**MATRIC NUMBER: 17/MHS02/115**

**COURSE CODE: NSC 408**

**COURSE TITLE: MEDICAL SURGICAL NURSING**

**Nursing responsibilities towards a patient scheduled to receive neo-adjuvant treatment for the management of cancer.**

**My nursing responsible for a patient before neo-adjuvant treatment include:**

* Getting the patient’s weight and height checked to work out the right dose.
* Carrying out a blood and urine tests to check how well the patient’s kidneys and liver are working and the number of blood cells.
* X-rays and scans to check that the patient is fit for treatment and see how the tumour is responding to treatment
* Heart monitoring tests to record your heartbeat (ECG) or heart ultrasound (ECHO) to see if the drugs are affecting your heart
* Lung function tests to check the effect of some chemotherapy drugs on your lungs.
* Emotional and educational support which will help explain the condition to the patient and reduce fear, also aid compliance of care.
* Encourage patient to keep journals of side effects.
* Educate patient and family that most side effects start at home.
* Communicate frequently with doctors and other health care workers to ensure that provided information is consistence.
* Teach patient on the side effects of treatments.
* Education patient on prevention mechanism.
* Educate patient on the diet required during and after treatment.

**Nursing responsible for a patient receiving radiotherapy.**

**My nursing responsible for a patient receiving radiotherapy include:**

* Provide information and explain procedure for delivery radiation, describe the equipment, duration of treatment, possible need for immobilization.
* Explain possible side effects which include cystitis, pneumonitis, fatigue, stomatitis, and fibrosis.
* Protect patient skin. Patient should avoid exposure to sun and the use of lotion or ointment.
* Maintain patient intact oral mucosal membrane.
* Provide emotional support.
* Monitor for signs and symptoms of bone marrow suppression.
* Monitor for signs and symptoms of bleeding due to low platelet counts.
* Advice patient to wear soft nonrestrictive cotton clothing directly over the treatment area.
* Explain to patient his role before, during and after surgery.
* Explain purpose of isolation patient.

**Precautions during chemotherapy.**

1. Wear latex free cuff gloves while preparing for chemotherapy drugs.
2. Wear a gown that is non-permeable, long sleeve, cuffed and solid fronted and aerosols free mask.
3. Ampoules should be directed away from face and covered with a suitable pad or cotton when open.
4. Diluent fluid should be introduced slowly into open ended ampoules and vials. Running it down vessel wall and ensuring that powder is moist before shaking.
5. Wash hands thoroughly before and after handling cytotoxic drugs.
6. Wear protective equipment when administering cytotoxic drugs because splash may occur.
7. Gloves should be changed and hands washed immediately after obvious contamination of gloves with chemotherapy.
8. Patient receiving chemotherapy should have it stated on their door indicating chemo precaution are in place.