

# **INTRA AND POST- PROCEDURE NURSING CARE**

# INTRA-PROCEDURE

- Nurses are to give an adequate hand-over during pre and post-procedure transfers.
- A written account of the intra-procedure care is to be kept as well.
- Ensure a safe procedure environment to both the patient and health care personnel.
- Maintain asepsis and cleanliness.
- Reassure and communicate with the patient for better compliance.
- Assess continuously for any arising problems.

# INTRA-PROCEDURE

Maintain a safe environment by having:

- The necessary equipment to counteract medical problems,
- Experienced and professional personnel,
- Protective clothing and equipment,
- Adequate site and environment disinfection,
- Local standards of precautions,
- Regular in-service personnel training.

# Immediate post-procedure

- Keep regular assessments for any arising problems, especially with the unconscious patient.
- Teach personnel encountering new procedures to achieve a professional nursing group.
- Check and record basic parameters regularly.
- Administer medications as prescribed. Double check and countersign actions.
- Note down any observations and tasks for an integrative care.

# Nursing Care

## Documentation

Use standard forms when possible.

Be systematic

Be realistic

Be clear

Be specific

Be brief

# Post-Procedure

## Hand Over

- Give adequate information about the procedure and read surgeon's instructions.
- Inform the receiving nurse about post-procedure care. e.g. bed position, infusions medications, investigations...
- Discuss and list any episodes of note.
- Check properly specific instructions about drains, pain relief, splints, mobilization...

# Post-Procedure

## Bed area preparation

- Prepare the bedding as appropriate.
- Prepare and check all monitoring equipment.
- Have a well equipped transfer trolley with cot-sides, suction equipment, emergency kit...
- Check that safety / support equipment is available and functional.
- Check that there is a safe nurse to patient ratio, otherwise inform the management.

# Post-Procedure

- An experienced and well informed nurse lead team is to transfer the patient safely.
- Immediate observations and assessment are to be carried out on transfer to the bed area.
- Documentation tools are to be maintained.
- Proper pain relief is very important.
- Clarify any information that is unclear.
- Health care personnel and patient safety is to be maintained.



# Post-Procedure

- Check all medication charts for clarity.
- Work out I.V. infusion rates and check the current status.
- Check the medications and any existing patient allergies or adverse reactions.
- Check availability of prescribed medicine.
- Listen to the patient's complaints as indications of a new pain may be a trigger for help through prompt actions.

# Post-Procedure

Inform and discuss with the interested health care personnel supporting recovery:

- » Nurses,
- » Physiotherapist,
- » Anaesthetist,
- » Radiographers,
- » E.C.G. technicians,
- » Spiritual director,
- » Psychologist,
- » Nutrition team...

# Post-Procedure

- Involve relatives and friends as accepted by the patient as family members may reduce anxiety.
- Relatives and friends may be helpful by pinpointing idiosyncrasies.
- Relatives may want to actively participate in the care giving especially in those with terminal illness.
- The nurse should assess that relatives / friends are not creating further problems inadvertently.

# Nursing

- The nurse is a major link between the patient and maintaining health.
- Nurses coordinate care with the different health care professionals and are always present during acute care.
- Primary health care nursing teams provide home support for recovery / adaptation.
- Nurses provide general health information to the public for a healthier lifestyle.