



KING ABDULAZIZ UNIVERSITY CLINICAL PHARMACY DEPARTMENT ROTATION DESCRIPTION

Rotation Title: Clinical - Nutrition Support

Preceptor

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Background

The purpose of this rotation is to provide the student with a general understanding of issues related to specialized nutrition support in hospitalized adult patients. In addition, to allow the student the opportunity to enhance his/her knowledge base and develop the clinical skills in patient assessment, patient monitoring, parenteral nutrition (PN) formulation, and formula adjustment.

In collaboration with other healthcare professionals, the student will gain direct patient care experience and become familiar with providing sound and efficient nutrition care.

The students should also increase their proficiency in communication techniques so as to facilitate interaction with other health care professionals and patients.

At the beginning of this rotation, the preceptor and student will review the goals and objectives. The rotation will be tailored to the student's strengths and weaknesses, especially as related to basic topics such as fluid and electrolyte balance, interpretation of blood gas values and laboratory tests, and effects of medications on fluid balance, electrolytes, and laboratory tests.

Activities

The rotation is a four weeks experience. Expected hours: 8:00am - 4:00pm

Method of Evaluation

Students will be formally evaluated. End of week 2 (mid-point) and end of week 4 (final)



Goals to be Taught/Evaluate

- Establish collaborative professional relationships with members of the health care team
- Collect and analyze patient information
- Recommend or communicate regimens and monitoring plans
- Evaluate patients' progress and redesign regimens and monitoring plans
- Communicate ongoing patient information
- Resolve conflicts through negotiation
- Manage time effectively to fulfill practice responsibilities
- Communicate effectively

Objectives

- Evaluate the appropriateness of PN as the route for nutritional intervention
- Recognize the purposes and goals of PN therapy
- Understand the parameters involved in assessing a patient's nutritional status
- Estimate caloric and protein requirements for a patient and formulate a PN plan to meet these requirements
- Identify the influence of the following disease states on nutritional requirements: renal failure, hepatic failure, respiratory failure, trauma/metabolic stress
- Discuss normal fluid and electrolyte balance
- Recognize the effects of medications on fluid and electrolyte balance
- Recommend adjustments in electrolyte provision and the most appropriate route for adjustments (change TPN versus change maintenance IV versus IV or PO supplemental dose)
- Be able to design a PN formulation, including:
 - a. How to perform the necessary calculations to determine its content
 - b. Considerations for stability and compatibility
- Describe the guidelines for safe administration of PN, including:
 - a. Appropriate venous access
 - b. Appropriate hang-time
- Identify potential complications associated with PN
- Develop a plan to prevent and manage PN associated complications
- Discuss options for controlling hyperglycemia in patients receiving PN
- Discuss monitoring parameters for patients receiving PN including which parameters to use, how often they are checked, and interpretation of test results
- Describe re-feeding syndrome, be able to identify patients who are at risk, and outline measures to minimize its occurrence
- Write progress notes using SOAP format
- Gather necessary patient data from appropriate sources (nurse., patient, chart, physicians, etc.).
- Effectively present recommendations for changes in the PN therapy, both oral and written
- Identify advantages of enteral nutrition (EN) compared to PN
- Describe the routes and methods for the administration of EN



Responsibilities

- Attendance of daily nutritional support rounds
- Initiating interactions with other health care professionals as appropriate
- Chart review, collection of data, recommendations (oral and written) for assigned PN adult patients
- Assess nutritional requirements, design an appropriate PN formulation for initiation and advancement
- Develop a monitoring plan for assessing response to therapy
- Daily progress notes on assigned PN patients (SOAP format)
- Participate in the education of team members in regards to nutrition support questions/issues
- Discuss patients and selected nutrition-related topics with the preceptor
- Provide information related to the patient's overall therapy as appropriate, but specifically as therapy relates to nutrition support