

DACUM Competency Profile for Critical Care Nurse

Produced By

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DACUM Competency Profile for Critical Care Nurse

A Critical Care Registered Nurse is one who is specialty trained to coordinate and provide care for critically ill patients through an on-going process of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation to ensure optimal care for the patient and family.

Duties		Tasks			
A	Perform On-Going Patient Assessment	A-1 Collect Patient Information	A-2 Review Plan of Care	A-3 Obtain Vital Signs	A-4 Obtain Hemodynamic Values
		A-5 Obtain Neurological Values	A-6 Perform Systems Assessment	A-7 Perform Psychosocial Assessments	A-8 Review Diagnostic Test Results
		A-9 Evaluate Findings to Identify Patient's Needs	A-10 Notify Physician of Reportable Information	A-11 Revise Plan of Care	
B	Provide Patient Physical Care	B-1 Provide Pulmonary Care	B-2 Provide Cardiovascular Care	B-3 Manage Vascular Access	B-4 Maintain Fluid and Electrolyte Balance
		B-5 Provide Neuro Care	B-6 Ensure Patient Comfort	B-7 Provide Integumentary Care	B-8 Provide Personal Hygiene
		B-9 Provide Musculoskeletal Care	B-10 Provide Nutritional Support	B-11 Provide Gastrointestinal Care	B-12 Provide Pre-op Care
		B-13 Provide Post-op Recovery	B-14 Promote Wound Healing	B-15 Provide Endocrine Care	B-16 Provide Renal Care
		B-17 Provide Hematological Care	B-18 Manage Patient Care during Transport	B-19 Provide Alternative Communication Methods	B-20 Collect patient Specimens
		B-21 Provide Donor Patient Care	B-22 Provide Post-Mortem Care		

C

Administer/Manage Patient Medication

C-1 Titrate Medications	C-2 Administer IV Medications via Central Line	C-3 Administer IV Medications via Peripheral Line	C-4 Administer Oral Medications
C-5 Administer Inter-Muscular Medications	C-6 Administer Sublingual Medications	C-7 Administer Subcutaneous Medications	C-8 Administer Topical Medications
C-9 Administer Medications via Aerosol	C-10 Administer Medications via Endotracheal Tube	C-11 Administer Medication via Gastric Tube	C-12 Administer Medications per Rectum
C-13 Administer Medications via Epidural	C-14 Administer Medications via Intra-Arterial	C-15 Administer Medications via Eyes, Ears, Nose	C-16 Administer Medications via Urinary Catheter

D

Manage Technical Equipment

D-1 Obtain Appropriate Equipment & Supplies	D-2 Set up Equipment & Supplies	D-3 Evaluate Equipment Accuracy	D-4 Initiate use of Equipment
D-5 Analyze Patient Results/Response	D-6 Trouble Shoot Unexpected Findings	D-7 Solve Identified Problems	D-8 Evaluate Need for Continued use of Equipment
D-9 Discontinue use of Equipment	D-10 Dispose of Equipment		

E

Assist with Specialized Procedures

E-1 Assist with Cardio Pulmonary Arrest	E-2 Assist with Intubation	E-3 Assist with Pulmonary Artery Catheter Insertion	E-4 Assist with Arterial Line Insertion
E-5 Assist with Transvenous/Transcutaneous Pacemakers	E-6 Assist with Conscious Sedation	E-7 Assist with Bronchoscopy	E-8 Assist with Endoscopy
E-9 Assist with Elective Cardioversion	E-10 Assist with Insertion of Intra Aortic Balloon Pump	E-11 Assist with Dialysis	E-12 Assist with Percutaneous Tracheostomy
E-13 Assist with Intra Cranial Pressure Insertion	E-14 Assist with Pericardiocentesis	E-15 Assist with Open Chest Sternotomy	E-16 Assist with Fasciotomy
E-17 Assist with Esophageal Compression Tube Placement	E-18 Assist with Chest Tube Insertion	E-19 Assist with Suturing	E-20 Assist with Fracture Stabilization
E-21 Assist with Spiral Stabilization			

