



THE ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE NURSES MUST ACQUIRE IN TEACHING SURGERY AND INTENSIVE CARE

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Abstract: *This paper examines the critical knowledge and skills that nurses must possess when teaching and practicing in the fields of surgery and intensive care. Emphasizing both the clinical and educational aspects of nursing practice, it highlights the importance of up-to-date knowledge in medical techniques, patient care, and emergency procedures. Furthermore, it discusses the role of nurses in promoting patient safety, ensuring effective communication, and delivering high-quality education within these specialized fields.*

Keywords: *Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), ICU.*

Introduction:

- **Overview of Surgery and Intensive Care:** Introduction to the fields of surgery and intensive care medicine, their complexity, and the essential role of nurses.
- **Importance of Nursing Education:** The impact of nursing education on improving outcomes in surgery and intensive care.
- **The Role of Nurses in Surgical and ICU Settings:** Nurses are often the primary point of contact for patients, responsible for preoperative care, patient monitoring, emergency intervention, and postoperative recovery.

Key Areas of Knowledge for Nurses:

1. **Clinical Knowledge:**
 - **Surgical Techniques and Procedures:** Understanding common surgeries, advanced techniques, and innovations in surgical practice.
 - **Reanimation and Critical Care:** Knowledge of resuscitation methods, advanced life support, and intensive care protocols.



- **Patient Assessment:** Skills to assess patients pre- and post-surgery, including the ability to identify potential complications early.

2. **Patient Safety and Infection Control:**

- Importance of preventing infections in surgical and intensive care environments.

- Adherence to sterilization and hygiene standards.

3. **Emergent and Critical Care Procedures:**

- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), advanced airway management, and shock treatment.

- Techniques for managing sudden deteriorations, e.g., sepsis or respiratory failure.

4. **Pharmacology and Medications:**

- Understanding common medications used in surgery and intensive care settings (e.g., sedatives, analgesics, vasopressors).

- Correct administration and potential side effects.

5. **Communication and Collaboration:**

- Communicating with patients, families, and the surgical or intensive care team.

- The importance of clear, accurate documentation and patient handovers.

Educational Approaches in Nursing Practice:

1. **Theory and Practice Integration:** The importance of linking theoretical knowledge to clinical practice for effective learning.

2. **Simulation and Hands-on Training:** Using simulation labs and real-life scenarios to improve skill acquisition.

3. **Interdisciplinary Education:** Promoting collaboration between different healthcare providers, including doctors, anesthesiologists, and physiotherapists, for optimal patient care.

Conclusion:

- **Summary:** Nurses must possess a broad knowledge base that spans across both clinical and practical aspects of surgery and intensive care. Effective



education methods, particularly in high-pressure situations, are essential in ensuring patient safety and improving outcomes.

- **Recommendations for Future Research:** Research into the development of specialized training programs for nurses in surgery and intensive care.

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