

Component III: Clinical

Module B Specialty Procedures

Topic 7: Assisting with Ophthalmic and Otic Procedures

Statement of Purpose

To prepare the learner with basic knowledge and skills necessary to perform ear and eye lavage/irrigation.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this topic, the learner will be able to:

1. Spell and define the key terms related to the ear.
2. List the reasons for performing ear lavage/irrigation.
3. List the steps in the performance of ear lavage/irrigation.
4. Spell and define the key terms related to the eye.
5. List the reasons for performing eye irrigation.
6. List the steps in the performance of eye irrigation.
7. List the reasons for using an emergency/safety eye wash.
8. List emergency/safety eye wash requirements.

Terminology

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| 1. Auricle | 6. Lavage |
| 2. Canthus | 7. Ophthalmic |
| 3. Cerumen | 8. Otic |
| 4. Conjunctiva | 9. Otoscope |
| 5. Conjunctivitis | 10. Sclera |

References

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Content Outline/Theory Objectives	Suggested Learning Activities
<p>Objective 1 Spell and define key terms related to the ear.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Review the terms listed in the terminology section. B. Spell the listed terms accurately. C. Pronounce the terms correctly. D. Use the terms in their proper context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Games: word searches, crossword puzzles, Family Feud, Jeopardy, bingo, spelling bee, hangman, and concentration. B. Administer vocabulary pre-test and post-test. C. Discuss learning gaps and plan for applying vocabulary.
<p>Objective 2 List the reasons for performing ear irrigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Remove impacted cerumen. B. Relieve inflammation. C. Remove a foreign body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings
<p>Objective 3 List the steps in the performance of ear irrigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Assemble equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non sterile gloves. 2. Face shield or safety goggles/glasses. 3. Fresh irrigation solution/water. 4. Clean emesis/ear basin. 5. Irrigating syringe. 6. Towel or absorbent pad. 7. Gauze. 8. Otoscope. B. Greet and identify patient. C. Explain procedure. D. Check Physician order for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patient name. 2. Irrigation solution. 3. Volume of solution. 4. Which ear to irrigate. E. Wash hands, put on gown, gloves and face shield. F. Examine patient's ear for cerumen or foreign body. G. Never irrigate an ear with a perforated tympanic membrane without checking with the Physician. H. Warm irrigating solution to room temperature. (Ear irrigation is not a sterile procedure.) I. Have patient sit or lie back with ear being treated facing you. J. Place towel over patient's shoulder and have patient hold the kidney shaped basin under ear. K. Pour solution into other basin. L. Gently clean external ear with solution moistened gauze. M. Fill irrigating syringe with approximately 20 ml of solution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings C. Demonstrate procedure to students and have students return demonstration.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N. Straighten ear canal by gently pulling auricle up and back for adults, and down and back for children. O. Place the tip of the syringe in the auditory meatus and direct the flow of the solution gently up toward the roof of the canal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow fluid to drain out during process. 2. Forceful instillation of the solution can rupture the tympanic membrane. P. If pain or dizziness occurs, stop the procedure. Q. Refill syringe and continue irrigating for the prescribed period or until the desired result is obtained. R. Dry external ear with gauze. S. Have the patient sit with the affected ear down to drain the solution. T. Inspect the ear with the otoscope. U. Assist patient to standing position. V. Dispose of used materials. W. Remove gloves, gown, and face shield. X. Document procedure and result; amount of solution used, time of administration, ear(s) irrigated in patient's chart. Y. Clean equipment and exam room. 	
<p>Objective 4 Spell and define the key terms related to the eye.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Review the terms listed in the terminology section. B. Spell the listed terms accurately. C. Pronounce the terms correctly. D. Use the terms in their proper context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings
<p>Objective 5 List the reasons for performing eye irrigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Relieve inflammation. B. Remove a foreign body. C. Remove/clear debris from lashes. D. Flush the eye after chemical or hazardous exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings
<p>Objective 6 List the steps in the performance of eye irrigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Assemble equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non sterile gloves. 2. Face shield or safety goggles/glasses. 3. Sterile irrigation solution. 4. Sterile basin. 5. Clean emesis basin. 6. Sterile bulb syringe. 7. Towel or absorbent pad. 8. Gauze. B. Greet and identify patient. C. Explain procedure. D. Check Physician order for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patient name. 2. Irrigation solution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings C. Demonstrate procedure to students and have students return demonstration.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Volume of solution. 4. Which eye to irrigate. E. Wash hands, put on gown, gloves and eye protection. F. Position patient comfortably, either with head tilted and the affected eye lower or lying with the affected eye down (this decreases the chance of contamination running into the unaffected eye.) G. Drape the patient with the towel or absorbent pad. H. Pour sterile solution into the sterile basin. I. Place the emesis basin under the affected eye. J. With clean gauze, wipe the eye from the inner canthus outward to remove debris from the lashes. K. Gently separate the lids with the thumb and forefinger of your non-dominant hand. L. Gently irrigate from the inner canthus, approximately one inch above the eye. M. Use gentle pressure on the syringe, but do not touch the eye. N. Refill syringe and continue irrigating for the prescribed period or until the desired result is obtained. O. Dry external eye and face with gauze. P. Inspect the eye. Q. Assist patient to sitting position. R. Dispose of used materials. S. Remove gloves, gown, and eye protection. T. Document procedure and result; amount of solution used, time of administration, eye(s) irrigated in patient's chart. U. Clean equipment and exam room. 	
<p>Objective 7 List the reasons for using an emergency/safety eye wash.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Safety tool. B. Used to irrigate and flush the eye following hazardous exposure. C. Chemicals or bodily fluids can be dangerous if they come in contact with your eyes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings
<p>Objective 8 List emergency/safety eye wash requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Eye wash must be clearly marked for identification. B. May be plumbed eye wash stations or portable eyewash station. C. If portable, check expiration date of eye wash fluid. D. Employees must be trained in proper use of the eye wash station. E. Eye wash stations are required if an MSDS indicates that a first aid response to exposure requires flushing for 15 or more minutes. F. Eye wash station are not required if flushing is less than 15 minutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Lecture/Discussion B. Assigned Readings