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In this scenario, students had the opportunity to practice assessment, vital signs, IV skills, medication administration, CPR, calling a code, and the use of the crash cart. At right, Annita Allotey, who was assigned the role of LPN, inserts an NG tube.

On January 9, 2023 remaining 2nd year student's participated in a simulation experience. This was another life threatening pediatric emergency. This time, ALEX was a 4-year-old boy named Jack, who experienced a drowning.

Simulation Experience



At left, Mrs. Morelli, Annita Allotey (LPN), Katie Dunn (LPN), and Payden Brown (Charge Nurse) administer CPR after Jack stops responding to treatment. After several minutes of CPR, Jack's heart starts beating again and the nursing staff

renews treatment for the drowning.



Below, Annita Allotey (LPN), Alana Morris (CNA), Katie Dunn (LPN) and Payden Brown (Charge Nurse) finish administering the NG tube and IV warming fluids. Overall this was a successful simulation.



NCLEX Knowledge Test

1. The 73-year-old patient presents to the clinic with her son who reports that, although she is normally completely independent and active, over the past two days, the patient has become increasingly forgetful, is not eating, and stares for hours at a spot on the wall. The patient is unable to recall her name, the year, or their city. The nurse knows which diagnosis is most likely for this patient?

- A. Delirium
- B. Dementia
- C. Alzheimer disease
- D. Acute psychosis



2. The severely obese patient has elected to have the Roux-en-Y gastric bypass (RYGB) procedure. The nurse will know the patient understands the preoperative teaching when the patient makes which statement?

- A. "This surgery will preserve the function of my stomach."
- B. "This surgery will remove the fat cells from my abdomen."
- C. "This surgery can be modified whenever I need it to be changed."
- D. "This surgery decreases how much I can eat and how many calories I can absorb."

3. A patient is receiving a total of 1500 mL of IV solution. The IV is infusing at a rate of 30 gtt / min. If the drop factor is 15 gtt / mL.

- a) How many hours will it take to complete the infusion?
- b) If the IV was started at 8 am when would you expect it to complete (Please write your answer in military time)

4. The nurse is setting up an education session with an 85-year-old patient who will be going home on anticoagulant therapy. Which strategy would reflect consideration of aging changes that may exist with this patient?

- A. Show a colorful video about anticoagulation therapy.
- B. Present all the information in one session just before discharge.
- C. Give the patient pamphlets about the medications to read at home.
- D. Develop large-print handouts that reflect the verbal information presented.



5. Which of the following illustrates a medication error?

- A. Administering 10 ml of a cough medicine when 2 teaspoons are ordered
- B. Giving digoxin 0.25 mg when digoxin 250 mcg is ordered
- C. Pouring 5mL of cough syrup when 1 tsp is ordered
- D. Giving 500mg Gantrisin when 1 g is ordered

A Word from McMurray Hills Manor

Located in McMurray PA, McMurray Hills Manor is a non-profit organization that offers Skilled Nursing Care and Rehab, Hospice, Respite Stays, and Long Term Care.

McMurray Hills Manor has been providing excellent care to our older population since 1964! We strive to provide a safe, comfortable, and homelike living environment for our residents.

Our dedicated team is looking to expand. Start your career as a nurse with us. We hire graduate nurses and offer tuition reimbursement.

For more information, please contact Vickie, Human Resource Director, at 724-941-7150.

<https://www.mcmurrayhills.com/>



Check out McMurray Hills Manor on Facebook

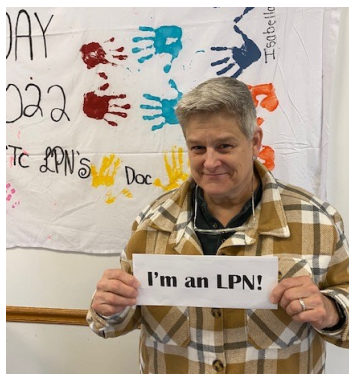
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“A caress, a smile, is full of meaning for one who is sick. It is a simple gesture, but encouraging, he or she feels accompanied, feels closer to being healed, feels like a person, not a number.” ~Pope Francis

Congrats Stephanie & Nautica

Congratulations to Stephanie Scibienski and Nautica Bennett who both took the NCLEX on Friday, January 6 and passed on the first attempt! They will receive a \$200 reimbursement for the cost of the exam!



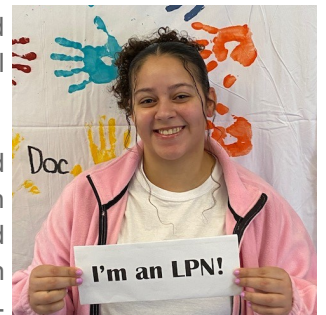
Stephanie Scibienski

Stephanie's biggest piece of advice is to take the exam as soon as possible. She says that if you wait, the endgame will be too far away to feel achievable. She also suggests taking advantage of study sessions, and reading the rationale's on the

exam to help process incorrect answers.

Unfortunately, Nautica has been dealing with a family illness, her 7-year-old daughter was diagnosed with a rare cancer early in December. Due to her family circumstances, she readily admits that she did not study, and is grateful that she passed the exam!

She does not recommend this method to approach the exam, but is very glad that she retained as much as she did from her schooling.



Nautica Bennett

Student Spotlight

On Monday, January 16, the first year students were attending a regularly scheduled clinical rotation at Presbyterian Senior Care.

