HAP 549
Clinical Skills for the Physician Assistant Student

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The clinical skills course provides the physician assistant student with an overview of common clinical procedural skills and their indications, limitations, benefits and potential risks. Students are taught how to perform a number of commonly performed clinical procedures that will be emphasized in the clinical phase of education with an emphasis placed on aseptic technique, appropriate indications and contraindications, patient safety and patient comfort.

RATIONALE
Clinical procedures are an essential component in the comprehensive assessment and care of a patient. Physician Assistant students must know the indications, contraindications and potential complications of these procedures. Physician Assistant students must also be familiar with the necessary equipment and have the ability to properly utilize this equipment in order to appropriately manage an individual patient with special emphasis on patient safety and comfort. The PA student must also be able to communicate the steps necessary to insure the patient’s cooperation, comfort and safety during these procedures. Emphasis on aseptic technique and patient safety during and following these procedures is stressed at all times.

In Regional Human Anatomy, students acquire basic knowledge and an appreciation of normal anatomical structures essential to proper completion of these procedures. Issues related to asepsis, comfort, consent and diagnostic and prognostic value of these procedures are also integrated into certain units of Clinical Medicine as part of the process of diagnosis and management.

CREDIT
One credit

SESSIONS
The course consists of approximately 12 Hours of lecture and 12 hours of laboratory instruction.

TEACHING STRATEGY
The course includes lectures, case presentations, workshops and reviews by instructors and students.

EVALUATION
The clinical skills course is graded on a Satisfactory/Fail basis. In the clinical skills course students are evaluated on their ability to perform...
selected diagnostic and therapeutic skills through written examinations, faculty observation and performance evaluation forms.

Student competency is evaluated with a written examination in EKG and radiographic interpretation and a practical component requiring completion certification based on demonstration of the skills identified in the objectives.

The two written examinations must be passed with a minimum grade of 77%. The written examinations are equally weighted accounting for 20% of the overall grade. The practical component must be completed to the satisfaction of the program faculty and is graded on a Satisfactory/Fail basis.

If a student fails to achieve a grade of “77” on the written components of the clinical skills course s/he must take a remake examination on the failed component(s) and achieve a 77%. The maximum grade that will be recorded for a remake of either component of the exam is 77%. The final grade for the course is Satisfactory/Fail based on the successful completion of all components as noted above.

In the event that a student does not complete a remake examination for the written component or receives an “F” for the laboratory/workshop component of the course, a failing grade will be entered for the course.

REQUIRED READINGS and EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

1. Essential Clinical Procedures, Richard Denn & David Asprey, Saunders, 2nd edition
2. Handouts
3. Instructional Procedural Videos

TOPIC OUTLINE

1. Injections
2. Clinical Skills Procedural Videos
3. Electrocardiography and Rhythm Strip Interpretation
4. Basic IV Therapy
5. Intravenous Cannulation
6. Bladder Catheterization
7. Radiology Review
8. Wound Closure
9. Documentation Review

SBU Physician Assistant Program
Not to be reproduced without permission from the program
Rev'd 2012-2013
INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

Injections

1. Recognize the indications for intradermal, subcutaneous and intramuscular injections.
2. Demonstrate the proper technique for intradermal, subcutaneous and intramuscular injections.
3. Discuss the possible complications associated with improper techniques for intradermal, subcutaneous and intramuscular injections.

Clinical Skills Procedural Videos

1. Explain the indications and potential complications and the technique of an arterial puncture.
2. Explain the indications and potential complications and the technique of nasogastric intubation.
3. Explain wound closure techniques, wound care and dressings, suture and staple removal.
4. Apply principles of asepsis and wound healing to techniques utilized for wound closure, wound care and wound dressings.
5. Apply principles of asepsis and wound healing to the removal of wound closure devices including suture and surgical staples.

Review of Electrocardiography and Rhythm Strip Interpretation

1. Demonstrate the proper lead placement when performing a 12-lead electrocardiogram.
2. Calculate the atrial and ventricular rates from the EKG, and be familiar with normal and abnormal rate ranges.
3. Evaluate significant EKG rhythm abnormalities.

Basic Intravenous (IV) Therapy

1. Apply concepts of fluid regulation and physiologic demands associated with various disease states to assess a patient’s need for intravenous therapy.
2. Compare and contrast hydrating, replacement, and maintenance IV therapy.
3. Describe the types of solutions available for basic intravenous therapy.
4. Describe the mechanical considerations in initiating basic IV therapy.
5. Calculate a drip rate (drops/min.) for a desired flow rate (cc/hr) using a mini-drip or macro-drip solution set.
6. Determine the calculations necessary to estimate water and electrolyte needs.
7. Construct the components of a written order for intravenous therapy.

SBU Physician Assistant Program
Not to be reproduced without permission from the program
Rev'd 2012-2013
Intravenous Cannulation

1. Discuss the indications for intravenous cannulation.
2. Recognize the common equipment used for intravenous therapy.
3. Demonstrate the proper technique for insertion of an intravenous cannula into a peripheral vein.
4. Discuss the potential complications associated with intravenous cannulation.

Wound Closure

1. Describe the indications, contraindications and rationale for performing wound closure.
2. Identify and describe common complications associated with wound closure.
3. Describe the essential anatomy and physiology of the skin and subcutaneous structures associated with the performance of wound closure.
4. Identify the materials and tools necessary for performing wound closure and their proper use.
5. Describe important aspects of patient care after wound closure including dressings, patient education and follow up care.

Bladder Catheterization

1. Discuss the indications and contraindications for performing urinary bladder catheterization.
2. Identify and describe common complications associated with performing urinary bladder catheterization.
3. Discuss the essential anatomy and physiology associated with the performance of urinary bladder catheterization.
4. Identify the materials necessary for performing urinary bladder catheterization and demonstrate their proper use.

Radiology Review

1. Demonstrate a systematic approach for the clinical interpretation of commonly utilized methodologies for diagnostic imaging.
2. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of radiologic interpretation including the ability to recognize common radiologic findings.
3. Summarize radiographic findings to patients and other health care providers.

Documentation Review

1. Define patient “problem” and recommend examples of various types of problems.
2. Compose a problem list.
3. Summarize the rules for updating a problem list.
4. Develop clinical thinking skills that lead to the recognition and assessment of patient’s problems.

_SBU Physician Assistant Program_
_Not to be reproduced without permission from the program_
_Rev’d 2012-2013_
5. Create a list of information that is commonly included in a patient assessment.
6. Construct 3 types of patient plans and give examples of each.
7. Organize the information included when documenting a patient assessment and plan.
8. Describe the indications for and use of patient progress notes.
10. Illustrate the association between the problem list and the patient assessment, plans and progress notes.
11. Review the proper technique for writing orders.
**Americans with Disabilities Act:**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your coursework, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

**Academic Integrity:**

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at [http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/](http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/)

**Critical Incident Management:**

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.