

Medical Surgical-Telemetry Exam Content Outline

Exam Objective: To measure the overall clinical knowledge of the Registered Nurse in the Medical Surgical-Telemetry setting.



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- I. Cardiovascular
 - A. Knowledge of dietary education related cardiac disease process.
 - B. Knowledge of how to recognize changes in ECG and appropriate interventions.
 - C. Knowledge of pathophysiology of common cardiac disease processes, including discharge teaching.
 - D. Knowledge of appropriate procedures for obtaining vital signs and blood specimens related to patient history and status.
 - E. Knowledge of common cardiac medications used in the medical surgical setting, including:
 - 1. Appropriate assessments prior to administering medications
 - 2. Indications
 - 3. Side effects
 - F. Knowledge of contraindications for anticoagulant medication therapy.
 - G. Knowledge of protocols and when to initiate treatment for emergency situations.
 - H. Knowledge of treatment protocols for myocardial infarction.
- II. Dysrhythmia Interpretation
 - A. Sinus Rhythms
 - 1. Normal Sinus Rhythm
 - 2. Sinus Bradycardia
 - 3. Sinus Tachycardia
 - **B. Atrial Rhythms**
 - 1. Atrial Flutter
 - 2. Atrial Fibrillation
 - 3. Premature Atrial Contractions



C. Ventricular Rhythms

- 1. Premature Ventricular Contractions
- 2. Ventricular Fibrillation
- 3. Ventricular Tachycardia
- 4. Asystole
- D. Paced Rhythms
- E. Determining heart rate
- III. Endocrine
 - A. Knowledge of pathophysiology, assessment findings, and treatment protocols for common endocrine disease processes:
 - 1. Diabetes
 - 2. Electrolyte imbalances
 - 3. Hypoglycemia
 - 4. Pancreatitis
 - B. Knowledge of contraindications related to antidiabetic medications.
 - C. Knowledge of diabetic education for:
 - 1. Dietary considerations
 - 2. Insulin requirements related to secondary diseases processes
 - D. Knowledge of treatment of care and post-operative complications of common endocrine surgical procedures:
 - 1. Parathyroidectomy
 - 2. Subtotal thyroidectomy

IV. Gastrointestinal

- A. Knowledge of common gastrointestinal post-operative complications.
- B. Knowledge of treatment of care for Jackson-Pratt (JP) drains.

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- C. Knowledge of pathophysiology, assessment findings, and treatment protocols for common gastrointestinal disease processes:
 - 1. Upper GI bleed
 - 2. Lower GI bleed
 - 3. Gastric ulcers
 - 4. Diarrhea
 - 5. Diverticulitis
- D. Knowledge of normal and abnormal lab values related to gastrointestinal disease processes.
- V. General Knowledge
 - A. Knowledge of principles of TB skin testing.
 - B. Knowledge of treatment and monitoring of patient on PCA pump, including reversal agents.
 - C. Knowledge of principles of isolation precautions:
 - 1. Proper hand hygiene protocols
 - 2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - D. Knowledge of dietary education for celiac disease.
 - E. Knowledge of normal and abnormal lab values for common laboratory tests.
 - F. Knowledge of blood and blood products administration including adverse reactions.
 - G. Knowledge of calculating intake and output.
 - H. Knowledge of principles of assessment for a patient with restraints.
 - I. Knowledge of signs and symptoms of suicidal ideations.
 - J. Knowledge of caring for non-ambulatory patient.
 - K. Knowledge of appropriate procedures for obtaining vital signs and blood specimens related to patient history and status.



- VI. Neurological
 - A. Knowledge of treatment protocols for:
 - 1. Seizures
 - 2. Falls
 - 3. Hemorrhagic CVA
 - B. Knowledge of assessment findings for neurological conditions:
 - 1. Increased intracranial pressure
 - 2. Increased sodium levels
 - 3. Stroke
 - C. Knowledge of dietary considerations for dysphagia.
 - D. Knowledge of principles of Glasgow Coma scale.
- VII. Pharmacology
 - A. Knowledge of parenteral dosage calculations.
 - B. Knowledge of medication administration principles:
 - 1. Drug classifications and indications
 - 2. Patient education
 - 3. Dietary considerations/contraindications
 - 4. Toxicity
 - 5. Baseline vital signs
 - 6. Subcutaneous injection sites
 - C. Knowledge of side effects of tuberculosis medications.
 - D. Knowledge of medication contraindications based on patient status.
 - E. Knowledge of anticoagulant antidote medication administration.
 - F. Knowledge of narcotic reversal agent medication administration.
 - G. Knowledge of how to monitor for adverse side effects.
 - H. Knowledge of medication contraindications related to known drug allergies.



VIII. Professional Issues

- A. Knowledge of principles and protocols for advance directives.
- B. Knowledge of protocols for suspected coworker substance abuse.
- C. Knowledge of principles of cultural diversity and protocols for communicating with non-English speaking patients.
- D. Knowledge of principles of patient privacy and HIPAA guidelines.
- E. Knowledge of appropriate procedures for wasting narcotics.
- F. Knowledge of prioritizing patient assessments.
- G. Knowledge of principles for obtaining informed consents.
- IX. Pulmonary
 - A. Knowledge of performing comprehensive pulmonary assessment.
 - B. Knowledge of normal and abnormal pulmonary assessment findings.
 - C. Knowledge of arterial blood gas (ABG) interpretation.
 - D. Knowledge of pathophysiology and appropriate treatment interventions of common pulmonary conditions:
 - 1. Acute respiratory distress
 - 2. COPD
 - 3. Pulmonary embolism
 - 4. Pneumothorax
 - E. Knowledge of oxygen therapy and delivery systems, including patient and family education related to therapy.
 - F. Knowledge of procedures for care of chest tubes.
- X. Renal/Genitourinary
 - A. Knowledge of placement and management of indwelling urinary catheters.
 - B. Knowledge of tests and procedures for common renal and genitourinary conditions.

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- C. Knowledge of pathophysiology and treatment of care of common renal and genitourinary conditions:
 - 1. Acute kidney injury
 - 2. Kidney stones
 - 3. Renal failure
 - 4. Urinary tract infection
- D. Knowledge of principles of dialysis.
- E. Knowledge of treatment of care post common renal/genitourinary surgical procedures.