

Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Unit Title:	PRINCIPLES OF CARE FOR THE PERIOPERATIVE PATIENT
Unit ID:	HEALO6401
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(HEALT6003)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	060309

Description of the Unit:

This unit introduces students to the core principles of perioperative nursing and collaborative care for the pre, intra and post-operative patient. This unit will support students to deliver safe and high-quality person-centred nursing care to patients presenting for surgical intervention. An inquiry-based learning framework contextualised through clinical experience will enable students to critically analyse and apply evidence based clinical reasoning within the perioperative setting.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

Not wholly work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry or student is undertaking work experience in industry where learning and performance is directed by the provider.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	✓	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Critically analyse and describe the concepts of anatomy and pathophysiology that inform patient management during pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative phases of surgery across the lifespan
- K2.** Formulate an advanced knowledge base of the theoretical principles of pharmacological therapies, eg: anaesthetic agents, adjunct therapies and pain management, to promote the provision of high-quality care to patients requiring anaesthesia
- K3.** Develop understanding of assessment and monitoring of neurological, cardiovascular, respiratory and haemodynamic states; concepts and principles of homeostasis related to acid-base status, fluid and electrolyte balance and haematology in the perioperative patient across the lifespan

Skills:

- S1.** Demonstrate patient management priorities during the pre-operative, intraoperative and post-operative phase of surgery
- S2.** Practical application of the concepts of anatomy and pathophysiology to patient management during pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative phases of surgery
- S3.** Interpret theories of asepsis, human factors and patient safety related to the perioperative environment.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Evaluate and apply the Australian College of Perioperative Nurses (ACORN) Standards for Perioperative Nursing and ACORN Competencies, the National Safety & Quality in Health Care Standards and NMBA professional standards within the perioperative setting
- A2.** Model the skills and principles that provide a foundation for future leadership roles, including reflective practice, knowledge sharing and a commitment to life-long learning
- A3.** Critically reflect on the role of personal values and ethics as central to the development of culturally safe practice in perioperative nursing

Unit Content:

ACORN Standards for Perioperative Nursing in Australia (2020), National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards (2017-2019), Registered Nurse Standards for Practice (2016) and International Council of Nurses Code of Ethics for Nurses (2012) have substantially informed the content of this unit.

Topics may include:

- Principles of assessment and management through the perioperative experience for patients across the lifespan
- Core principles of physiology and pathophysiology in the context of the perioperative patient
- Principles of pharmacology in perioperative care
- Clinical reasoning in the perioperative setting
- Principles of asepsis, surgical environmental planning, and infection control
- Principles of medico-legal and ethical aspects of perioperative nursing practice
- The physical environment of operating settings relating to flow and safety of patients

- Quality and safety in the perioperative environment
- The value of intra and inter-disciplinary collaboration in the perioperative setting

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3	Application of theoretical knowledge and skills related clinical reasoning applied in the care of the surgical patient	Online Quizzes	10-20%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Application of advanced health assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of care within the perioperative setting	Case study	30-50%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A3	Application of theoretical knowledge and clinical reasoning within the content of the perioperative setting.	Written test	40-60%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)