



## **Pediatric 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 Pediatric 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. Assess and manage pediatric patients with common illnesses found in the critical care setting, including acute asthma, meningitis, croup, epiglottitis, bronchiolitis, and sepsis.
2. After observation and instruction, draw blood samples via venipuncture or existing IV lines.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of equipment, procedures, and sites for vascular access in children.
4. Performing peripheral IV insertion.
5. Preparing and administering medications as directed.
6. Observing effects of medications administered.
7. Inserting oro- and/or nasogastric tubes.
8. Acquire and interpret ECG rhythms.
9. Assisting in ambulating patients from bed to chair, lifting and turning patients, and with activities of daily living.
10. Assisting in cases of cardiac arrest as directed including performing CPR, managing the airway, endotracheal intubation, and electrical and pharmacological arrhythmia therapy.
11. Evaluating results of laboratory tests, and correlating results with patient management.
12. Reviewing operation of mechanical ventilator equipment, noting various settings.
13. Maintaining airway in unconscious patients using manipulation, positioning, oral airways, and suctioning.
14. Performing aseptic endotracheal suctioning.
15. Observing and assisting in setting up and maintaining IV infusion pumps.
16. Exposure to critical care diagnostic procedures.
17. Exposure to long term treatment plans and care of patients with multiple organ system failure.
18. Treatment modalities not normally utilized in prehospital medicine.

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

1. Perform at least 3 patient assessments, including recent and past medical history and physical exam. The assessment should include a rapid initial evaluation of respiratory effort, heart rate, and status of hydration and perfusion; 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. Observe age-specific reactions to injury/illness and responses to health care personnel.
4. Observe age-specific parent-child interactions.
5. Demonstrate appropriate age-specific approaches to elicit and keep child's cooperation.

6. As available, observe and assist in the care of patients with tracheostomy tubes, central venous lines, gastrostomy tubes or gastric feeding tubes, or ventriculoperitoneal shunts.
7. Discuss with preceptor common problems with devices used in the care of children with special health care needs and procedures for managing these problems.
8. Observe patient reactions to injury/illness and responses to health care personnel.
9. Observe parent-child interactions.
10. Demonstrate appropriate approaches to elicit and keep child's cooperation.