

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Health Professions

Course Number and Title

AHSC 1223 Patient Care Assistant +

Catalog Description

The PCA+ Certificate Program is designed to meet the industry driven demand for Certified Nursing Assistants trained in advanced patient care techniques and that possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities to excel as a vital member of the healthcare team. This course expands on the student's knowledge of healthcare and introduces advanced patient care skills through hands on lab and clinical training at area hospitals.

The PCA+ Program's goal is to meet the individual needs of healthcare providers while ensuring program participants receive training in marketable, competitive and life enhancing skills. The demand for Patient Care Assistants is great. PCA's have employment opportunities in hospitals, physician offices, assisted living organizations, long-term care facilities, long-term acute care facilities, home health care, and hospice care.

Students seeking admission to the PCA+ Program must be a Certified Nursing Assistant (proof required) or have completed, within the past year, a Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program approved by the Arkansas Office of Long Term Care.

Prerequisites

Students seeking admission to the PCA+ Program must be a Certified Nursing Assistant (proof required), completed NURS 1013, or have completed, within the past year, a Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program approved by the Arkansas Office of Long Term Care.

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours

3/90/3

Target Audience/Transferability

The targeted audience is adults and high school students seeking to complete relevant course work, obtain field experience and to gain the additional skills necessary to assist Registered Nurses in providing quality healthcare in an acute care (hospital) environment.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. List importance of making patient rounds with outgoing and oncoming shifts.
2. Demonstrates knowledge of assisting patients in traction.
3. Demonstrates advanced knowledge and importance of sterile techniques.
4. Demonstrates ability to perform foley catheter care using proper procedures.
5. Demonstrates ability to insert foley catheters on male and female patients.
6. Demonstrates ability to perform advanced dressing changes using a sterile technique.
7. Demonstrates ability to remove/discontinue IV and/or IV Lock.
8. Demonstrates ability to care for patient on a feeding pump.
9. Demonstrates ability to prepare patient for 12 lead EKG.
10. Demonstrates ability to identify changes or abnormalities in patients that must be reported.
11. Demonstrate correct procedures in changing stoma wafer.

Topics

- 1) Advanced Patient Care Skills
 - a. Advanced wound care/dressing changes
 - b. Insertion and discontinuation of Foley catheter
 - c. Sterile field set-up
 - d. CPR Certification
 - e. 12-lead EKG Set-up
- 2) Advanced Workplace Skills
 - a. Team building and problem solving
 - b. Introduction to the Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
 - c. Interview techniques
 - d. Resume development

Forms of Assessment

- 1) Observation with instructor evaluation in lab setting
- 2) Observation with instructor evaluation in clinical setting
- 3) Unit exams
- 4) Comprehensive final exam