Component V: <u>Education</u>
Module B: Staff Development
Topic 3: Emergency Preparedness

I. **Statement of Purpose**
    To provide the learner with an understanding of the individual components involved in workplace safety in the ambulatory care setting and the varied situations under which he/she might be asked to respond.

II. **Terminology**
    1. OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration)
    2. CDC-NIOSH (Centers for Disease Control-National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)
    3. MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet)
    4. Hazard Communication Standard
    5. Environmental Protection Agency
    6. GAO (Government Accounting Office)
    7. Right-to-Know Law

III. **Performance Standards**
    1. Identify the different safety issues that exist in the ambulatory care setting
    2. Describe how the strategies in place protect the staff and the community

IV. **References**

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    8. Loughmiller, D. and Godwin, D. (2010) Weaving a web of excellence through staff development and training, *Medical Laboratory Observer*, April, 10-16.
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Content Outline Theory Objectives	Suggested Learning Activities/Evaluation

Objective 1
Identify the different safety issues that exist in the ambulatory care setting
  A. Safe Work Environment:
    1. Healthcare workers encounter safety issues in their work environment every day.
    2. OSHA has the responsibility to oversee workplace safety and provides regulatory guidance to organizations to prevent injury or death of workers.
  B. Safety Hazards
    1. Fire Safety
      a. OSHA requires
        1) A written fire evacuation plan
        2) Fire prevention plan
        3) Identify sources with the potential for ignition control
        4) A fire suppression plan in place
    2. Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Material Disposal
      a. OSHA requires
        1) Organizations notify individuals of hazardous materials
        2) Appropriately label and store all hazardous
	Discuss how workplace safety in the ambulatory care environment is both similar to and different from the acute care setting, as it relates to both environmental hazards and the difference in expected response for patient and employee safety.
	
	Discuss the differences and similarities of expected response for patient emergencies by the nurse between the acute care and ambulatory care setting.

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        materials
- 3) Provide for appropriate disposal
- 4) MSDS information must be readily accessible to individuals
- 5) Disposal of medical waste may be monitored by state regulatory agencies as well as the EPA

C. Natural disasters
1. CDC provides information and guidance to organizations in the event of natural disasters
2. Required to have a plan in place in the event of a natural disaster
3. Including response to provide care to injured individual

D. Violent / Hostile Behavior / Hostage Situations
1. Result of a stranger, a client, a co-worker or by someone in a personal relationship
2. Serious safety and health risk hazards
3. NIOSH and OSHA provide guidance for a Workplace Violence Prevention Plan

E. Patient Medical Emergencies
1. Ambulatory care setting does not have access to advanced life support
2. Must manage the patient emergency until the EMS system has responded
3. Required to have an emergency response system with standing protocols for nurses
4. Standard protocols provide stabilization until the patient can be transferred
5. Clinical staff needs to be oriented to any emergency equipment
   a. AED
   b. Any respiratory support equipment (masks and nebulizers)
   c. Emergency medications are identified as to concentration and appropriate dosing and are checked on regular basis for expiration
6. Examples of medical emergencies and medications used as a standing protocol.
   a. Patient Emergencies
      1) Patient Falls
      2) Cardiac Emergencies
      3) Respiratory Emergencies
      4) Allergic/Anaphylactic Emergencies
      5) Blood Sugar Emergencies
      6) Bleeding Emergencies
   b. Emergency Medications

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1) Oxygen 2) Respiratory 3) Cardiac 4) Allergy/Anaphylaxis 5) Blood sugar stabilization	

Objective 2
Describe how the strategies in place protect staff and community safety
  A. Strategies for Safety
    1. Safety Equipment
      a. CDC gives guidelines for infection prevention
        1) Document is the "Guide for Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings: Minimum Expectations for Safe Care"
          a) Hand washing
          b) Personal Protective Equipment
          c) Eye Wash
          d) Sharps Disposal
      b. Signage, Symbols and Labels
        1) For illiterate patients
        2) Pictorial or a second language
        3) Easily understandable signage is particularly important in an emergency
        4) Reflects cross-cultural communication and diversity in patients
      c. Community Resource Support During Emergencies
        1) May include law enforcement
        2) Fire
        3) Ambulance services
        4) A process for communicating with these individuals
  B. Staff Safety and Preparedness
    1. All clinical staff minimally certified in Basic Life Support
    2. Required to provide stabilization as appropriate within their scope of practice during respiratory and cardiac emergencies until EMS has responded.
      a. CPR: Basic requirement for all individuals working in the clinical ambulatory care setting
      b. Staff Roles During Emergencies: Staff roles during emergencies should be reviewed on an annual basis
      c. Simulated Emergency Scenarios performed with all staff will improve patient outcomes in the event of a real emergency http://www.cdc.gov/Workplace/
	Describe the role for other outside organizations that might be involved in an ambulatory care center safety hazard or patient emergency
	
	Outline the process for educating the care center staff about responding to a patient respiratory emergency, including the role that each licensed and unlicensed individual would perform.
	
	Read the section on Regulatory Compliance and Patient Safety in the Core Curriculum for Ambulatory Care Nursing