursing, accident and emergency nursing and five nursing specialties, including obstetric nursing, psychiatric nursing, gerontological nursing, community nursing and primary health care. Students must complete 42 weeks of practicum in various clinical settings and pass all clinical assessments, which is the rating of clinical performance by the student himself or herself and by Honorary Clinical Tutors (HCTs), and the three continuing clinical assessments (CCA) conducted by Clinical Assessors.

General nursing is a discipline requiring an integration of knowledge, skills and attitude. To prepare the student to be a competent Registered Nurse (General), he/she should apply his/her nursing knowledge in clinical practice and polish his/her nursing skills during the practicum.

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