On this particular evening two students went above and beyond by doing more than their assigned duties to ensure residents had their needs met and were taken care of to the best of their abilities.

The faculty of Western Area CTC Practical Nursing Program want to recognize Matt Riggle and Jordan White!



NCLEX Pass Rate

For the first quarterly period (10/01/2022-12/31/2022) Western Area CTC Practical Nursing Program is 5 for 5 which is a 100% pass rate for first time test takers!

Elder Assessment

In January, our 1st year students were asked to complete geriatric assessments on an individual over the age of 65. The students acted in the role of a home health nurse. Before the assessment, students prepared themselves for incidental teaching on medications, diet, safety, and health maintenance.



Contributions?

Share Your Thoughts

We welcome input from students, alumni, faculty and clinical institutions. Submissions can be made to the health sciences secretary, Jessica at jpettigrew@wactc.net or by calling 724-746-0467. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Blood Pressure Clinic

On Wednesday, January 18, 2023 the 1st year students had the opportunity to operate a blood pressure clinic at Friendship Village of South Hills. The students worked in pairs in 3 separate locations of the facility to teach residents about blood pressure management and practice manual blood pressures.



Friendship Village was kind enough to bus our students to their facility and provided a delicious lunch. Thank you for sharing your facility with us!

Student Perspective

Clinical Experience

This year our students have had many new clinical experience opportunities that have not been available to our students in the past. Mrs. Morelli, Program Administrator, wants to make sure that our students are aware and prepared for the many opportunities graduates will have as an LPN. Here, a few of our students share their thoughts regarding these new experiences.

I recently got a job at MVH as an Advanced Patient Care Technician in the emergency department. I triage patients meaning I check their heart and run the EKG machine if a patient comes in complaining of chest pain for example. I obtain their blood using my phlebotomy certificate which I actually got through Western Area during Covid! The doctor may want to check magnesium and potassium levels, a complete blood count, troponin, and more depending what the doctor orders. I make sure the patient is as comfortable as they can be, hydrated, and give any personal care they may need it. Our teachers really emphasized Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Meeting someone's basic needs, most of the time, can eliminate some stress and pain someone is in. It can exacerbate what's medically going on. I understand why our instructors really point this out to us. Sometimes it's something minor like an allergy reaction or dehydration and they're in and out of the ER. Sometimes there's a more underlying issue and I'll transport them to another unit where they'll then be admitted. I've always wanted this job because Mon Valley Hospital is so close to home where I live and now that I'm learning so much more about lab values, interventions, and care plans through clinical and the LPN program- I can visually see it and apply what I've been learning in school and clinical. I can only do so much in my scope of job duties but watching the LPNs

and RNs makes more sense to me now because this is what we're learning. Clinical at Mon Valley has been interesting because it's a hospital setting and this environment applies more to an acute situation. We get to shadow nurses and see how they do an intervention or follow a care plan. In school, clinical, and sims lab; I am learning that timing is crucial. Do a head to toe assessment, getting a set of baseline vitals, checking lab values, running tests, communicating with the patient and your team, and looking at the patients medical history; they all give us the best chance of giving our patient the best outcome. ~Kailey Chipps 2nd Year Student

On arrival at Mon Valley Hospital there was a warm welcome by the receptionist and the officials from the training and education department. We were ushered into the conference room and orientation started with the introduction of the computer system. We were shown around the hospital and introduced to the skills training lab. We were then shown to the 6th floor, where we were assigned to shadow the nurses on duty. The nurse I shadowed took her time to explain every treatment and intervention she gave to the patients. I had the opportunity to see a patient with an allergic reaction from an antibiotic infusion given to him during his surgery. The nurse gave me a tour of the dialysis room, since we had a patient there as well. I was able to ambulate a post-surgery patient with the assistance of our instructor, Ms. McCurry. This is an experience I will never take for granted, because it will help me appreciate what I'm being taught. The school's collaboration with Mon Valley Hospital for clinical will help us gain good practical experience. Thank you for this great opportunity! ~Annita Allotey 2nd Year Student



Full-Time Practical Nursing Instructor

Contact: Faith Morelli, MSN, RN
Western Area CTC, 688 Western Avenue
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Telephone (724) 746-2890, Ext. 118

Applications accepted until a suitable candidate is selected.

NCLEX Knowledge Question Answers:

- A.** Delirium, or acute confusion, is a change in mental status that occurs over days to weeks. Dementia and Alzheimer disease present with similar cognitive changes but these changes occur over years. Acute psychosis is not the most appropriate diagnosis for this patient.
- D.** The RYGB decreases the size of the stomach to a gastric pouch and attaches it directly to the small intestine so food bypasses 90% of the stomach, the duodenum, and a small segment of the jejunum. The vertical sleeve gastrectomy removes 85% of the stomach, but preserves the function of the stomach. Lipectomy and liposuction remove fat tissue from the abdomen or other areas. Adjustable gastric banding can be modified or reversed at a later date
- A.** 12.5 or 12 1/2 hours **B.** 2030
- D.** Option D addresses altered perception in two ways. First, by using visual aids to reinforce verbal instructions, one addresses the possibility of decreased ability to hear high-frequency sounds. By developing the handouts in large print, one addresses the possibility of decreased visual acuity. Option A does not allow discussion of the information; furthermore, the text and print may be small and difficult to read and understand.
- D.** Giving 500mg Gantrisin when 1 g is ordered