

## Medical / Surgery Nurse Skills Checklist

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

In order to provide suitable assignments for you, this checklist is intended as a method of assessing your professional proficiency. Please rate your skill level as accurately as possible by placing a **check** ( ✓ ) in the appropriate box.

- 1** = No experience; Theory/observed only  
**2** = Intermittent experience; < 5 times per year; Needs review  
**3** = Moderate experience; > 5 times per year; May need minimal resource  
**4** = Competent; Performs on a daily or weekly basis; Proficient

Skill Level	1	2	3	4
<b>Cardiovascular</b>				
<b>Assessment</b>				
Abnormal heart sounds/murmurs				
Auscultation (rate, rhythm)				
Blood pressure/non-invasive				
Doppler				
Pulses				
Circulation checks				
<b>Equipment usage &amp; procedure</b>				
<b>Telemetry</b>				
12 lead EKG interpretation				
Arrhythmia interpretation				
Lead placement				
<b>Pacemaker</b>				
Permanent				
Temporary				
<b>Care of the patient with:</b>				
Abdominal aortic by-pass				
Aneurysm				
Angina				
Cardiac arrest				
Cardiomyopathy				
Carotid endarterectomy				
Congestive heart failure (CHF)				
Femoral-popliteal by-pass				
Mitral valve replacement				
Myocarditis				
Post acute MI (24 - 48 hours)				
Post angioplasty				
Post cardiac catheter				
Post cardiac surgery				
Thrombophlebitis				

Skill Level	1	2	3	4
<b>Cardiovascular Cont...</b>				
<b>Medications</b>				
Heparin drip				
Oral anticoagulants				
Oral & IVP antihypertensives				
Oral & topical nitrates				
<b>Pulmonary</b>				
<b>Assessment</b>				
Adventitious breath sounds				
Rate and work of breathing				
<b>Interpretation of lab results</b>				
Blood chemistry				
Blood gas				
<b>Equipment usage &amp; procedure</b>				
<b>Airway management devices</b>				
Endotracheal tube/suctioning				
Exhalation				
Nasal airway/suctioning				
Oropharyngeal/suctioning				
Sputum specimen collection				
Tracheostomy/suctioning				
<b>Assist with:</b>				
Intubation				
Thoracentesis				
Care of patient on a ventilator				
<b>Care of patient with a chest tube</b>				
Assist with set-up & insertion				
Measuring and emptying				
Removal				
Chest physiotherapy				
Incentive spirometry				
Oximetry				

<b>Pulmonary cont...</b>				
O <sub>2</sub> therapy & med delivery systems				
Ambu bag and mask				
External CPAP				
Face masks				
Nasal cannula				
Portable O <sub>2</sub> tank				
Trach collar				
Care of the patient with:				
Bronchoscopy				
COPD				
Fresh tracheostomy				
Lobectomy				
Pneumonectomy				
Pneumonia				
Pulmonary embolism				
Thoracotomy				
Tuberculosis				
<b>Neurological</b>				
Assessment:				
Glasgow coma scale				
Level of consciousness				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Assist with lumbar puncture				
Use of hyper/hypothermia blanket				
Care of the patient with:				
Aneurysm precautions				
Basal skull fracture				
Closed head injury				
Coma				
CVA				
DTs				
Encephalitis				
Externalized VP shunts				
Meningitis				
Neuromuscular disease				
Post craniotomy				
Seizures				
Spinal cord injury				
Administration of anticonvulsants				
<b>Orthopedics</b>				
Assessment:				
Circulation checks				
Gait				
Range of motion				
Skin				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Continuous passive motion devices				

