SECTION B: THE NURSING PROCESS
CHAPTER 7: NURSING PLAN OF CARE PROCESSES

Policy and Procedure: 7.4 Patient & Family Education

Authorization: Nursing Executive Committee
Date Effective: May 1, 2018
Scope: Registered Nurses

Standard of Practice:
The registered nurse will assess and address health promotional and maintenance education with the patient and family in order to achieve optimal patient-centered treatment outcomes.

Standard of Care:
The patient and family will receive health promotion and wellness education based on identified learning needs intended to promote healthy behaviors.

Policy:
Health promotion and wellness educational needs of the patient and family will be assessed on admission and throughout hospitalization. An individualized plan of care will be developed with the patient and his/her family to address those needs and teaching will be provided in both structured and informal settings.

Procedure:
A. Educational Areas
RNs, LPNs and MHAs, because of their twenty-four hour contact with the patient, have the opportunity to instruct the patient, to increase his/her knowledge and to support through coaching and teaching of the patient. Patient and family education is an interactive and collaborative process intended to be informational, health enhancing and therapeutic. A list of formal and informal teaching provided by nursing staff may include the following areas (not prioritized):

1. Personal hygiene and grooming
2. Orientation to the Hospital Privilege levels.
3. Nursing Admission Assessment during which behavioral, medical, health and historical data is identified for immediate and future teaching.
4. Patient rights, patient advocates and the grievance procedure.
5. Transfer from one unit to another which involves information on the reason for the transfer, and the expected outcome of the transfer.
6. Discharge planning which involves the patient, his/her family and their treatment team.
7. Medical testing procedures, consultations, and referrals which require that the patient receives the necessary information about the reason for the test, consultation or referral, and have the opportunity to ask questions, receive answers and increase knowledge.
8. Medication which includes the expected outcome, the need for medication changes or additions, potential food/drug interactions, and the self administration process.
9. Medical conditions, medical equipment and self testing procedures.
10. Pain Management
11. Diet and Nutrition
12. Tobacco Cessation
13. Symptom management
14. Violence prevention and anger management

The patient’s family or significant other is included to the extent the patient will allow and is possible.

B. Documentation
1. Patient education needs are identified on admission and throughout the course of hospitalization. Educational needs that are ongoing and the plan to address those needs will be developed in the MTP/Nursing Plan of Care. The nurse will document content of teaching, patient’s response to teaching and level of understanding in the Progress Note section of the patient’s medical record.

C. Annual Nursing Reassessment
1. The Annual Nursing Reassessment requires the assessment of, evaluation of, and plan for the patient’s continuing educational needs.