

DIAGNOSIS REVIEW AT CLINICAL ROTATION SITE

OBJECTIVES/RATIONALE

Health care workers need to be aware of the medical diagnoses treated in their facility. The student will research and describe key elements of the top ten diagnoses identified in the clinical rotation site

TEKS 121.4 1G, 1H, 1I, 3A

TAKS ELA 1, 3, 4
Mathematics 10
Science 2, 3

KEY POINTS

- I. When a person seeks medical attention with symptoms and/or signs of disease, the physician begins an orderly series of steps to investigate the cause (pathophysiology) and make a diagnosis (process of identifying the manifestations so that the disease can be named).
 - A. Establishing a diagnosis is a decision making process in which data collected from the medical history, physical examination, and diagnostic tests are analyzed, integrated and interpreted.
 - B. A diagnosis provides a logical basis for treatment.
- II. Medical history is the primary source of data and provides vital clues and background for assessment. It provides information on:
 - A. Predisposing factors, risk factors and pre-existing conditions
 - B. Drug allergies and food allergies
 - C. Present therapy—medications or treatments
 - D. Onset of symptoms and nature of illness
 1. Symptoms-subjective complaint from the patient/client
 2. Signs- objective finding by examination from a health professional
- III. Next, a methodical physical examination of the patient/client from head to toe (a systems review). Assessment skills are used to evaluate the health status such as:
 - A. Inspection—observation and measurement , including vital signs
 - B. Auscultation—trained listening with use of stethoscope
 - C. Palpation—investigation by sense of touch
 - D. Percussion—tapping which produces vibration and sound
 - E. All information gathered by physical examination is measured against norms or standards.
- IV. The final source of assessment data is through appropriate diagnostic studies and laboratory tests.
 - A. The types of testing done: microscopic examination, chemical analysis, X-ray studies, body scans, endoscopy, and ultrasonography.
 - B. These results are compared against normal findings.
- V. In order to formulate a diagnosis, the physician integrates the findings from all areas. Through the use of computer systems today, it helps the physician to do

comparative studies and do an orderly approach to diagnosing disease and illness. From this information a treatment plan and prognosis (the most likely outcome of disease) can be formulated.

Teacher Note

Before beginning the activity, contact the Education Coordinator, Quality Assurance Coordinator, or Director of Nurses to get a list of the Top Ten Diagnoses.

ACTIVITIES

- I. Complete the **Diagnosis Review Sheet** and develop a multimedia presentation.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Research books, computer with Internet access

ASSESSMENT

Multimedia Presentation Rubric

ACCOMMODATIONS

For reinforcement, the student will do an activity sheet on each diagnosis as presented in class.

For enrichment, the student will do a chart audit on a patient with one of the Top Ten Diagnoses.

REFLECTIONS

Diagnosis Review Sheet

Disease/Illness/Condition:

Description (Signs and Symptoms):

Diagnosis:

Prognosis:

Treatment/Care:

Tests:

Pathophysiology (The cause of)