Paediatric Health Nursing
Course syllabus

Course Description:

This course introduced the student to appropriate scientific knowledge which enables them to develop their own unique clinical and educational approach to care of children and their families. This course moves from simple to complex issues; starting with concepts of normal growth and development, health promotion and maintenance, and the prevention of illnesses and accidents and then to selected health problems (chronic and common health problems, and communicable diseases). This is achieved through utilizing the nursing process, developmental theories, new trends and the latest approaches in the management and caring of children. The course encourages students to utilize knowledge synthesis, problem solving techniques, critical thinking, and family centered approached in the provision of empowered care.

Course objectives:

Upon completion of this course, each student will be able to:

1. Understand concepts and related principles related to child health nursing that reflect care of children from a wellness to an illness perspective and from birth to adolescence.
2. Delineate the role of the child health nurse in providing care for children and their families at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of care for the different age groups.
3. Discuss the growth and development of children from birth throughout adolescence with emphasis on the methods of assessment.
4. Describe different nursing approaches to the assessment and provision of care for children and their families related to health promotion, disease prevention and health restoration within the framework of the nursing process.
5. Outline a plan of nursing care for the newborn infant, child and adolescent with a common health problem.

Teaching Methodology

- Lecture / discussion
- Small group Discussion
- Students presentation
- Assigned textbook readings
- Questions and answers
- Handouts

Course Policy:

Attendance and preparation are important for successful completion of this course. A absences must be kept to a minimum. Excessive absenteeism is grounds for dismissal from the course. Students are expected to attend all classes on time. Students are expected to participate enthusiastically and meaningfully in classroom.

## Course content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Wks</th>
<th>Unite</th>
<th>Unite Title</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | I   | I     | perspective on nursing care of children and adolescents | - orientation.  
- Role of the paediatric Nurse.  
- Ethical practice in the nursing of children and adolescents. |
| 2+3  | II  | Growth and development of children within families | - G& D infant.  
- G& D Toddler.  
- G& D preschooler.  
- G& D school age.  
- G& D adolescents. |
| 4+5  | III | Promoting health child | A:  
- promoting health parenting.  
- Fostering self-esteem.  
- Promoting safety.  
- Health dietary practices  
- Promoting healthy play.  
B:  
- developmental – behavioural.  
- Health concerns:  
- Child abuse and maltreatment.  
- The high – risk infant. |
| 6    | IV  | Concepts related to illness | - stress, crisis, and coping.  
- Death and Dying.  
- Chronic illness. |
| 7+8  | V   | Managing illness | - nursing care during hospitalization.  
- Nursing management of pain in children.  
- Principle of fluid and electrolyte maintenance. |
| 9-14 | VI  | Nursing interventions in physiologic alterations | - altered respiratory function.  
- Altered cardiovascular function.  
- Altered haematological function.  
- Altered digestive function.  
- Altered genitourinary / renal function.  
- Altered immune function  
- Altered neurological function.  
- Altered musculoskeletal function.  
- Altered endocrine function.  
- Altered metabolic function.  
- Sensory and communication alterations.  
- Neoplasm / cancer. |