Review Calculations related to medications, Basic Safety and Infection Control, Core Measures, National Patient Safety Goals, Pain Management, and Blood Administration.

Review assessment, interventions, monitoring, and care for conditions commonly encountered including:

- Apnea, pulseless, asystole – ACLS protocol, first medication = epinephrine
- Removal arterial catheter/sheath: direct pressure for at least 5 minutes
- Blood transfusion reaction
- Cerebrovascular accident (CVA), symptoms: confusion, one-sided weakness and facial drooping
- Chest pain, dyspnea – contact rapid response team
- Diabetes
- Heart failure (HF), lung sounds (bilateral rales) indicate onset and/or worsening
- Hypertension
- Hypoglycemia/hyperglycemia, obtain stat blood glucose to evaluate; symptoms
- Pain assessment
- Myocardial infarction (MI)
- Post-angioplasty
- Restraints, monitor every 2 hours and re-evaluate need
- Bilateral rates post-MI, early indication heart failure
- Lab indicators of renal function
- Cardiac tamponade signs and symptoms post-removal of epicardial wires: hypotension, distended neck veins, tachycardia with a paradoxical pulse and muffled heart sounds
- Assessment and documentation of skin assessment, nonblanchable erythema
- Ventilator, practice bundle, elevate head of bed

Review action, preparation, monitoring, and precautions related to medications commonly used, such as

- Benzodiazepines, risk for falling
- Captopril (Capoten®)
- Diltiazem (Cardizem®): toxicity symptoms – lightheadedness, decreased BP and heart rate; tablet calculation
- Dopamine (Intropin®), low dose to improve renal perfusion
- Furosemide (Lasix®), hold for low serum potassium
- Heparin protocol
- Insulin sliding scale
• Labetalol
• Medications per enteral feeding tube, follow each medication with water
• Morphine: calculate mL for mg dose, toxicity symptoms: difficult to arouse, decreased respiratory rate
• Naloxone (Narcan®)
• Oxygen
• Infiltration with a known vesicant, stop infusion and disconnect IV tubing

Review **cardiac rhythm strip interpretation and appropriate action**, including

• Finding associated with MI, S-T segment elevation
• ECG rhythm strip interpretation: atrial fibrillation
• ECG rhythm strip interpretation: sinus rhythm with multifocal PVC couplet
• ECG rhythm strip interpretation: narrow complex tachycardia), first action = vagal maneuvers: hold breath and bear down
• ECG rhythm strip interpretation and action: ventricular fibrillation, shock at 200 joules, biphasic
• ECG rhythm strip interpretation: ventricular tachycardia

A great source for ACLS protocol review is [www.acls.net](http://www.acls.net)

A great source for rhythm review is the RN.com course [Telemetry Interpretation](http://www.rn.com)

Also recommended:

• ECG Library (Jenkins, J & Gerrend, S., 2009)

Review **Laboratory Results** commonly encountered, such as

• BUN
• Serum creatinine
• Serum electrolytes
• Serum glucose
Review principles and practices related to **safety and infection prevention**, including

- Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) prevention bundle, reassess need for catheter
- Catheter-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) prevention bundle reassess need for central line
- Fall risk, elderly/benzodiazepines
- Handwashing rather than sanitizer w/C. diff
- Patient identifiers
- Monitor restraints every 2 hours and re-evaluate need
- Scrub hub of injection port with an alcohol wipe before administering medication
- Ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) prevention bundle, elevate head of bed

Review principles and practices of **communication with patients and family**, including

- Patient satisfaction, importance of communication
- Purpose of oxygen post-MI, improved myocardial perfusion
- Heart failure discharge teaching including monitoring weight and instructions if symptoms worsen
- Demand pacemaker, functioning – sensing and pacing when heart rate drops below preset threshold

Review measures to prevent **CMS Hospital Acquired Conditions**, including

- Blood transfusion reaction
- CAUTI prevention
- DVT prevention
- Glycemic control
- Assessment and documentation of skin assessment, nonblanchable erythema
- Risk for falling

Review **calculations**, including

- Medication protocols
- Insulin sliding scale; heparin protocol