

NURSING OF THE ADULT SICK

Aim: To involve students in and with further developments of the conceptual framework to which students were introduced during the first year so that nursing practice within a centre setting of mainly medical and surgical patients will be consolidated.

Objectives:

- (1) To become acquainted with the principles of medical and surgical nursing.
- (2) To apply previously learned theoretical concepts to the practical situation.
- (3) To display level of competence in nursing skills as they relate to individual patients' requirements, recognising patients' mental and physical states and understanding of therapeutic procedures.
- (4) To understand the notion of "continuity of care" both within the hospital and outside, between the hospital, the home and the primary care delivery system.

Content:

This second year course will focus primarily on nursing problems met with in acute hospital situations, concepts basic to nursing care will be examined as they relate to maturational and situational stress. By using a variety of planned and guided clinical settings, experiences will be provided with patients of all ages except those of children. Nursing theory and skills will be taught as the integrative discipline arising out of biological and sociological concepts studied during the first year. Recurrent themes such as crisis, pain, loss, anxiety, immobility and identity will be discussed.

The approach to disease will be through a system analysis in terms of patients with problems; for example: problems of the circulatory system, problems of the muscular system etc. Problems associated, for example, with elimination, hydration and nutrition, having been studied during the first year, will now be further explored and considered in the light of psycho-social understanding. They will also be studied within a framework related to the

promotion of health, the prevention of illness, early diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation and maintenance. Students who, where appropriate, will be working in small problem-based care tutorials will be taught the application of appropriate concepts and the "nursing process" to a variety of patient situations. Models of nursing intervention using a variety of theoretical bases are applied to health-care situations through problem-based learning.

Major emphasis will be given to the assessment, problem-solving, interpersonal ministering and teaching behaviour to implement and evaluate nursing care in institutional settings.

Teaching Methods:

Lectures / seminars / tutorials / guided practical work.

Assessment:

Written work / verbal assessments.

Y.F.