Appendix A: Domains of Med-Surg Nursing Practice

2023 CMSRN Exam Blueprint

Domain	Percentage Weight	Number of Items on Test
Patient/Care Management	32%	40
Holistic Patient Care	15%	19
Elements of Interprofessional Care	17%	21
Professional Concepts	15%	19
Nursing Teamwork and Collaboration	21%	26
Total	100%	125

The following table identifies the percentage and number of questions from each domain that have appeared on the CMSRN exam as of May 15, 2023.

Patient/Care Management 1. Nursing process - assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, evaluation 2. Patient safety protocols (e.g., skin, falls, restraints, rounding, suicide) 3. Risk factors (e.g., pharmacological, environment, equipment, demographics) 4. Patient safety culture (e.g., near miss reporting, "just culture", "speak up", high accountable organizations) 5. Care bundles (e.g., checklist, algorithms) 6. Patient safety assessments and reporting (e.g., abuse, human trafficking, social determinants) 7. Risk assessment methods (e.g., Root Cause Analysis [RCA], Failure Mode and Effects Analysis [RMEA], safety rounds, safety huddles) Infection Prevention 9. Universal and transmission-based precautions 1. Universal and transmission-based precautions 9. Universal and transmission-based precautions 1. Universal and transmission-based precautions 9. Universal and transmission-based precautions 1. Safe medication control practices and standards 9. Current evidence-based practice for infection control and prevention procedures 1. Safe medication administration practices (e.g., interaction, adverse reaction, intravenous therapy) 1. Safe under medication education 1. Safe drug management and disposal (e.g., stewardship, home medication management) 1. Safe drug management and disposal (e.g., ports, central lines, epidurals) 1. Chronic and/or acute pain management (e.g., pharmacological, non-pharmacological, multimodal) 2. Patient pain management expectations 3. Patient advocacy 1. Non-pharmacological interventions (e.g., repositioning, heat or cold) 2. Complementary and alternative therapies (e.g., acupuncture, aromatherapy) 1. Pre- and post-procedural unit standards (e.g., consent, timeout, frequent monitoring) 1. Individualized nutritional medis (e.g., malnutrition, disease processes, complications, cultural) 2. Nutrition administration modalities (e.g., enteral, parenteral) 3. Resources for alternate nutrition administration 4. Indications for alternate nutrition administration		Domain		Percentage Weight	Number of Items on Test	
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4. Indications for alternate nutrition administration			•			
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	Domain		Percentage Weight	Number of Items on Test
Holistic Patient Care		15%	19 Items	
	1.	Patient-centered care (e.g., active listening, communication preferences, family involvement, health goals.		
Patient-Centered	2.	Resources for patient-centered care		
Care	3.	Patient advocacy		
	4.	Patient satisfaction management (e.g., grievances, concerns regarding practices, second opinion, service recovery)		
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Divorcity and	1.	Cultural and linguistic needs (e.g., sign, oral, and written languages)		
Diversity and	2.	Cultural and linguistic resources (e.g., translated materials, interpreter services)		
Inclusion 3. Implicit bias				
Education of	1.	Health maintenance and disease prevention		
Patients and	2.	Health literacy		
Families	3.	Teaching methods		
	1.	Health promotion goals		
Health Promotion	2.	Resources available for patient/family		
	3. Health information to meet patient needs			
	1.	Palliative or end-of-life pati physical)	ent/caregiver resources (e.g.,	hospice, spiritual, cultural,
Palliative/End-of-	2.	2. End-of-life preferences (e.g., advance directives, code status)		
Life Care	3.	Post-mortem care		
	4.	Organ donation process		
	5.	Regulatory requirements for reporting death (e.g., coroner's case)		

	Domain		Percentage Weight	Number of Items on Test	
Elements of Interprofessional Care		17 %	21 Items		
Nursing Process/Clinical	1.	Nursing process - assessme	nt, diagnosis, planning, impler	mentation, evaluation	
Judgement Measurement Model	2.	Strategies to individualize care			
Role within the interdisciplinary team (e.g., teamwork, communication skills)					
Interprofessional	2.	Interprofessional rounding			
Collaboration	3.	Care coordination			
Collaboration	4.	Collaborative problem solv	ing		
	7.	Collaborative problem 301v	6		
	1.	Community resources			
	2.	•	ion integration methods (e.g.,	discharge planning	
		mobility, physical therapy)	ion megration methods (e.g.,	alserial ge planning,	
	3.	Health history assessment from multiple sources			
	4.	Discharge procedures (e.g., medication reconciliation)			
Care Coordination	5.	Patient/family centered car			
and Transition	6.	Care coordination and tran			
Management	7.	Interprofessional roles and responsibilities			
	8.	Continuum of care			
	9.	Patients at risk for readmissions			
	10.	Social determinants of health			
	11.	. Quality patient outcome measures			
	1.	Documentation of patient	care		
5	2.	Electronic health records			
Documentation	3.	Downtime procedures			
	4.	Coaching for documentation performance improvement			
	1.	Technology, equipment use	e, and troubleshooting		
Technology	2.	Technology trends in health care			
	3.	Nursing informatics			

