

NURSING NEWS



Western Area CTC LPN Newsletter

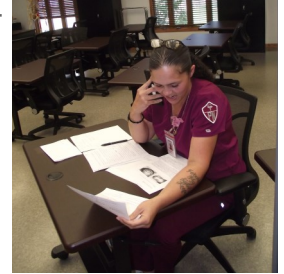
In this issue:

- Simulation Experience
- NCLEX Knowledge Test
- Whisky Rebellion Outreach
- Meet the Medical Terminology Students
- Car Wash Fundraiser
- Scholarship Reminder
- New Student Orientation Reminder
- Upcoming Graduation
- WANTED: Leadership Guest Speakers
- Knowledge Test Answers

Simulation Experience

On Wednesday, July 12, our 1st year students had a chance to experience one of their first simulations with Faith Morelli, the Program Administrator. In this simulation, ALEX, our high fidelity manikin, is a 40-year-old man with poorly controlled type II diabetes mellitus and a recent below the knee amputation.

In this scenario, Chelsea Jones is the charge nurse, DeShyia Wallace and Meghan Manella are the LPNs, Melissa Holt is the CNA, and Jordan White is an



observer who takes notes to discuss with her classmates during debriefing what she observed them doing well, and what needs to be improved upon.

As always, the students are given pre-work, to learn more about the patient before the simulation occurs. They are each assigned a role to play during simulation, and a debriefing and post-simulation work are completed.



NCLEX Knowledge Test

1. The nurse is to administer digoxin elixir to a 6-month-old with a congenital heart defect. The nurse auscultates an apical pulse rate of 100 beats per minute. The nurse should:

- A. Record the heart rate and call the physician
- B. Record the heart rate and administer the medication
- C. Administer the medication and recheck the heart rate in 15 minutes
- D. Hold the medication and recheck the heart rate in 30 minutes

2. Which of the following medication orders needs further clarification?

- A. Darvocet 65 mg PO q 4-6 hrs. PRN
- B. Nembutal 100 mg PO at bedtime
- C. Coumadin 10 mg PO
- D. Estrace 2 mg PO q day



3. The client scheduled for electroconvulsive therapy tells the nurse, "I'm so afraid. What will happen to me during the treatment?" Which of the following statements is **most** therapeutic for the nurse to make?

- A. "You will be given medicine to relax you during the treatment."
- B. "The treatment will produce a controlled grand mal seizure."
- C. "The treatment might produce nausea and headache."
- D. "You can expect to be sleepy and confused for a time after the treatment."

4. A child with cystic fibrosis is being treated with inhalation therapy with Pulmozyme (dornase alfa). A side effect of the medication is:

- A. Brittle nails
- B. Alopecia
- C. Hoarseness
- D. Weight gain

5. A newborn weighed 7 pounds at birth. At 6 months of age, the infant could be expected to weigh:

- A. 14 pounds
- B. 18 pounds
- C. 25 pounds
- D. 30 pounds

6. A client with hyperthyroidism is taking lithium carbonate to inhibit thyroid hormone release. Which complaint by the client should alert the nurse to a problem with the client's medication?

- A. The client complains of difficulty in urination
- B. The client is unable to control his or her leg
- C. The client complains of hyperventilation
- D. The client is unable to sleep



Whiskey Rebellion Outreach



On Saturday, July 8, our first year students had the opportunity to work as first aid responders at the annual Whiskey Rebellion Festival in the city of Washington, PA.

The Whiskey Rebellion Festival is a remembrance of the first large scale protest under the new constitution which occurred in 1794. The farmers of Western Pennsylvania protested against the whiskey tax which was an internal tax passed a few years before to raise additional funds for the new national government. The whiskey rebellion is significant because Pres-



ident George Washington showed that the federal government had the strength to enforce its laws.

Events like this one, are a unique way for our students to practice some of their skills in a real-life scenario.



