Nursing Specialty - Child Health (Pediatrics)

Child Health Theory Course

Course Description

This course focuses on caring for children and their families in Canada. Various concepts are explored in relation to Child Health including family-centered care; growth and development of children; and health promotion. Acute and chronic child illnesses are addressed in the following areas: cardiovascular, respiratory, hematological, neurological, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, integumentary, and mental health.

This is a self-directed, online course that we recommend completing in 8 to 12 weeks, depending on your schedule and personal commitments. Your learning will be facilitated through written lessons with learning activities, textbook and journal readings. A course map will guide your online learning experience.

You are required to complete readings from the course textbook, as well as from additional sources. Any readings that are not in your textbook will be provided for you. Each lesson contains learning objectives to help you organize your studying.

Students are required to purchase their own textbook for this course.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course the learner will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the major concepts of child health nursing such as family-centered care, children’s growth and development, health promotion, and injury prevention.

2. Demonstrate an understanding of how to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate care of children with acute and chronic illnesses and their families.

Credit Hours and Length of Course

Self-directed for completion in 8 to 12 weeks
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<tr>
<th>Lessons</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| **Lesson One: Foundations of Caring for Children and Families** | Caring for Children and Families  
- Family-centered care  
- Role of child health nurse  
- Growth and development of children  
- Communication with children and families  
- Chronic illness |
| **Lesson 2: Health Promotion & Injury Prevention** | Health promotion/anticipatory guidance  
- Teaching & learning strategies  
- Injury prevention  
- Child abuse |
| **Lesson 3: Pediatric Assessment – Growth and Development** | Physical assessment  
- Developmental considerations  
- Growth measurements  
- Developmental assessment  
- Autism spectrum disorder |
| **Lesson 4: Children with Altered Respiratory Function** | General aspects of respiratory infections  
- Tonsillitis & otitis media  
- Laryngotracheobronchitis (croup)  
- Bronchiolitis  
- Asthma  
- Cystic fibrosis |
| **Lesson 5: Children with Altered Gastrointestinal Function** | Fluid balance  
- Gastroenteritis (acute diarrhea)  
- Constipation  
- GER  
- Milk allergy  
- Appendicitis  
- Chron’s/UC  
- Cleft lip and palate |
| **Lesson 6: Children with Altered Genitourinary Function** | Urinary tract infection  
- Nephrotic syndrome  
- Acute glomerulonephritis |
| **Lesson 7: Children with Altered Musculoskeletal Function** | Fractures  
- Developmental dysplasia of the hip  
- Congenital clubfoot  
- Scoliosis  
- Legg-Calve Perthes Disease |
| **Lesson 8: Children with Altered Neurological or Neuromuscular Function** | Increased intracranial pressure  
- Head injuries/cerebral trauma  
- Meningitis  
- Seizure disorders & febrile seizures  
- Hydrocephalus  
- Spina bifida |
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<th>Lessons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson 9: Children with</td>
<td>🔄 Congenital heart disease (defects)</td>
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<td>Cardiovascular Alterations</td>
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<td>🔄 Endocarditis</td>
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<td>🔄 Kawasaki disease</td>
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<td>🔄 Shock</td>
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<td>🔄 Diabetes</td>
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<td>🔄 Anemia</td>
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<td>🔄 Leukemia</td>
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Child Health Clinical Course

Course Description

This clinical practicum is designed to provide learners with nursing practice experience in caring for children in the contemporary Canadian context. Supervised nursing practice experiences on selected clinical units will assist the learner to integrate professional knowledge of registered nursing practice in Canada and enhance critical thinking skills and decision-making skills. The clinical consists of approximately 80 hours of preceptored experience. It is expected that the learner will meet all of the clinical competencies.

Prior to participating in the clinical practicum, the learner must submit proof of current immunizations; BCLS for Health Professionals certification; and for some settings and facilities, a criminal record check.

Course Outcomes/Competencies:

1. **Professionalism:** The learner is accountable for professional, ethical nursing practice. She/he is responsible and accountable for ensuring that nursing practice and conduct meets the standards of professional and legislative bodies; engages in nursing practice which is congruent with the CNA’s code of Ethics.

2. **Relationship-Centered Practice:** The learner establishes a therapeutic nurse-person relationship to promote the health and well being of the child and their family/guardian.

3. **Leadership:** The learner provides family-centered nursing care during all phases of care that meets the unique needs of the child and reflects the scope of professional nursing practice in Canada.

4. **Clinical Practice:** The learner demonstrates safe, knowledge-based nursing practice in the areas of family centered child health nursing.

Credit Hours and Length of Course

80 hours in length; seven 12 hour shifts