

**King Saud University**  
**College of Nursing**  
**Master Program**  
**1437 -1438**

**Master Science in Nursing**  
**Nursing Administration**  
**Course Syllabus**

- .....
- **Course Title:** Practicum for Clinical Specialization
  - **Course Number:** NUR 571.
  - **Prerequisite:** NUR 568.
  - **Course Hours:** (0+3)
  - **Student's Educational level:** 3<sup>rd</sup> level.
  - **Duration:** 15 weeks (including mid-term vacation in 16/11/2016).  
One day/ week (Every Wednesday).
  - **Attendance hours:** from 8.00 am – 2.00 pm.
  - **Number of students:** 2 Students.
  - **Starting date:** on Wednesday 11/1/1438 H (12/10/2016G).
  - **Ending date:** on Wednesday 27/4/1438H (25/12/2016G).
  - **Clinical Instructor:** Dr. Hanan A. Alkorashy – Assistant Professor.
  - **Clinical Placement:** In-patient units, Nursing Administration Department, and/or other places as determined by preceptor(s).

**Course Overview:**

Building on fundamental knowledge gained in the previous course of seminars in clinical speciality, this course focuses on supervised experience provided by each clinical specialty, which will prepare the graduate student to function in the role of clinical specialist. Placement may be in community settings, chronic and term care facilities as well as intensive care.

Practicum experiences within a health agency will include responsibilities in planning for effective organization; the various strategies that the nurse manager can utilize to initiate planned change and manage the unplanned one. Discussions and activities will be emphasized in human resource management and nursing management controlling systems. Specific application will be directed toward performance management; patient classification system(s); staffing and scheduling calculations as well as evaluation of patient care. Student observation of the role of the nurse managers in the area of personnel management and staff development will be arranged. A critical component is the clinical practicum which will focus on

investigating the way decision makers think about different problems, the process by which the decisions are made, techniques, and strategies to deal with each type of decisions. A major focus will be on identifying the way and techniques that the nurse manager create, cultivate and improve organizational culture in the work setting.

### **Practicum requirement:**

The clinical practicum is designed to allow the student to proceed from review and analysis of nursing service mechanisms, functions, and techniques, to implement specific relevant assessments, plans and techniques in the health care setting. The student is required to follow the measurement, calculation and evaluation of the procedures throughout their practice. Group and individual activities as well as reports will be presented throughout the practicum and at the end of the clinical period

### **Practicum Objectives:**

At the end of this clinical practicum, the student will be able to:

1. Assess characteristics of the practice setting that best support professional nursing practice and allow nurses to practice to their full potential.
2. Consider the process of planning, planning skills, and tools and apply them clearly and effectively.
3. Compare and contrast implementation of components of performance management process among different in-patients units/wards.
4. Examine the process and mechanisms used in evaluation of quality of patient care in in-patient units/wards.
4. Apply the various mechanisms and strategies of staff utilization, evaluation and development.
5. Investigate the way decision makers think about different problems and/or contingencies, the process by which the decisions are made, and the way to use different models, techniques, and strategies to deal with each type of decisions.
6. Apply the planning principles and process in managing change.
7. Assessing barriers and facilitators of using research in practice (evidence based practice).

## **Clinical practicum syllabus:**

### **I. Characteristics of the practice setting that best support professional nursing practice and allow nurses to practice to their full potential.**

- referring to related literature, reflecting **characteristics** of Professional Nursing Practice environment (Healthy Work Environment).

### **II. Monitoring the role functions inherent in the position of head nurse in the areas of:**

#### **1. Staff Management:-**

- What is the role of HN in recruitment and employment procedure?
- How do staff responsibilities identified?
- Is there a process in place to evaluate staff ability to carry out job responsibilities?
- How do staff receive orientation, both general and specific to their job responsibilities and assignments?
- What is the role of HN in staff education, training and development?
- What is the HN's participation in performance management (on individual/staff level and organizational level)?

#### **2. Planning:**

- What are the most common plans that HN develop, and what is the role for manage each of these plans?
- What are the planning tools being used on the in-patient wards/units.
- What are the strategies the HN use to assure effective planning?

#### **3. Change management:**

- What are the different strategies and techniques used to manage change (planned and emergent)?
- A pre-structured questionnaire will be used to assess organization readiness to change, as well as strategies and techniques used in managing change.

#### **4. Decision making and problem solving: techniques in training setting**

- What are the different strategies and techniques that the HN use to make/take decisions in different problems/situations?
- Give three situations present necessity of decision-making and problem solving for planned change.
- Reflective discussions and situational analyses for 3 different work-related situations ended with taking decision.

### **III. Activities related to organizational communication.**

- Investigating the various channels of organizational communication.
- To what extent does HN use verbal (spoken, written & e-mails) and non-verbal communication.
- Inter-departmental and intra-departmental communication.
- To what extent does HN use the official and the non-official communication to manage her work situations?
- "How good are your communication skills?" a pre-structured questionnaire (to be implemented on 10 nursing personnel).

### **IV. Activities related to leadership, power and authority utilization.**

- Reflective discussion about the various leadership styles running among nurse managers.
- "What is your leadership style?" A pre-structured questionnaire to be applied among 10 nurse managers.

### **V. Activities related to assessing quality of patient care (on in-patient level)**

- How can you evaluate the work-setting environment as a supporting culture for quality care provision? Give three evidences.
- What are the various techniques and tools utilized to assess quality of patient care?
- What are the nurses' involvement in maintaining quality care?

## **VI. Assessing the HN role in motivating staff to use research in practice.**

- What is the role of nurses in applying EBP?

### **Practicum Evaluation:**

Evaluation is based on the quality of student's participation and involvement throughout the practicum. Grades will be based on completion of assigned tasks (60%), and final written reports (40%).

### **Recommended Readings:**

- All materials of the pre-requisite course (568NUR).
  - Needed references will be accessed from data bases as the practicum and discussions progressed.
-