F

Advocate Patient/Family Needs

F-1 Maintain Patient's Rights	F-2 Assist Patient/Family in Identification of Goals	F-3 Incorporate Cultural/Spiritual Diversity in the Plan of Care	F-4 Reconcile Patient Goals with Plan of Care
F-5 Provide Emotional Support to Patient/Family	F-6 Provide Patient/Family Education	F-7 Participate in Ethical Decision Making	F-8 Initiate Crisis Intervention
F-9 Participate in End of Life Care			

G

Collaborate with Healthcare Team Members

G-1 Initiate & Maintain Multi-disciplinary Plan of Care	G-2 Initiate Referrals to Other Health Disciplines	G-3 Ensure Appropriate Utilization of Resources	G-4 Supervise/Oversee Unit Nursing Staff
G-5 Coordinate Patient-Care Conferences	G-6 Assist with Patient Care outside Critical Care Environment		

H

Maintain Safe Environment

H-1 Protect Patient from Injury	H-2 Ensure Accessibility of Emergency Medical Equipment	H-3 Ensure Infection Control	H-4 Maintain a Secure Work Environment
H-5 Control Bio-Hazardous Waste	H-6 Maintain Electrical Safety	H-7 Maintain Fire Safety	H-8 Participate in Disaster Planning
H-9 Promote Employee Health & Wellness			

I

Documentation of Medical Management

I-1 Document Patient Care Provided	I-2 Transcribe Physician's Orders	I-3 Document Patient Education	I-4 Document Unusual Occurrences
I-5 Document Patient Transfers	I-6 Document Quality Control	I-7 Document Staffing Needs	I-8 Maintain Unit Logs
I-9 Document Flow of Patient's Personal Belongings			

J

Promote Professional Development

J-1 Maintain Current Hospital Practice	J-2 Participate in Hospital Competency Testing	J-3 Maintain Specialty Certifications	J-4 Promote Quality Improvement
J-5 Participate in Critical Care Continuing Education	J-6 Orient New Staff	J-7 Serve as a Preceptor	J-8 Serve as a Mentor
J-9 Provide Peer Feedback	J-10 Promote Nursing in the Community		

Future Trends & Issues

- Advanced practice nurses
- Advances in technology (ex: cloning, medications, equipment, treatment options, etc.)
- Aging population, patients & nurses
- Burn out issue
- Care mapping
- Computer impact
- Cultural issues
- Dealing with community education
- Drug resistant diseases
- Entry level education
- Ethics (death & dying)
- Focus on wellness
- Increase acuity
- Increase in documentation
- Increase nursing voice in administration

- Increase regulations from governing agencies (JCAHO, DHS, Federal government)
- Increasing responsibilities/accountability

- Liability issues
- Limited resources/fiscal constraints
- Maintain critical care patient ratios
- Non-traditional medicine
- Nursing shortage
- Outcomes management
- Public expectations
- Shift in management philosophy from health care provider to business operation
- Shorter length of stays
- Status in nurse/physician relationships
- Trends in division of labor
- Uncertainty of future health care

General Knowledge and Skills

- Adaptability
- Age specific knowledge
- Analytic
- Anatomy/Physiology
- Aseptic technique
- Assessment - Basic physical
- Basic arrhythmia's
- Basic dysrhythmia knowledge
- Basic mechanical knowledge
- Basic patient care skills
- Basic physical assessment
- Body mechanics
- Cardio-Pulmonary resuscitation
- Change theory
- Chemistry
- Communication
- Computer keyboarding skills
- Conflict management/mediation
- Critical thinking
- Delegation
- Emergency protocols

- English
- Grief process
- Hazardous materials
- Human behavior
- Institutional policies & procedures
- Interpersonal
- Isolation procedure
- JCAHO regulations
- Leadership
- Listening
- Management
- Math
- Microbiology
- Nurse diagnose
- Nurse practice act
- Nursing process (problem solving)
- Nutrition
- Organizational
- OSHA regulations
- Pathophysiology
- Pharmacology
- Phlebotomy
- Pre requisite
- Principles of adult learnign
- Prioritization
- Problem solving
- Psychology
- Research process
- Safety
- Sociology
- Statistics
- Stress management
- Supervision
- Teaching
- Time management
- Title 22