“Where the needs of the world and your talents cross; there lies your vocation” ~Aristotle

Medical Terminology Students

The time is quickly approaching for our fall semester to begin! To give our new students a little boost, Faith Morelli, the Program Administrator, reinstated the Medical Terminology course this summer.

This course is a 1 day a week, 12 week course that covers the language of medicine that every person in any medical field will encounter, and is expected to improve understanding of the Level I practical nursing courses.

We have 9 students who enrolled in the class, and in these pictures you can see that they are fully engaged in the information that is being presented.

Way to go ladies!



Car Wash Fundraiser

On Sunday, July 30, our graduating second year students hosted a car wash fundraiser as part of their graduation requirements.

All proceeds from this car wash will be added to our scholarship account for future applicants. Thank you to the Advance Auto Parts on E. Maiden Street in Washington for allowing our students to use their parking lot as a base of operations, and thank you to everyone who stopped by with a donation! This event allowed us to add \$413 to our account!



\$500 Scholarship

The deadline for our \$500 Scholarship is **TODAY!**

If you would like to be considered for this award, please click the [link](#) to print out an application and submit it with the essay to Jessica at jpettigrew@wactc.net by **4:00 PM**.

There are no specific requirements to be considered for this award, all applications will be reviewed and discussed by the faculty and staff to determine the winner.

We will be announcing the scholarship winners at Orientation on Wednesday, August 16.



New Student Orientation

As a reminder to our incoming students, we are having a 2 day orientation on Wednesday, August 16 AND Thursday, August 17!



On August 16th we are asking that everyone bring a support person who will be there to help you when things get tough during nursing school! We want both you and that person to understand the challenges associated with this program.

Both days will be full of information about our program, expectations, tips and tricks to help you be successful. We also have several guest speakers lined up to talk with you about available aid and resources that you may be eligible for!

You don't want to miss this!

Graduation

Our current graduating class is expected to attend their pinning ceremony on Thursday, August 24 beginning at 6 PM. The ceremony is held at the Chartiers-Houston High School Auditorium, and the graduate's family and friends are welcome to attend to celebrate their accomplishment.

The students will have rehearsal at 10 AM that morning with a lovely luncheon catered by The Spring House to follow. Congratulations to these ladies in advance for their achievement!

We Are Hiring!

Part-Time Practical Nursing Instructor

- Must be graduate of approved school of professional nursing with current PA RN license
- Bachelor's Degree in nursing, Master's preferred
- Nursing experience involving direct patient care within two years of employment
- Mandated clearances and drug screening required

Send resume and request for application to:
Faith Morelli, MSN, RN
Western Area CTC, 688 Western Avenue
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Or telephone (724) 746-2890, Ext. 118

Applications accepted until suitable candidate is selected.



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.

Guest Speakers Wanted

Present on Leadership, Ethics and Morals to the 2nd year students scheduled to graduate in August.

Share your knowledge with nursing students who are about to enter the work force!

Interested parties should contact Faith Morelli, Program Administrator, to schedule a suitable time to present at 724-746-0467 or fmorelli@wactc.net

NCLEX Knowledge Question Answers:

1. **B.** The infant's apical heart rate is within the accepted range for administering the medication
2. **C.** There is no specified time or frequency for the ordered medication
3. **A.** Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) is a medical procedure that is used as a treatment for mental illnesses such as depression and other mood disorders. Before the procedure, the client will receive medication that relaxes skeletal muscles and produces mild sedation.
4. **C.** Pulmozyme is a synthetic protein used to improve the lung function of patients with cystic fibrosis. Side effects of Pulmozyme include sore throat, hoarseness, and laryngitis.
5. **A.** The infant's birth weight should double by 6 months of age.
6. **B.** The client is experiencing signs of lithium toxicity. Symptoms include ataxia (uncoordinated muscle movement), fine tremors, lack of coordination, tinnitus, blurred vision, nausea, vomiting, and slurred speech.