



Intensive Care Unit Clinical Goals and Objectives

In addition to the Global Clinical Objectives, certain clinical experiences are best suited to the attainment of specific knowledge and skills. In this context, *Goals* are defined as competencies that the faculty feel would benefit the student if presented with the opportunity to experience them. *Objectives* are competencies that the student will be expected to obtain.

Purpose: The purpose of this rotation is expose students to a variety of critically ill and injured patients and to allow them to practice their assessment skills. Although students may perform technical skills as requested, they should focus on each patient's diagnosis, key assessment findings, and treatment plans.

Goals: It is the goal of the intensive care unit rotations to expose students to as many patient assessment/management experiences as possible. These experiences may include, but are not limited to:

1. Reviewing all charts.
2. Operating oxygen administration equipment and giving oxygen.
3. Performing peripheral IV insertion.
4. After observation and instruction, drawing blood samples via venipuncture or existing IV lines.
5. Inserting oral and/or nasogastric tubes.
6. Assisting in ambulating patients from bed to chair, lifting and turning patients.
7. Assisting in cases of cardiac arrest as directed including performing CPR, managing the airway, endotracheal intubation, and electrical and pharmacological arrhythmia therapy.
8. Evaluating results of laboratory tests, and correlating results with patient management.
9. Reviewing operation of mechanical ventilator equipment, noting various settings.
10. Maintaining airway in unconscious patients using manipulation, positioning, oral airways, and suctioning.
11. Performing aseptic endotracheal suctioning.
12. Observing and assisting in setting up and maintaining IV infusion pumps.
13. Exposure to critical care diagnostic procedures.
14. Exposure to long term treatment plans and care of patients with multiple organ system failure.
15. Treatment modalities not normally utilized in prehospital medicine.

Objectives: At a minimum, students will be expected to accomplish the following objectives during each Intensive Care Unit rotation:

1. Perform at least 3 patient assessments, including recent and past medical history and physical exam. The assessment should include taking and recording vital signs, a review of all systems, and notation of all IV tubes, drains, and invasive hemodynamic monitoring.
2. Document at least 3 patient assessments to include the pathophysiology of diagnosis, mechanism of action of any medications given, and a SOAP style report.
3. Prepare and administer medications as directed by assigned preceptor.
4. Observe and identify effects of pharmacological agents administered.
5. Evaluate and interpret ECGs.
6. Observe complications of complex multiple system injury or illness, including ARDS, renal failure, hepatic failure, DIC, and multiple organ systems failure.