POLICY: HIGH RISK PROCEDURE POLICY

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for safe practice for students in the clinical setting.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the nursing program at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville, that student nurses DO NOT perform the following activities. Students are encouraged to observe licensed personnel performing these activities, but they are NOT permitted to do them.

1. Administration of Blood and blood products (except CSF and Rhogam)
2. Obtaining blood or blood products from Blood Bank
3. Administration of chemotherapy
4. Administration of any research / experimental drug or treatment
5. Drawing blood from an arterial line
6. Lab draws – from venipuncture or from central lines
7. Adjustment of IV titrated medications.
8. Preparation of pressure lines or management of Swan Ganz pulmonary artery catheters
9. Preparation of pressure lines or management of arterial lines
10. Ventilator management - Adjusting ventilator settings
11. Regulation/monitoring of hemodialysis
12. Interpreting cardiac rhythms for medication administration
14. Assisting physician with sterile procedures (should be a staff nurse present to assist)
15. NO heel stick BGM’s on infants in newborn nursery or BGM’s on infants at UPMC. Heel Sticks are permitted at Meadville.
16. Removal or insertion of arterial lines, picc lines, CVC’s, or Swan Ganz catheters.
17. Do not pass instruments during surgery or assist with OR procedures or equipment in any way.
18. Witness any consent or legal documents.
Additional high risk procedures specific to the Mental Health area:

19. Do not administer meds over objection in Mental Health area- staff RN to do
20. Do not place client in restraints in Mental Health area- staff RN to do
21. Do not inventory mental health client belongings alone- staff member to assist with this.
22. Do not accompany mental health clients to outside exercise area alone- staff member must also be present.
23. Do not be an active participant with aggressive (physical/verbal) or out of control client.

High Risk Procedures that students MAY be given permission to do in the PRESENCE OF THE INSTRUCTOR:

1. Insulin and heparin sub q doses must be double checked by instructor and staff nurses prior to Administration, if required by facility.
2. All injections must be given in presence of instructor.
3. All Invasive procedures- i.e. caths, ng tube insertions, irrigations, injections etc must be done in presence of an instructor.
4. All oral medications must be double checked by instructor prior to administration to client.
5. Adult, infant and child IV pumps may only be adjusted when the instructor present.
7. Administering peritoneal dialysis
8. IV push medications (can be through peripheral or central lines)
9. IV venipuncture (initiation or site rotation) if permitted by facility.