J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: EMS 139 Credits: 1

Course Title: Special Populations

Course Description: Focuses on the pre-hospital assessment and management of patients in a specific population including pediatrics, geriatrics, obstetrics/gynecology (OB/GYN), bariatric, abuse, sexual assault, and special needs. Prerequisites: EMS 121, EMS 123, EMS 125, EMS 126, EMS 127, EMS 128. Corequisite: EMS 140. Lecture 1 hour per week.

General Course Purpose: The purpose of this course is to teach the student principles of care and management of patients in special populations.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:
Prerequisites: EMS 121, EMS 123, EMS 125, EMS 126, EMS 127, EMS 128
Corequisite: EMS 140

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to
a. Discuss gynecological-related issues and management;
b. Describe the stages of labor;
c. Identify issues related to normal and abnormal labor and delivery;
d. Identify differences in management of the pediatric patient;
e. Identify differences in management of the geriatric patient;
f. Describe issues related to patients with special health care needs; and
g. Explain concepts related to neonatal resuscitation and care.

Major Topics to Be Included:

a. Gynecology
   ▪ Female reproductive system anatomy review
   ▪ Menstrual and ovarian cycles
   ▪ Abdominal/vaginal pain and bleeding
   ▪ Consider pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted diseases
   ▪ Sexual assault
   ▪ Complications with the female reproductive system

b. Obstetrics
   ▪ Normal anatomical, physiological, and psychological changes in pregnancy
   ▪ General system physiology, assessment, and management of the obstetrical patient.
   ▪ Complications related to pregnancy
   ▪ Complications of labor: pathophysiology, assessment, complications, management
   ▪ Complications of delivery: pathophysiology, assessment, complications, management

c. Pediatrics and Infants
   ▪ Pediatric anatomical variations and assessment
   ▪ Growth and development
- Pediatrics: specific pathophysiology, assessment, and management
- Child abuse and neglect
- Pediatrics developmental disabilities
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

d. Geriatrics
- Normal and abnormal changes associated with aging
- Sensory changes
- Pharmacokinetic change
- Polypharmacy
- Specific conditions that occur more frequently in the elderly

e. Patients with Special Challenges
- Abuse and neglect
- Homelessness/Poverty
- Bariatric patients
- Technology assisted/dependent
- Hospice care and terminally ill
- Tracheostomy care/dysfunction
- Emotionally impaired
- Physical needs/challenges
- Patients with communicable diseases
- Terminally ill patients
- Mental needs/challenges

f. Neonatal Care
- General pathophysiology, assessment, and management
- Meconium stained amniotic fluid
- Apnea in the neonate
- Diaphragmatic hernia in the neonate
- Resuscitation care

g. Special Considerations in Trauma
- Trauma in pregnancy
- Pediatric trauma
- Geriatric trauma

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