

Imperial Valley College  
Division of Nursing Education and Health Technologies  
Fall 2014

**LVN 132 - Common Health Problems III**

I. Course Description:

The final eight-week course designed to provide a progressive and sequential study of common well-defined health problems is presented in LVN 132. The concepts from previous courses are applied with increasing complexity to the caring of individuals throughout the lifespan. The pathophysiology, treatment, and nursing management of common disorders involving the neurological, integumentary, gastrointestinal and renal systems are studied in a progressive sequence across the lifespan. Principles of growth and development are reinforced. The nursing process is utilized by the student to identify the problems and nursing interventions needed for selected patients in the clinical setting.

II. Texts:

A. Required

1. Osborn, Medical-Surgical Nursing, 2<sup>nd</sup>.t ed., Pearson, 2014
2. Ricci, Maternity & Pediatric Nursing, 2nd ed., Walters Kluwer/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2011
3. Lynn, Taylor's Clinical Nursing Skills, 3rd ed., Walters Kluwer/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2011
4. Kozier, Fundamentals of Nursing, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Prentice Hall, 2012
5. Roth, Nutrition & Diet Therapy, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Thompson, 2007
6. Virtual ATI

B. Recommended:

1. Ricci, Study Guide for Ricci & Kyle's Maternity & Pediatric Nursing, Walters Kluwer/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2011
2. Doenges, Nursing Care Plans, F.A. Davis, 2009  
Springhouse, Pathophysiology Made Incredibly Easy, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Lippincott
3. Springhouse, Fluids & Electrolytes Made Incredibly Easy, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Lippincott
4. Hogan, Fluids, Electrolytes and Acid-Base Balance, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 2013.

II. Prerequisites:

VN 110,112,114, 116, 120, VN 122, VN 124,130 or permission of the instructor.

IV. Course Requirements:

- A. Hours VN 130, Common Health Problems III, is a 5.5 unit course. It is divided into theory and clinical components as follows:

	<u>Units</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Theory Lecture	2	36
Skills Lecture	<u>.5</u>	<u>9</u>
	2.5	45

Clinical	2.5	144
Skills Laboratory	<u>.5</u>	<u>27</u>
	3.0	171

During this eight (8) week course, clinical experience will be in medical-surgical a pediatric nursing, Intensive Care, ER

B. LVN Program Grading

The Licensed Vocational Program complies with the Imperial Valley College grading policies in the current catalog **and** the LVN program grading policy as outlined.

- 1.) All assignments are graded on the following scale and grades are **not** rounded.

A = 92%-100%  
 B = 83%-91%  
 C = 75%-82%  
 D = 68%-74%  
 F = Below 68%

**F = When the clinical evaluation is unsatisfactory regardless of the theory grade.**

**The final examination must be passed with a 75% or a grade of "F" for the course will be issued as outlined in the LVN student handbook.**

\* The student is responsible for making an appointment with their instructor any time their grade average drops below 76%.

- 2.) Student must maintain a "C" average in all nursing courses to advance in the program.

- (a.) Both the clinical and classroom aspects of each course must be passed. Failure in either part results in failure of the course and requires re-taking the entire course.
- (b.) Scoring requirements for successful completion of each course:
- (i) 75% or better of total possible points accumulated from all written work and examinations (overall coursework), and
  - (ii) 75% or better of the total possible points accumulated from the major unit exams as designated in the course syllabi, and
  - (iii) 'Satisfactory' and / or 75% or better in clinical performance, including non-graded written assignments and pre-lab preparation

- 3.) Major Unit Exams and Remediation

- 1.) The student who fails the 1<sup>st</sup> unit exam shall:
- (a.) Complete remediation in the Nursing Learning Center with a tutor.
  - (b.) Demonstrate knowledge of those areas identified by the

- faculty as being deficient prior to sitting for the next modular exam.
- (c.) Receive a 0% on any subsequent exam, if non-compliant with remediation.
- 2.) The student who fails a 2<sup>nd</sup> unit exam or has an accumulated average less than 75% shall:
    - (a.) Meet with the teaching team.
    - (b.) Develop and submit a personal learning contract that includes all items of deficiencies and specific plan for improving test success.
  - 3.) The student who fails a 3<sup>rd</sup> unit exam **or** has an accumulated average less than 75% shall:
    - (a.) Meet with the teaching team to consider withdrawal from the nursing program.
    - (b.) If the drop date has passed, the student will meet with the teaching team regarding the possible failure of the nursing course.

**4.) ALGORITHM FOR DIAGNOSTIC EXAMS (ATI):**

- (a.) Refer to LVN Handbook for information
  - i. Students will be notified of any changes (addendum) to handbook.
- (b.) Scores will be considered as a unit exam.

