Revalidation Case Study using Royal Marsden

Introduction

As part of your revalidation training, you will need to demonstrate your familiarity with the four aspects the Nursing and Midwifery Code of Conduct.

Starting this month with the ‘Prioritise People’ strand of the Code, we will provide a case study which reflects the ways in which the Royal Marsden Online Manual can help you apply the code, and how it can feedback into your nursing revalidation.

Case Study - Prioritise People

The Situation

Jane took up her first post as a staff nurse four weeks ago on a general surgical ward. During yesterday evening (a Sunday) one of the patients on the ward a 69-year-old gentleman who had a hemi-colectomy 48 hours previously, became very vocal and demanded that his intravenous infusion was removed and his cannula taken out. Jane assessed it, as it was ok she then attempted to explain how important it was to this gentleman, but he insisted threatening to pull it out himself if she didn’t listen. Jane was in a dilemma about what to do. She recognised the importance of respecting the person’s right to accept or refuse treatment but was concerned because this gentleman was not yet taking oral fluids.

How the Manual helps

1. Jane reminded herself of the key things to look for in assessing a peripheral cannula by reading the section about peripheral cannulae (chapter 14 pages 875-890), she found the VIP scale particularly helpful (page 880) in deciding that the cannulae could remain in situ.

2. Matron covering the unit that evening suggested that maybe the gentleman was delirious. Jane couldn’t remember her lectures on delirium in detail so she looked it up (Chapter 4 Delirium pages 121-123).

3. The section mentioned Mental Capacity so she looked at that too- (Chapter 4 – Mental Capacity Act pages 104-105). This helped her to decide that it was important to take all the steps she could to maintain the intravenous infusion—in addition alerting her that she need to call for medical help to review this gentleman.
How to use in Revalidation

*Continuing Professional Development* - This situation prompted Jane to read the relevant sections deepening her knowledge in these areas. She also discussed what she read with her colleagues at hand over.

*Practice based feedback* – Jane reviewed this case with her preceptor, what she learnt from it and how what she read helped her learning. The preceptor made a written note on her preceptorship log affirming her skills in using the resources available to help her in her decision making prioritising the needs of the gentleman she was caring for.

*Written Reflection* - her preceptor encouraged her to write up the dilemma and the steps she took for her portfolio – referring to what she read and indicating how that helped her.

*Continuing Professional Development* - This situation prompted Jane to read the relevant sections deepening her knowledge in these areas. She also discussed what she read with her colleagues at hand over.