Tools, Equipment, Supplies and Materials

- Addressograph
- Admission kit
- Allergy band
- Ammonia bomb/ampule
- Angio-cath
- Antiseptic swab
- Apnea monitor
- Armbands
- Arterial blood gas kit
- Arterial line catheter
- Aseptic solution
- Auto transfusion system
- Automated medication dispensing machine
- Bed/bath linen
- Bedpan
- Bedscale
- Bedside cardiac & hemodynamic monitor with cables
- Bedside commode
- Bi-pap machine
- Bladder scanner

- Blood glucose monitor
- Blood warmer
- Bulb syringe
- Calculator
- Call bell
- Cardiac chair
- Cardiac monitor
- Catheter tray
- Central line - triple/double/single lumen

- Chart form
- Chest tube drainage system
- Collection container
- Computer
- Cont. passive motion machine
- Cooling blanket
- Crash cart (code blue)
- Crutches
- Defibrillator
- Diluent solutions
- Distilled water
- Doppler
- Drainage bags
- Drainage tubes
- Dressing supplies
- Duplicating machine
- Education video tapes
- Emesis basin
- End tidal CO2 monitor
- Endotracheal tubes
- Enema solution
- Epidural catheter
- FAX machine
- Feeding pumps
- Feeding tubes
- Flashlight
- Foley/french catheters
- Foot cradle
- General office supplies
- Geriatric chair
- Gloves
- Goggles
- Gowns
- Graduated measure
- Gurney
- Hand held nebulizer
- Heating pad
- Hemostats
- Hoyer lift for transfer
- Hygiene supplies
- Hyper/hypothermia systems
- Icebag
- Incentive spirometer
- Infusion pumps
- Intra aortic balloon pump (IABP)
- Intra cranial pressure (ICP) monitor
- Intubation tray
- Irrigation tray
- IV pole
- IV tubing/solutions
- Kardex

Tools, Equipment, Supplies and Materials

- Labels
- Lancets
- Lubricating ointment
- Manual resuscitation bag
- Masks
- Mattresses/beds (special)
- Mechanical ventilators
- Medication cup
- Name tag
- Nasogastric tubes
- Nebulizers
- Noninvasive automatic blood pressure machine
- Normal saline
- O2 concentrator/tank
- O2 flowmeter
- O2 masks/cannula
- Occlusion clamps
- Ostomy equipment
- Otoscope
- Patient controlled analgesia (PCA) pump

- Percutaneous inserted central catheter (PICC)
- Pericardiocentesis kit/tray
- Perma cath
- Phlebotomy supplies
- Pill crusher/cutter
- Pillows
- Pipette
- Pneumatic boots
- Pneumatic tube system
- Polaroid camera
- Policy manuals
- Portable sitz bath
- Portable whirlpool
- Pressure tubing/pressure bags
- Procedure manual
- Protective shield (one-way valve)
- Protective wear
- Pulmonary artery catheter
- Pulse oximeter
- Quinton
- Razors
- Ref/res. manual/books
- Restraints
- Safety pins
- Scale for weighing patient
- Scissors
- Sequential compression device
- Sharps containers
- Shower chair
- Siderail protectors
- Skin protector
- Slings
- Specialized beds
- Specimen container
- Sphygmomanometer
- Splints

- Staple remover
- Sterile H2O
- Stethoscope
- Strainers (urine)
- Suction equipment
- Support cushion
- Suture remover kit
- SVO2 monitor
- Syringes/needles
- Tape
- Tape measure
- Telemetry monitor/electrodes
- Telephone
- Telephone directories
- Television/VCR
- Thermometers
- Thoracentesis tray
- Tourniquets
- Trach care kit
- Tracheostomy
- Traction weight
- Transcutaneous pacemaker
- Transducers
- Transfer board
- Transport cardiac monitors
- Transvenous pacemaker
- Trapeze (overhead)
- Trays/Carts
- Treatment/medication cart
- Tube connector
- Tubex
- Tweezers
- Uniform
- Urinal
- Urometer
- Vacutainers
- Ventricular assist devices (VAD)
- Walker
- Watch
- Wheel chair

Worker Traits and Behaviors

- Assertive
- Culturally sensitive
- Dependable
- Disciplined
- Efficient
- Honest
- Initiative taken
- Integrity
- Intuitive
- Loyal
- Nurturing
- Punctual
- Remains calm
- Respectful
- Self motivated
- Skills - possesses inter-personal
- Stamina
- Tactful