	Domain		Percentage Weight	Number of Items on Test	
Professional Concepts		15%	19 Items		
	1.	Chain of command			
	2.	Communication skills (e.g., active listening, verbal, non-verbal, written, conflict			
		resolution, mediation)			
Communication	3.	Information sharing (e.g., Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation [SBAR], hand-off, closed-loop, check- back, read-back, huddle, verbal orders,			
		bedside report, interdiscipl	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
	4.	Communication barriers (e.g., need for interpreter/translator, physical and			
		cognitive limitations) De-escalation techniques (e.g., verbal intervention, calm communication)			
	5.	De-escalation techniques (6	e.g., verbai intervention, caim	communication)	
	1.	Time management and price	pritization of care		
	2.			deteriorating nationts	
	۷.	Crisis situations and resources (e.g., rapid response team, deteriorating patients, early warning systems)			
Critical Thinking	3.	Crisis management			
	4.		egulation, problem solving, ar	alysis, interpretation,	
		inference)			
	1.		sical, emotional, environment	al)	
	2.	Nurse resiliency and well-being			
Healthy Practice Environment	3.	Unintended consequences (e.g., moral distress, moral injury, compassion fatigue, burnout)			
	4.	Resource allocation (e.g., staffing, equipment)			
	5.	. Peer accountability			
	_				
	1.		of ethics for nurses per local		
		(e.g., Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements, Standard V of the			
Scope of Practice and	2.	AMSN Scope and Standards, local governing Scope of Practice)			
Ethics	3.	Patients' rights and responsibilities Professional reporting and resources (e.g., ethics, scope of practice, unsafe practice)			
	4.	Policies, procedures, regulatory and licensure requirements, standards of practice,			
	••	and applicable state, federal, and local laws			
		11 22111, 2311			
	1.	Evidence-based guidelines	for nursing sensitive indicator	S	
	2.	Quality standards and polic			
	3.	Continuous quality and process improvement			
	4.	Nursing professional practice model			
Quality Management	5.	Adverse event reporting			
	6.	Patient customer experience based on data results (e.g., surveys, value-based purchasing)			
	7.	Service recovery			
	8.	Project development			
Evidence-Based	'				
Practice and	2.	Evidence-based practice principles			
Research	3.	Research process			

	Domain		Percentage Weight	Number of Items on Test		
Nursing Teamwork and Collaboration			21%	26 Items		
	1.	Delegation and/or supervision practices				
Delegation and	2.	Scope of practice (e.g., licensed and unlicensed team members)				
Supervision	3.	Prioritization skills (e.g., disease process)				
•	4.	Budgetary considerations (e.g., supplies, staffing, fiscal efficiency)				
	1.	Professional engagement				
	2.	Mentoring and coaching resources				
Career	3.	Reflective practice				
	4.	Roles and responsibilities				
Development	5.	Coaching and learning theo	ries			
Relationships	6.	Professional empowermen	t			
	7.	Orientation planning and p	receptor best practices			
	8.	Career development resou	rces (e.g., education, training)			
	1.	Professional nursing practic	ce and individual competencie	s		
Professional	2.	Professional behaviors (e.g., network, participate in professional organization)				
	3.	Clinical judgement				
Development	4.	Peer review methods				
	5.	Educational needs assessment				
	1.	Regulatory and compliance standards				
	2.	Organizational structure				
	3.	Shared decision-making				
	4.	Nursing philosophy				
	5.	Leadership models				
	6.	Nursing care delivery systems				
Leadership	7.	Change management (e.g.,	Awareness, Desire, Knowledg	e, Ability, Reinforcement		
Leadership		[ADKAR])				
	8.	Recruitment and retention				
	9.	1 - 1 0 - 0				
		. Staff advocacy				
		. Conflict management				
	12.	. Financial stewardship				
Disaster Planning	1.	Emergency procedures				
and Management	2.	Hospital incident command	l structure			