

CLINICAL NURSING SKILLS CHECKLIST

Please use in conjunction with Nursing Student Procedure Guidelines

Available at www.musc.edu/clined/forms/index.htm

Skill
Pulse rates and sites
Respiratory rate and quality
Blood pressure: manual and palpation
Blood pressure: electronic auscultation
Temperature: axilla, oral, rectal, tympanic
Physical Assessment: The student will perform examination using inspection, auscultation, palpation, and percussion.
Health history interview
Examination
Skin, hair, nails
Eyes, vision
Ears
Nose and sinuses
Mouth and throat
Neck
Neck vessels
Lungs
Heart
Breast and axillae
Abdomen
Muscoskeletal
Peripheral vascular
Neurologic
General Assessment
Appropriate use of instrumentation
Assessment of older adult
Assessment of infant
Assessment of child
Infection Control
Hand washing
Standard/Universal precautions
Clean gloving
Sterile gloving
Sharps disposal
Contaminated material disposal
Isolation technique (masking, gowning, and gloving)
Sterile technique/Sterile field
Cleaning bodily fluid spills
Toileting
Use of bedpan
Use of urinal
Commode

Hygiene
Bed bath
Partial bed bath
Tub bath
Shower
Oral care
Care of dentures, retainers, bridges
Shaving
Shampooing and hair care
Nail care (fingers and toes)
Foot care
Care of prosthetics (eyeglasses, contacts, eye prosthesis, hearing aid, artificial limbs)
Eye, ear, and nose care
Mobility, Immobility and Positioning
Body mechanics
Body alignment
Turning patient
Transferring patient: bed, stretcher, chair
Use of safety devices
Use of restraints
Use of devices to relieve pressure sores
Active range of motion
Passive range of motion
Ambulation
Use of wheelchair
Use of crutches
Use of cane
Use of walker
Bedmaking and Comfort Measures
Making occupied bed
Making unoccupied bed
Back rub
Use of the call bell
Transporting a patient
ID and allergy bands
I & O Calculation and Recording
Net balance calculation
Genitourinary
Straight catheter insertion/removal
Indwelling catheter insertion
Catheter irrigation
Continuous bladder irrigation
Catheter removal
Catheter care: indwelling, condom
Perineal care
Assist with pap smear
Assist with pelvic examination

Bowel Elimination
Enema
Selection/Application of ostomy appliances
Ostomy pouch care
Stoma/Peristomal skin care
Ostomy irrigation
Removal of impactions
Nutrition
Gravity feedings: enteral , gastrostomy
Insertion/Maintenance of enteral feeding tube
Removal of feeding tube (not gastrostomy tube)
Feeding pumps
Wound Management
Clean dressing change
Superficial dressing change (dry, gauze, topical wound products)
Deep wound packing
Wet to dry dressing change
Sterile dressing change
Wound irrigation
Suture/Staple removal
Heat and Cold Therapy
Hot and cold applications
Safe Medication Preparation and Administration
Oral (tablets, capsules, and liquids)
Topicals, intradermal and transdermal
Eye drops, ointment
Ear drops
Nose drops
Nasal sprays
Nasal inhalers
Rectal
Subcutaneous
Intramuscular
Nasogastric/Gastrostomy
Reporting errors
Pain Management and Assessment
Qualitative and quantitative assessment
Patient controlled analgesia
Relaxation techniques
Body positioning
Perioperative Care and Mobility
Pre-operative preparation and teaching
Post-operative teaching
Post-anesthesia care
Positioning: supine, prone and side-lying
Trendelenburg and reverse trendelenburg positioning

Orthopedic/Vascular Care
Traction care
Cast care
Continuous passive motion exercise
Prosthesis/Amputation care
Abduction pillow
Application of anti-embolism stockings (TED hose)
Application/Maintenance of Sequential Compression Device (SCD)
Application of compression stockings/wraps
Use of Doppler
Basic EKG
Specimen Collection
Blood specimen/phlebotomy
Sputum specimen
Stool specimen
Fecal occult blood test (hemocult)
Gastric specimen from nasogastric tubes (gastrocult)
Glucose testing/fingerstick
Tubes and Drains
Insertion of nasogastric tube
Nasogastric tube maintenance
Gastrostomy tube maintenance
Maintenance of drainage collection device(s): JP drains, hemovacs
Respiratory Care
Pulse oximeters
Nebulizer
Use of ambu bag/mask
Use of nasal cannula/rebreather
Oxygen mask
Turn, cough, and deep breathe
Incentive spirometry
Postural drainage/chest physiotherapy
Closed chest tube drainage system care
Chest tube insertion site care
Tracheostomy care
IV Therapy
Tube priming
Set up single and multi IV line configurations
Peripheral IV maintenance
Peripheral IV insertion
Peripheral IV site care
Peripheral IV removal
Central line management
Central venous catheter care
IV tube and bag changes
Use of infusion devices

IV Therapy (continued)
Regulate flow rate
Heplock flush
IV medication push
IV piggyback medication
Assessment for inflammation/infiltration
Phlebotomy (blood drawing)
Total parenteral nutrition (TPN) administration
Mental Health
Self-awareness and appropriate self-disclosure
Mental status examination
Therapeutic communication skills
Evaluate risk for suicide
Evaluate risk for violence
Antepartal Assessment
Obstetrical history
Estimation of DOB
Auscultation of fetal heart rate with Doppler
Measurement of fundal height in comparison with McDonald's Rule
Perform Leopold Maneuvers
Evaluate extent of edema
Evaluate deep tendon reflexes
Intrapartal Assessment
First stage
Second stage
Third stage
Fourth stage
Evaluate extent of edema
Evaluate deep tendon reflexes
External fetal heart rate
Assess contractions manually
Monitor contractions electronically
Demonstrate comfort/complementary measures for labor contractions
Assist positions to promote maternal pushing in third stage
Postpartal Assessment (Vaginal or C-Section)
Breasts
Uterus
Perineal/Rectal area
Lochia
Elimination
Lower extremities
Assists with breastfeeding

Newborn Assessment
Head to toe examination
Vital signs
Weight and length
Head and chest circumference
Eye prophylaxis (Labor/Delivery)
Inject Vitamin K (Labor/Delivery)
Inject Hepatitis B
Heel stick
Classification of growth and gestational age
Newborn labs
Vessel count
Newborn Neurological Functions
Moro
Grasp (palmar/plantar)
Suck
babinski
Pediatric Screening
Height and weight of children
Pediculosis screening
Vision screening
Hearing screening
Scoliosis screening
Dental screening
Administration of parenteral immunization to child/infant
Use of growth charts
Miscellaneous
Patient/Family teaching
End of shift report
Nutritional assessment
Other