PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

GENERAL PATIENT UNIT

When assigned to the General Patient unit paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and members of the health profession
2. Assessment and recording of vital signs
3. Significance of vital signs in the ill adult
4. Technique of IM and SQ injection of medication
5. Principles of charting
6. Use of the nursing written communication
7. Appropriate use of medical vocabulary
8. Basic principles of intake and output
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

OUTPATIENT BLOOD DRAWING

When assigned to Outpatient Blood Drawing Lab paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and members of the health profession
2. Venipuncture technique
3. Identification of anxiety and the coping mechanisms used by patients
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

When assigned to the Emergency Department the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients, families and health professionals
2. Application of basic anatomical and physiological principles to acute illness or injury
3. Assessment and recognition of pathological states in acutely ill or injured patients and so on
4. Initiation and/or maintenance of emergency care appropriate to the patient’s condition (under supervision)
5. Basic techniques of obtaining patient history
6. Basic techniques of physical assessment: e.g.
   a. the determination of vital signs and their significance to a particular patient
   b. the determination of ABGs and their significance to a particular patient
   c. gross neurological exam
   d. auscultation of lung and bowel sounds
7. Monitoring and interpretation of electrocardiograms
8. Assembling, starting and maintaining IV therapy
9. Drawing venous blood samples
10. Administration of medications (IV, IM, SQ, IO, IN and ET) and recognition of the actions and side effects of those medications

11. Administration of appropriate medications for a particular patient's condition

12. Insertion of nasogastric (NG) tubes

13. Application of dressings

14. Application of appropriate airway management

15. Application of sterile technique principles

16. Ambulance-hospital radio communications

17. Advanced life support measures during traumatic and respiratory and/or cardiac arrest
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

OPERATING ROOM

When assigned to the Operating Room, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and members of the health profession
2. Application of basic anatomical and physiological principles as related to the surgical procedure
3. Application of sterile technique principles
4. Airway maintenance in the unconscious or sedated patient including intubation and extubation
5. Assembling, starting and maintaining IV therapy
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

BURN UNIT

When assigned to the Burn Unit, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in:

1. Recognition of degrees of burns from various causes
2. Principles and importance of sterile technique in caring for a burn patient
3. Hemodynamic changes and the significance of these changes in the burn patient
4. Importance of fluid and electrolyte balance in the burn patient
5. Recognition and treatment of inhalation injury
6. Basic techniques of physical assessment: e.g.
   a. determination of vital signs
   b. auscultation of breath sounds
   c. gross neurological exam
7. Physical care of burn patients: e.g.
   a. suctioning
   b. medication administration (IM, SQ, IV, ET, IN)
   c. wound care
8. Monitoring and interpretation of electrocardiograms
PARAMEDIC TRAINING

CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

RENAL DIALYSIS

When assigned to the Renal Dialysis Unit, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and health professionals
2. Identification of physical and psychological characteristics of chronically ill patients
3. Identification of shunts/fistulas used in patients on renal dialysis
4. Implications for paramedics in caring for dialysis patients in crisis
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

DIGESTIVE HEALTH CLINIC (DHC)

When assigned to the Ambulatory Procedures Clinic, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communications with patients and health care professionals
2. Assembling, starting and monitoring IV therapy
3. Administration of medications (IV, IM, SQ, IN) and recognition of the actions and side effects of those medications
4. Monitoring of vital signs and their significance to a particular patient
5. The application of basic anatomical and physiological principles as related to a procedure
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

ADULT INTENSIVE CARE UNITS

When assigned to an adult intensive care unit, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients, families and health professionals

2. Application of basic principles of anatomy and physiology to the critically ill patient

3. The basic techniques of physical assessment: e.g.
   a. the determination of vital signs and their significance to a particular patient
   b. the determination of ABGs and their significance to a particular patient
   c. gross neurological exam
   d. auscultation of lung and bowel sounds

4. Assessment and recognition of pathological states in critically ill patients

5. Technique of suctioning

6. Airway maintenance in critically ill patients

7. Assembling, starting and maintaining IV therapy

8. Administration of medications (IV, IM, SQ, IO, IN and ET) and recognition of the actions and side effects of those medications
9. Administration of appropriate medications for a particular patient’s condition

10. Movement of critically ill patients (e.g. turning, assisting to chair)

11. Monitoring and interpretation of electrocardiograms

12. Advanced Life Support measures during traumatic, respiratory and/or cardiac arrest
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

When assigned to RESPIRATORY THERAPY, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and members of the health profession

2. Assessment of respiratory status including:
   a. respiratory rate, depth and degree of effort
   b. auscultation of normal breath sounds
   c. auscultation of abnormal breath sounds
   d. inspection of the chest for retractions, symmetry and respiratory effort

3. Identification of pathologies and complications typically associated with abnormal breath sounds

4. Assist in the care/treatment of patients seen by RT e.g. nebulizer treatments
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

CARDIAC CATH LAB

When assigned to the Cardiac Cath Lab, the paramedic student should gain knowledge in the following:

1. EKG interpretation and the hemodynamic effect of individual rhythms
2. Effects of cardiac drugs on the electrical system of the heart as well as their hemodynamic effects
3. Basic principles of anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular system, with particular emphasis on the coronary arteries
4. Appropriate application and techniques of defibrillation and/or cardioversion
5. Application of sterile technique principles
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

PEDIATRIC INPATIENT UNIT
PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

When assigned to the Pediatric Inpatient unit the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Measuring vital signs in the pediatric patient and the recognition of “normals” for the pediatric patient

