Nursing Management of Acute & Chronic Wounds

This is a four week instructor facilitated online course focusing on the management of acute & chronic wounds. The course is delivered through a learning management system. Content includes anatomy & physiology of skin, basic skin lesions, wound healing physiology, focused assessment and care, wound bed preparation, selecting topical and advanced treatment modalities, managing a variety of wound pathologies, tube & drain care, fistula care, and foot & toenail care. A group assignment on pressure injury root cause analysis, and an individual project focused on educating coworkers on basic wound care provides each learner presentations that can be used in practice.

Discussion topics include case study analysis to support the learning process. Weekly and final quizzes provide each person perspective achieving learning goals. This specialty course is part of a series for a WOCN® Accredited Program for the role of WOC Nursing Specialist. Graduates of this WOC nursing education program are eligible for the www.WOCNCB.org certification exams.

Course Outcome:

Apply holistic assessment skills, knowledge of wound physiology, and current research and evidence to formulate an individualized plan of care for the person with an acute or chronic wound as Wound specialist.

Course Objectives:

1. Describe anatomy and physiology of skin and soft tissues, and the implications for maintaining healthy skin across the lifespan.
2. Apply risk assessment tools, strategies, and data for an evidence based agency wide plan for pressure ulcer prevention.
3. Employ accurate terminology when describing a variety of skin lesions.
4. Use holistic assessment data to correctly identify wound type and causative factors.
5. Describe the physiology of tissue repair based on depth of skin injury and chronicity of the wound.
6. Interpret ongoing assessment data to facilitate selection of topical treatments and determine progression or lack of healing.
7. Plan for the comprehensive nursing management of a wound based on the holistic assessment.
8. Apply wound classification and pressure ulcer staging principles to determine a therapeutic plan of care.
9. Compare and contrast pathology, clinical presentation, and practice standards in the care of venous, arterial, and mixed etiology lower extremity ulcers, and palliative wounds.
10. Describe the pathology, clinical presentation, and management of a variety of atypical wounds.
11. Predict at what point a chronic wound would benefit from adjunct therapies.
12. Apply holistic assessment data to select the appropriate debridement option for a wound with necrotic tissue.
13. Select the appropriate support surface to offload and protect a wound.
14. Describe the pathology, clinical presentation, and management of enterocutaneous fistulae.
15. Describe the pathology, clinical presentation, and management of a neuropathic ulcer.
16. Discuss selected case studies to summarize wound management principles and develop a comprehensive wound plan of care.

Successful completion includes achieving at least 80% of course points as outlined in the course syllabus, and completion and submission of course evaluation.

Disclosures: Course facilitators have no disclosures to report.

Admission requirements include current RN licensure, one year current RN experience, baccalaureate degree, and successful completion of the Concepts in WOC Nursing Course.

Enrollment requirements and online application available at www.clevelandclinic.org/WOCschool

Cost $1575.00 and 60 contact hours will be awarded on successful course completion

Cleveland Clinic Enterprise is accredited with distinction as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.