



2019 Additional Information

Student Orientation

Security Issues
Patients in Distress
Rapid Response
EMTALA
Electrical Safety

Security Issues

- School ID is to be worn at all times.
- Do not leave your assigned area without faculty approval.
- School uniforms are to be neat, hair up and off your neck and appropriate footwear is to be worn.
- Failure to comply will result in you being asked to leave the facility.
- Smoking and vaping is prohibited on facility grounds.



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Security Issues

- Due to the sensitive nature of patient information and to protect patient privacy, patients, family members, and/or visitors are not permitted to take photographs, audio or video recordings in this facility.
- No cellphone use is permitted in any clinical areas.

Thank you for respecting our patients right to privacy.



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How To Tell If a Patient Is In Distress?

- An increase in respiratory rate
- Color changes
- Sweating
- Vomiting
- Seizures
- Bleeding
- Loss of consciousness



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Breathing

- A normal respiratory rate is defined as 12-20 breaths per minute. You need to count breaths for 60 seconds, and you should listen to your patient breathing.
- If they are unable to talk, speak in complete sentences or are breathing very fast, quickly alert the nearest nurse for help.
- Listen to a sample of hard and fast breathing.



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Color Changes

- Check your patient's skin color
- Do you notice any changes?
- Is the skin pale, red or blue?
- If so, you want to tell a nurse right away.

Examples of abnormal skin color changes



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 **WMC Health**
Photo Source: WebMD. Retrieved 3/29/2018 from
<https://www.webmd.com/heart-disease/ss/slideshow-heart-disease-affects-body>

Photo Source: Internet Movie Data Base. Retrieved 3/29/2018 from <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0098936/mediaviewer/rm2516634624>

Photo Source: Clinical Advisor. Retrieved 3/29/2018 from <http://www.clinicaladvisor.com/recognizing-systemic-lupus-erythematosus/slideshow/920/>

Circulation

When blood flow is altered the skin will have color and temperature changes such as:

- Blue lips
- Blue Nail beds
- Red or Pale face
- Pale extremities
- Abnormally cold extremity



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Circulation

Circulation problems with darker skin will show changes such as:

- Blue lips
- Blue Nail beds
- Blue palms



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Sweating

- A patient who suddenly complains of sweating, or feeling hot may be in need of medical attention – you must notify the nursing staff!



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Vomiting

- If a patient suddenly starts to vomit, give them a green vomit/emesis bag and alert a nurse.
- The green bags can be found in the clean utility room or in patient rooms depending upon the unit.



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Seizures

Physical signs of a seizure will include a change in the patient's response, such as:

- Inability to speak
- Involuntary movements
- Drooling



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First Aid for Seizures

A seizure can be frightening to witness, and you may feel like you need to do something. The best thing is to call for help and stay with the patient.

- Keep them safe
- Do not restrain them
- Provide soft barriers with blankets and pillows
- When the seizure is over, help the patient into the recovery position on their left side.



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Bleeding

- We should be worried about any bleeding, especially if it soaks through any bedding or bandages.
- To stop bleeding, pressure should be applied by pressing down on the area where you notice the blood is coming from.
- Remember to be safe, use standard precautions (personal protective equipment) when handling anything with blood and call for help.



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Loss of Consciousness

If a patient is able to speak to you and suddenly becomes unresponsive, check for a pulse and breathing. If no pulse or breathing, push the code button, call for help and begin CPR.



Interventions

If there are any changes to the patients condition notify the primary nurse immediately.

To activate the Rapid Response Team dial **# 4444**. Be sure to announce the code and location three times.

Push the code button or staff assist button.



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Rapid Response

When a patient is experiencing a medical emergency or change in status call a rapid response.

By calling for help before the patient has a cardiac or respiratory arrest, we can prevent an arrest from happening.

While caring for your patients, look for these signs/symptoms that the patient is becoming unstable:

- Change in **HR** <50 or >130
- New difficulty **breathing**
- Change in **Pulse Ox** < 90% despite O2
- Sudden **collapse/syncope**
- Change in **mental status**
- Change in **RR** <8 or >28
- Change in **SBP** <90 or change in SBP >40
- New onset, repeated or prolonged **seizures**
- Change in **urine output** <50ml in 4hrs
- Excessive or new **bleeding**
- **Chest pain**
- **Color** change (patient or extremity): pale, dusky, gray or blue

DIAL #4444

Things To Know

Emergency Medical Treatment & Active Labor Act (EMTALA)

- Enacted by Congress in 1986
- Purpose: to prevent discrimination in the treatment of patients with emergency medical conditions
- Under EMTALA: all patients have the same rights to **EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE** regardless of their ability to pay



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Electrical Safety

- Visually inspect all equipment prior to use.
- Inspect all wall receptacles for burned spots and damaged covers before plugging in equipment.
- Any equipment that is defective or having frayed wires, bent prongs or other defects must be removed from use and reported to the Biomedical Department.



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Electrical Safety

- Don't drape power cords over metal.
- Don't let power cords lie across traffic lanes or pathways.
- Plug and unplug equipment by holding plug firmly and straight.
- Environment around electrical items should be kept clear and dry at all times.
- Hands must be dry when using electrical equipment.
- Keep all fluids, chemicals and heat away from equipment and cables.



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