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Assignment Title: oncology and nursing care of patients with cancer

Course Title: Advanced Medical/ Surgical Nursing II

Course Code: NSC 408

ASSIGNMENT

-Discuss your nursing responsibilities towards a patient schedulled to receive neoadjuvant treatment for the management of cancer..

- Discuss your responsibilites towards a patient receiving radiotherapy on an oncology unit where your practice.

-What precautions should you take while caring for a patient receiving chemotherapy on your unit.

Answers:

-Nursing responsibilities towards a patient scheduled to receive treatment for the management of cancer

The nurse is responsible for ensuring:

-that patient family members are informed about the treatment and administration process.

-Education and information should be based on the patient’s reading level and literacy and level of understanding of information provided

-Patient education and consent processes have been completed and documented according to local institute requirements.

-The planned treatment is verified with the patient and understood by them

- All prescribed medication is stored appropriately prior to administration.

-Independent verification of the medication order (including chemotherapy, targeted therapy and supportive medication) according to the protocol, the patient’s treatment plan, patient laboratory parameters and other individual parameters.

-The therapy and associated treatments are administered to the patient in a safe and timely manner.

-All professional and legal responsibilities with respect to administration of medications are met.

Before commencing the administration of cancer therapy:

- diagnosis.

-history taking.

-Medication and cancer treatment history.

-informed consent properly signed by patient , and where appropriate documented patient assent, according to local policy.

-Allergies and history of any hypersensitivity reactions

-A treatment plan.

-Patient parameters such as height, weight, BSA, age and relevant laboratory values including full blood count, creatinine, urea and electrolytes and liver function tests etc

-Responsibility of a nurse towards a patient receiving radiotherapy

-Administration

-Administer medications and therapy

-Wound dressing

- Aspiration

-physical care and psychological support

- patient and family education

- working with other team members

- Continuous training

-Investigate medical history of the patient

- Assistance during the application of intravenous contrast

-Assistance during the application of urinary catheter and the application of contrast into the bladder

-Taking the drug following the rules of medication

• Supervision on the possible side effects of the drug

• Psychological support to the patient and family

-Precaution to take when caring for a patient receiving chemotherapy

Protective Clothing Recommendations

Gowns:

- Worn wherever chemotherapy agents are being manipulated and administered.

-Disposable, impermeable/low permeability fabric, lint-free, with back closure and long cuffed sleeves, which should be tucked into the gloves.

-Changed in the event of an obvious spill (time to permeability of a vesicant is one hour).

- Single use or according to the manufacturer’s recommendations.

Gloves:

 Use gloves that have been tested to protect against permeations by chemotherapy agents and are strongly recommended

Hand washing should occur before donning gloves and after removing gloves.

Gloves should be changed after each administration, OR if contamination or puncture occurs.

Masks:

-Must be worn throughout the process of chemotherapy drug manipulation and administration.

- Surgical masks are not acceptable.

-The literature is unclear as to how long each mask offers protection. Masks should be changed with obvious contamination as well as when it no longer seals to face.

Eye and Face Protection:

-Plastic Face Shields must be worn wherever chemotherapy agents are being manipulated and administered.

- It is recommended that contact lenses should not be worn because of risk of absorption.

-Safety glasses or regular eye glasses are not adequate.

-Eye protectors should be cleaned after each use

Precaution In Drug Preparation Area for Nursing Personnel

-policies and procedures include the use of appropriate PPE, the equipment for preparation including appropriate ventilation, and other automated equipment for packaging and a dedicated work area.

workers (pharmacists or pharmacy technicians) wear PPE, a cap, surgical/procedure mask, shoe covers, a protective gown and two (2) pairs of gloves to make sterile preparations of cytotoxic drugs in preparation cabinets.

-Organize the work to limit microbial and environmental contamination.

workers cover the work surface with a disposable, absorbent, sterile, plastic-backed pad to absorb any liquid contamination that may occur. The pad should not cover the front and rear grilles of the preparation cabinet and should be changed after 3.5 hours of continuous work; for a new batch of preparations or in the event of a spill or contamination.

-Precaution In Administration and Disposal of Chemotherapy Agents

-There should be no open food in patient room when the IV system is opened for the purpose of administering chemotherapy agents, as there is a potential for the food to be contaminated. In cases where food is used to help with taste aversions or as a comfort measure, exceptions can be made by the administering RN to give the chemotherapy agents with caution.

Disposal of Equipment /Personal Protective Equipment used to Administer Chemotherapy Agents:

-All syringes and needles should be discarded in containers that are puncture-resistant, leak-proof, that have a lid that seals securely, and that are appropriately labelled

.- Bags and solution administration sets should be discarded intact in appropriately labelled reseal able containers that are both leak-proof and puncture-proof.

- PPE used during handling and administration should be disposed of in appropriately labelled container.