**C. Clinical and Skills Laboratory Performance Grading:**

- 1. Clinical and skills laboratory performance will be determined on a satisfactory or unsatisfactory basis.
  - a. Receive one unsatisfactory in clinical/skills laboratory, complete a NLC referral (remediation) established by the instructor prior to the next clinical/skills laboratory.
  - b. If a second clinical/skills lab is "unsatisfactory", complete NLC referral (remediation) established by the instructor prior to the next clinical/skills lab.
  - c. Receive a third "unsatisfactory" in clinical/skills lab, student will meet with the teaching team to consider dismissal from the nursing course. Please bear in mind that two or three "unsatisfactory" clinical/skills lab performances could be received in one day.
  - d. A formal clinical evaluation will be conducted by the clinical instructor at the completion of each 4 week rotation. A comprehensive classroom and clinical evaluation will be completed by the clinical instructor in conjunction with the team leader at the completion of the eight-week course.
  - e. When a care plan is returned to a student with an unsatisfactory grade, the student is expected to correct the plan within the designated time frame and return it to the instructor. If a student fails to correct the care plan on time or if the returned plan continues to be unsatisfactory, it will be reflected as unsatisfactory performance for the rotation.

2. Theory, clinical, and skills laboratory requirements must be satisfactorily completed independent of each other in order to successfully complete the course.

D. Grade Components:

1. Theory

- a. A maximum of six (6) Module exams will be given.
- b. One comprehensive final exam will be given.
- c. Other written assignments may be given at the discretion of the instructor. Written assignments will be assigned completion dates by the instructor. Materials handed in late may be given an “unsatisfactory” grade. Written assignment grades will be averaged in with other grades according to the grading scale policy. **All written assignments must be typewritten and follow APA format.**

2. Skills Laboratory

- a. All skills described later in this course must be satisfactorily demonstrated to the instructors or the Nursing Learning Center tutors by the dates designated on the schedule.
- b. Clinical instructor may refer a student back to the skills lab if in his/her judgment more practice on a skill is needed.

3. Clinical

- a. A Student Progress Report form will be given to each student at the beginning of the course. A performance assessment will be conducted at the completion of 4 weeks. A comprehensive evaluation will be conducted at the end.

E. Pharmacological Dosage Calculation Exam:

- 1.) Purpose: Because patient safety is the utmost priority, each student will be required to take and successfully demonstrate competence (pass) a drug calculations exam each semester.
- 2.) Minimum requirements:
  - a.) 10 – 25 questions / calculations appropriate to the level of each semester
  - b.) Student must show their work
  - c.) Pass with a score of 92 % or higher. The score is not included in the grade point average for the course as it is a pass/fail assignment.
  - d.) Time limits assigned as appropriate to the number of questions.
  - e.) Correct units must be stipulated to count as correct: i.e. ml/hr, units/hr, etc.
- 3.) The student is allowed three (3) attempts to pass
  - a) Students who do not pass:
    - (i) Must seek tutoring from faculty and /or math department and/or computerized software in the nursing learning center.
    - (ii) Cannot administer any medication in a clinical setting, except under the direct supervision of the instructor: ensuring the 5 rights, review of

- drug action, nursing considerations, calculations, rates, relevant labs and administration with the instructor present.
- (iii) If the student is unsuccessful of the 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt, the student cannot progress to the next nursing course.

D. Attendance

1. According to the Imperial Valley College catalog: Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students enrolled. Instructors are expected to take a student's record into account in computing grades. A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during any semester when absences after the close of registration have exceeded the number of class hours which the class meets per week. Further, an instructor may drop any student judged to be a disturbing element in the class. However, the attendance policy of the Nursing Program is implemented as follows:

- a. LVN students in the Imperial Valley College Associate Degree Nursing Program are expected to attend all classes and clinical practice assignments. Absences will be limited to the following for the semester:

**VN 132: 11.5 hours**

A student who reaches the maximum allowable number of hours absent will file a petition to remain in the nursing program. The student will meet with the teaching team to discuss the situation and will be considered for dismissal. If remediation is considered, the student will be required to match missed hours, in excess of the maximum allowable, with assigned hours of study. These assignments will be based upon the classroom and clinical objectives. The instructor(s) will determine the appropriate type of remediation.

- b. VN students in the Imperial Valley College Vocational Nursing Program are expected to meet the attendance requirements approved by the Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners as posted on the bulletin board.
- c. Students who are late to class three times in any nursing course will be considered absent for one day. Class includes lecture and clinical.

E. Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible.

DSP&S  
Room 2117  
Health Sciences Building  
(760) 355-6312

V. Course Content:

Common medical and surgical problems of the renal, neurological and gastrointestinal and integumentary systems are considered. The focus of nursing interventions presented is on pathophysiology, nutrition, and pharmacology required to maintain and/or restore homeostasis to these systems in all ages. The leadership role for a graduate nurse is introduced. Cultural, legal, and ethical issues are presented and emphasized

VI. Course Objectives:

1. Identify common health problems related to the renal system that impacts individuals through the lifespan.
2. Contrast medical and surgical interventions common to patients with renal disorders.
3. Plan nursing care for patients with renal disorders who are being treated medically and/or surgically. Include the following:
  - a. Pathophysiology
  - b. Diagnostic tests
  - c. Pharmacologic agents
  - d. Nutritional requirements
  - e. Teaching/learning needs
  - f. Nursing interventions
  - g. Growth and developmental needs
  - h. Coping mechanisms
  - i. Legal/Ethical issues
  - j. Cultural aspects
  - k. Psychosocial needs
4. Develop technical skills required to provide comprehensive nursing care to patients with renal disorders.
5. Construct teaching plans for patients with renal disorders.
6. Identify common health problems related to the gastrointestinal system that impacts on individuals throughout the lifespan.
7. Contrast medical and surgical intervention common to patients with gastrointestinal disorders.
8. Plan nursing care for patients with gastrointestinal disorders who are being treated medically or surgically. Include the following:
  - a. Pathophysiology
  - b. Diagnostic tests

- c. Pharmacologic agents
  - d. Nutritional requirements
  - e. Teaching/learning needs
  - f. Nursing interventions
  - g. Growth and developmental needs
  - h. Legal/Ethical issues
  - i. Cultural aspects
  - j. Psychosocial needs
9. Develop technical skills required to provide comprehensive nursing care to patients with gastrointestinal disorders.
  10. Construct teaching plans for patients with gastrointestinal disorders.
  11. Identify common health problems related to the neurological system that impacts on individuals throughout the lifespan.
  12. Contrast medical and surgical interventions common to patients with neurological disorders.
  13. Plan nursing care for patients with neurological disorders who are being treated medically or surgically.  
Include the following:
    - a. Pathophysiology
    - b. Diagnostic tests
    - c. Pharmacologic agents
    - d. Nutritional requirements
    - e. Teaching/learning needs
    - f. Nursing interventions
    - g. Growth and developmental needs
    - h. Coping mechanisms
    - i. Legal/Ethical issues
    - j. Cultural aspects
    - k. Psychosocial needs
  14. Develop technical skills required to provide comprehensive nursing care to patients with neurological disorders.
  15. Construct teaching plans for patients with neurological disorders.
  16. Identify common health problems related to the integumentary system that impacts on individuals throughout the lifespan.
  17. Contrast medical and surgical interventions common to patients with integumentary disorders.
  18. Develop technical skills required to provide comprehensive nursing care to patients with integumentary disorders.
  19. Construct teaching plans for patients with integumentary disorders.
  20. Develop technical skills and formulate a plan of care for a group of patients.
  21. Differentiate the roles of the RN and the LVN as members of the health care team.

VII. Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Using appropriate data collection techniques & instruments, perform a neurological assessment on an adult or pediatric patient and correctly document information.
2. Provide nursing care that reflects research into patient/clients medical diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and care.
3. Paying particular attention to the integumentary system demonstrate

- critical thinking and judgement in clinical decision making.
4. Student will show NCLEX readiness by passing the ATI Comprehensive Predictor which measures assessment across the lifespan, with a 75% or better.
  5. Complete an abdominal assessment on a Medical/Surgical patient in the proper sequence using Universal Precautions.

VIII. Content Modules:

Module A-1: Nursing Assessment and Diagnostic Testing of Patients with Problems of the Neurological System

Module A-2: Application of the Nursing Process in Caring for Pediatric Patients with Common Health Problems of the Neurological System

Module A-3: Application of the Nursing Process in Caring for Adult Patients with Common Health Problems of the Neurological System

Module B: Application of the Nursing Process in Caring for Patients with Common Health Problems of the Renal System

Module C: Application of the Nursing Process in Caring for Patients with Common Health Problems of the Upper Gastrointestinal System

Module D: Application of the Nursing Process in Caring for Patients with Common Health Problems of the Lower Gastrointestinal System

Module E: Application of the Nursing Process in Caring for Patients with Common Health Problems of the Integumentary System

Module F: Professionalism: The Role of the RN and LVN as Members of the Health Team