

Allied Health 105

Infection Prevention

Course Description and Competencies

Course Description: This class is an introduction to concepts in the control of communicable disease and the prevention of infection. General concepts of epidemiology, disease transmission and prevention will be discussed. Common models of chain of infection, standard precautions, OSHA standards for prevention of bloodborne pathogens' transmission in health care facilities and among the persons in the facilities including patients, health care workers and other will be presented. The role of the Center for Disease Control and other local, state and federal health care agencies regarding confidentiality, reporting and epidemiological investigation will be discussed. The role of the health care worker regarding legal and ethical responsibilities will be identified. Basic human immunology will be presented. The social, emotional and political implications of communicable diseases will be identified and explored.

Expected Course Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

1. Define general principles of infectious disease transmission.
 - a. Explain the chain of infection
 - b. Define basic vocabulary used to discuss infection control
 - c. Discuss basic human immune system function
 - d. Define basic vocabulary used to discuss the human immune response.
 - e. Define and discuss the role of epidemiology in infection prevention.
 - f. Define the role of Public Health in regard to infection prevention.
 - g. Discuss the historical perspective of infection prevention.

2. Define the principles and application of standard precautions in health care and life practices.
 - a. Explain OSHA Rules and Regulations regarding standard precautions and blood-borne pathogen transmission for health care facilities including the basic principles and rights and responsibilities of both the health care worker and the employer/institution.
 - b. Apply the principles of standard precautions to specific communicable diseases and their specific chain of infection.
 - c. Define the principles of and skills needed for self protective techniques such as handwashing, gloving, disposal of contaminated materials, immunization, general health practices and safer sex.

3. Define common diseases in our community today and explain the mode of transmission, effect on the body, treatment, prognosis and emotional and sociological implications of:
 - a. Hepatitis A
 - b. Hepatitis B

- c. Hepatitis C
 - d. Sexually transmitted diseases
 - e. HIV/AIDS
 - f. Pertussis and other respiratory illnesses
 - g. Other common foodborne pathogens
 - h. TB and emerging diseases
4. Identify the responsibilities of the health care worker in protecting self and others from communicable diseases.
 - a. Discuss and apply patient education techniques and information that are specific to the disease involved.
 - b. Understand and define the importance of the role of reporting, the agencies involved, the rights and responsibilities of the individual that is infected, the health care worker and the appropriate agencies, including the local health department, state health department and Center for Disease Control.
 - c. Define confidentiality and explore the ethical dilemmas that may arise from application of or lack of use of confidentiality and reporting laws.

Enabling Objectives:

1. Define the following diseases and explain the mode of transmission, signs and symptoms, treatment or interventions and emotional, sociological and cultural implications of each:
 - a. Hepatitis A
 - b. Hepatitis B
 - c. Hepatitis C
 - d. Sexually transmitted diseases (common to the United States)
 - e. HIV/AIDS
2. Identify and apply communication skills that would be needed to provide patient care for individuals or their involved family and/or friends.
3. Identify possible barriers to communication for discussing and teaching about these particular diseases.
4. Discuss basics of human sexuality as it relates to behaviors that may contribute to infection transmission.
5. Discuss personal, societal and cultural attitudes towards sexuality, including practices, sexual orientation and how these attitudes may aid or hinder infection prevention efforts.
6. Identify communication skills that will enhance information gathering and education efforts regarding disease transmission and prevention.
7. Identify community resources that are available to support infected individuals, family and friends and health care workers.

Performance Objective:

The student will be able to identify and discuss the basic legal and ethical issues related to infection prevention for the patient, health care worker and community.

Enabling Objectives:

1. Define the importance of reporting of communicable diseases and name the agencies involved.
2. Discuss the rights and responsibilities of the patient, health care worker and appropriate agencies regarding reporting of communicable diseases.
3. Define confidentiality and discuss ethical dilemmas that may arise from application of or lack of use of confidentiality and reporting laws.

Performance Objectives

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Performance Objectives: The student will be able to define general principles of infectious disease transmission as demonstrated by successful completion of the following activities.

Enabling Objectives:

1. Diagram and explain the chain of infection and relate it to specific diseases.
2. Define basic vocabulary used to discuss infection prevention.
3. Discuss the basic human immune system function especially related to the prevention/reaction to communicable diseases.
4. Define basic vocabulary used to discuss the human immune system.
5. Define and discuss the role of epidemiology in infection prevention.

Performance Objective: The student will show an understanding of the principles and application of standard precautions in health care and life practices by performing the following objectives.

Enabling Objectives:

1. List the components of OSHA standard precautions as currently defined.
2. Define the rights and responsibilities of the patient, health care worker, and employer as they relate to standard precautions.
3. Identify and explain procedures for complying with standard precautions for various forms of equipment and diseases.
4. Define and demonstrate appropriate hand-washing techniques.
5. Discuss the value of immunization to infection prevention.
6. Discuss the human immune system as it relates to immunization and infection prevention.
7. Define safer sex principles and be able to teach that information to patients.
8. Identify personal self-care activities that contribute to infection prevention.

Performance Objective: The student will demonstrate their ability to understand and apply infection control information and use of communication skills as needed to care for patients and family members with these diseases.