<b>Orthopedics Cont...</b>				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Support devices				
Cane				
Cervical collar				
Gait belt				
Prosthetic				
Sling				
Transfer boards				
Walker				
Wheelchair				
Care of the patient with:				
Amputation				
Arthroscopic surgery				
Cast				
Osteoporosis				
Pinned fractures				
Rheumatic/arthritis disease				
Total hip replacement				
Total knee replacement				
<b>Gastrointestinal</b>				
Assessment:				
Abdominal/bowel sounds				
Fluid balance				
Nutritional data				
Interpretation of blood chemistry				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Administration of tube feeding				
Feeding pump				
Gravity feeding				
Saline lavage				
Flexible feeding tube				
Management of:				
Gastrostomy tube				
Jejunostomy tube				
T-tube				
Placement of nasogastric tube				
Salem sump to suction				
Care of the patient with:				
Bowel obstruction				
Colostomy/Ileostomy				
GI bleeding				
GI surgery				
Hepatitis				
Inflammatory bowel disease				
Invasive diagnostic testing				
Liver failure				
Paralytic ileus				

<b>Renal / Genitourinary</b>				
Assessment:				
A-V fistula				
A-V shunt				
Fluid balance				
Interpretation of lab results				
BUN				
Creatinine				
Serum electrolytes				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Insertion & care of:				
Female				
Male				
Straight catheter				
Foley catheter				
3-way Foley				
Supra-pubic				
Bladder irrigations				
Continuous				
Intermittent				
Specimen collection				
Routine				
24 hour				
Care of the patient with:				
Hemodialysis				
Ileal conduit nephrostomy				
Nephrectomy				
Peritoneal dialysis				
Renal transplant				
TURP				
Urinary diversion				
Urinary tract infection				
<b>Endocrine / Metabolic</b>				
Assessment:				
S/S diabetic coma				
S/S insulin reaction				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Blood glucose measuring devices				
Blood glucose monitoring				
Performing finger stick				
Visual blood glucose strips				
Care of the patient with:				
Diabetes mellitus				
Disorders of adrenal gland				
Disorders of pituitary gland				
Hyperthyroidism (Grave's disease)				
Hypothyroidism				
Thyroidectomy				

<b>Endocrine / Metabolic Cont...</b>				
Medications				
Insulin				
Oral hypoglycemic				
Steroids				
Thyroid				
<b>Wound Management</b>				
Assessment:				
Skin for impending breakdown				
Stasis ulcers				
Surgical wound healing				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Air fluidized, low air loss beds				
Sterile dressing changes				
Wound care/irrigations				
Care of the patient with:				
Burns				
Pressure sores				
Staged decubitus ulcers				
Surgical wounds with drains(s)				
Traumatic wounds				
<b>Oncology</b>				
Assessment:				
Nutritional status				
Pain control				
Interpretation of lab results				
Blood chemistry				
Blood counts				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Reverse isolation				
Care of the patient with:				
Bone marrow transplant				
Fresh oncologic surgery				
Inpatient chemotherapy				
Inpatient hospice				
Leukemia				
Radiation implant				
<b>Infectious Diseases</b>				
Interpretation of lab results				
Blood counts				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Fever management				
Isolation				
Care of the patient with:				
AIDS				
Hepatitis				
Lyme disease				
Tuberculosis				

<b>Phlebotomy / IV Therapy</b>				
Equipment usage & procedure				
Administration of blood & products				
Albumin				
Cryoprecipitate				
Packed red blood cells				
Plasma/albumin				
Whole blood				
Drawing blood from central line				
Drawing venous blood				
Starting IVs				
Angiocath				
Butterfly				
Heparin lock				
Care of the patient with:				
Central line/catheter/dressing				
Broviac				
Groshong				
Hickman				
Portacath				

<b>Phlebotomy / IV Therapy Cont...</b>				
Quinton				
Peripheral line/dressing				
<b>Pain Management</b>				
Assessment of pain level/tolerance				
Care of the patient with:				
Epidural anesthesia/analgesia				
IV conscious sedation				
Narcotic analgesia				
Patient controlled analgesia				
<b>Age Specific Practice Criteria</b>				
Newborn/Neonate (birth - 30 days)				
Infant (30 days - 1 year)				
Toddler (1 - 3 years)				
Preschooler (3 - 5 years)				
School age children ( 5 -12 years)				
Adolescents (12 - 18 years)				
Young adults (18 - 39 years)				
Middle adults (39 - 64 years)				
Older adults (64+ years)				

The preceding information I have checked is **true and correct**.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_