2. Psychosocial development of the infant, toddler, preschooler and school aged children

3. How to approach and relate to the pediatric patient during physical assessment and treatment procedures

4. Estimation of weight and age in the pediatric patient

5. Identification of coping mechanisms used by the acutely ill pediatric patients and their families
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

PEDIATRIC INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

1. Appropriate communication with patients, families and health professionals

2. Application of basic principles of anatomy and physiology to the critically ill child

3. The basic techniques of physical assessment: e.g.
   a. the determination of vital signs and their significance to a particular child
   b. the determination of ABGs and their significance to a particular child
   c. gross neurological exam
   d. auscultation of lung and bowel sounds

4. Assessment and recognition of pathological states in critically ill children

5. Technique of suctioning

6. Airway maintenance in critically ill children

7. Assembling, starting and maintaining IV therapy

8. Administration of medications (IV, IM, SQ, IO, IN and ET) and recognition of the actions and side effects of those medications

9. Administration of appropriate medications for a particular child’s condition

10. Movement of critically ill children e. g. turning, assisting to chair

11. Monitoring and interpretation of electrocardiograms
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

LABOR AND DELIVERY

When assigned to the labor/delivery unit, the paramedic student should gain knowledge by observing the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and families
2. Recognition of the signs and symptoms of labor
3. Assessment of the physical and emotional status of patients during labor
4. Recognition of the signs of imminent delivery
5. Observation of normal and abnormal vaginal deliveries and/or delivery by C-section
6. Assessment of the newborn to include Apgar scoring
7. Recognition and resuscitation of the newborn in distress
8. Recognition and treatment of maternal postpartum complications
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

HOME HEALTH

When assigned to Home Health, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients, their families and/or caretakers and members of the health profession.

2. Assessment of physical status typically monitored by home health practitioners: e.g.
   a. determination of vital signs
   b. auscultation of breath sounds
   c. gross neurological exam
   d. response(s) to prescription medications

3. Identification of pathologies and complications typically found in home care patients and the treatment of these complications

4. Recognition of the value of the home care practitioner and understanding their role in patient care

5. Identification of the types of home health care available in the community and the services provided
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

DANE COUNTY COMMUNICATION CENTER (911)

When assigned to DANE COUNTY COMMUNICATION CENTER (911), the paramedic student should gain knowledge in the following:

1. Appropriate communications with a caller (to 911)
2. Understanding the role the dispatcher plays in instituting the first line of emergency care for patients, families, etc.
3. Identification of the appropriate information and how it is gathered from the caller (to 911) and what information is then given to the incoming 911 responder
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

TELLURIAN/UCAN/DETOX

When assigned to Tellurian/UCAN/Detox, the paramedic student should gain knowledge by observing the following with regard to intoxicated individuals:

1. Appropriate communications with staff and with patients in varying degrees of inebriation
2. Assessment of physical status of patients under the influence of ETOH
3. Medical history taking skills-reliability in ETOH patients
4. Recognition of potential for deterioration of vital signs
5. Protective interventions for self and patient
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

12 LEAD

When assigned to the 12 Lead Unit the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and health professionals
2. Identifying appropriate landmarks for the placement of the 12 lead electrodes
3. Technique of obtaining a 12 lead
4. Identifying what an accurately obtained 12 lead looks like-free of interference, leads on correctly etc
PARAMEDIC TRAINING
CLINICAL OBJECTIVES

ADULT PSYCHIATRIC IN PATIENT UNIT

When assigned to the Adult Psychiatric Inpatient Unit, the paramedic student should gain knowledge and experience in the following:

1. Appropriate communication with patients and members of the health care profession

2. Observe staff techniques of communication with patients experiencing a chronic or acute psychiatric condition

3. Physical examination in a patient that is exhibiting an acute or chronic psychiatric condition

4. Identifying appropriate use of restraints

5. Recognition of the potential for the development of violent behavior and the safety measures that need to be taken when patient violence is anticipated
CLINICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR PARAMEDIC STUDENTS
(at all times patient privacy and maintaining HIPAA are the priority)

Observe staff:
- procedures/techniques
- sterile technique
- how to relate/talk to patients of all ages, conditions
- role of each health team member

Patients:
- observe (or help) approach to turning/transfer of patients
- evaluate/describe breathing
- listen to breath sounds, bowel sounds
- take BP by palpation
- guess BP from pulse quality; then check BP to see how accurate you are
- palpate pulses: carotid, dorsalis pedis, temporal, posterior tibialis, brachial, +/- femoral, radial, +/- popliteal, ulnar
- check apical pulse by auscultation, +/- palpation
- practice complete neuro exam, do GCS
- run ECG strips on all patients – interpret, compare to patient status
- try to identify patient coping mechanisms
- observe staff check response to pain in comatose patients
- feel for respirations in non-intubated patients
- check for: ankle edema, nail bed color/blanching, shunt/fistula
- palpate/count interspaces; decide where you would relieve tension pneumothorax
- palpate landmarks for cricothyroidotomy
- check IV infusions: running OK? any drugs added? calculate drip rate
- talk with conscious patients
- observe skin discolorations, skin temperature

Reading/Study:
- books/articles/wall charts on the unit
- look up in your text and review the diagnosis/treatment being given to patients
- ECGs, ABGs or other lab values (interpret)
- Review medical Terms

Operating Room:
- talk with anesthesiologist
- observe surgery and review anatomy
- observe details of sterile technique
- increase understanding of surgical procedures
- observe staff/patient coping mechanisms