**WEEK 3.**

**HANDOVER AND WOUND CARE**

**SESSION A. INDEPENDENT LEARNING**

**HANDOVER**

**What is handover?**

The **nursing** change of shift report or **handover** is a communication that occurs between two shifts of **nurses** whereby the specific purpose is to communicate information about patients under the care of **nurses** (Lamond, 2000).

**Sections in a handover?**

The handover of each patient is generally made up of three sections:

* **Patient’s ID.** The patient’s bed number, name, age, and medical consultant in charge.
* **Past historical info:** The patient’s diagnosis, anything the team needs to know about them and their treatment plan. So you’d include things like whether they are nil-by-mouth or require barrier nursing, if they need help with eating or using the toilet. If they are newly admitted then it’s a good idea to cover the circumstances leading to their admission.
* **Present condition:** How the patient has been this shift and any changes to their treatment plan. Keep in mind that significant changes might have occurred before your shift that the new team are not aware of; check when they were last in and what they already know. Include physical observations and any results from assessments or investigations.
* **Future plan:** For lots of reasons, there can be jobs that have to be handed over to the next shift. Tasks that need to be completed at a certain time or something the team simply haven’t had time to do yet.

(adapted from: What makes a good handover, Nursing Times, <https://www.nursingtimes.net/students/what-makes-a-good-handover/5038664.article>)

**Language notes:**

When doing handover, we can use the following tenses.

1. **Present Tense:** S + Verb 1 or S + is/am/are + noun/adjective or adverb

We use this tense to share our patient’s personal information or identity such as name, age, gender, bed number, and consultant or medical professional in charge.

For example. Mrs. Jennifer Mason is in Bed 5. She is a 55-year-old woman.

1. **Past Tense:** S + Verb 2 or S + was/were + noun/adjective or adverb

We use past tense to share information about the patient’s past treatment or medical history.

For example: Mrs. Mason underwent a surgery three days ago.

1. **Future Tense:** S + will + verb 1 or S + is/am/are going to + verb 1

We use future tense to talk about plan of treatment for a patient.

For example: She will have physical therapy two times today.

**Example of information given from one nurse to another during handover.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sections** | **Information** | **Language use** |
| Patient’s ID | In Bed 8, we **have** Mr. Bernard Chambers. He **is** a 50-year-old man under dr. Alexander Johnson.  | We generally use **present tense** when giving information about patient’s ID.  |
| Past History | Mr. Chambers **was admitted** two days ago. This morning Mr. Chambers **had** an elective bilateral inguinal hernia repair. | We use **past tense** when giving information about patient’s past history or medical treatment.  |
| Present Condition | His wound **is** covered and dry. His post-operative observations **remain** stable. His temperature **is** 37%; his pulse rate is 80 **beats** per minute; his respiration rate **is** 18 breaths per minute; and his blood pressure is 140 over 70.He **can commence** his diet as he can tolerate it. He can also ambulate as he **can tolerate** it. His analgesia has been written up but has not actually been required. | When describing the current health state of the patient, we usually use **present tense**. When talking about what a patient can do, we use **‘can + verb’.** |
| Future plan | He **will be discharged** tomorrow – his wife can pick him up – and he **will need** an outpatients’ department appointment in 6 weeks’ time. **He’ll also need** a sick certificate for work from the medical officer before he leaves today.I asked the ward clerk to photocopy some discharge education sheets, but I haven’t gone through them with him yet. So if you could follow that up, that would be great. | Finally, when talking about plan of treatment, we mostly use **future tense**. |

**Activity 1. Matching sections and information**

Now, match the sections and the relevant information. Fill in the boxes beside each number with the information from the handover script.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Patient’s ID | 1 |  |
| Past History | 2 |  |
| Present Condition | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
| Future plan | 5 |  |

**Handover script.**

1. Her temperature is 38oC; her pulse rate is 100 beats per minute; her respiration rate is 30 breaths per minute; and her blood pressure is 100 over 80. Her oxygen saturation is sitting at around 98% on 2 liters but on air she de-saturates to 93%.
2. She is able to expectorate moderate amounts of tenacious secretions and a specimen has been sent off for microscopy, culture and sensitivity tests.
3. She has intravenous antibiotics every six hours, next due at 15:00. She needs pre- and post- expiratory flow rates to be done, and the chart is behind the temperature, pulse and respiration chart. She is to go down for a repeat chest X-ray some time today.
4. In Bed 11, we have Ms. Rachel Wright. She is a 28-year old woman under dr. Hellen Collins.
5. Miss Wright was admitted with exacerbation of her asthma via the emergency department early this morning.

**Activity 2. Understanding the handover**

Read the handover information in Activity 1. Then answer each question below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Question** | **Answer** |
| 1 | What is the name of the doctor in charge of Ms. Wright? |  |
| 2 | What was the reason for her admittance to the hospital? |  |
| 3 | Based on the reading of her vital signs, describe her condition briefly. |  |
| 4 | Which information shows that she has breathing problem?  |  |
| 5 | What treatments should Ms. Wright receive in the next shift? |  |

**Activity 3. Video Watching**

There is also a type of handover which is called bed-side hand over. Watch the video from the following link and complete the table below.

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Leq_FV-gY7w>

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Patient’s ID** | 1 | **Name of patient?**  |  |
|  | 2 | **Name of Physician?**  |  |
| **Past History** | 3 | **Which part of the body was operated on?**  |  |
|  | 4 | **Days of treatment after surgery?**  |  |
| **Present Condition** | 5 | **Ability to walk?**  |  |
|  | 6 | **Pain level?**  |  |
|  | 7 | **Medication: Amount of medication given?**  |  |
|  | 8 | **Dose and time of last medication given?**  |  |
|  | 9 | **Response to diet?**  |  |
|  | 10 | **Result of IV check?**  |  |
|  | 11 | **Result of wound assessment?**  |  |
| **Future plan** | 12 | **Goals of treatment today?** |  |

**Activity 4. Writing handover information**

Look at the information on the hand over from the video watching.

Write down information in complete sentences from the answers to the questions in Activity 3.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Patient’s ID** | 1 |  |
|  | 2 |  |
| **Past History** | 3 |  |
|  | 4 |  |
| **Present Condition** | 5 |  |
|  | 6 |  |
|  | 7 |  |
|  | 8 |  |
|  | 9 |  |
|  | 10 |  |
|  | 11 |  |
| **Future plan** | 12 |  |