Miami Dade College

Course Description

SON1006L | Professional Aspects of Sonography | 1.00 credit

The course will present an introduction to ethical, legal, and health care administration issues applicable to the field of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Its purpose is to familiarize the students with the ethical, legal and occupational challenges they will face in their future professional practice

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the evolutionary history of sonography by:

1. Explaining what ultrasound and a sonographer are
2. Discussing a brief history of sonography, doppler and its origin story
3. Identifying the historical turning points in the development in the field of sonography

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of appropriate patient care across the specialties by:

1. Define empathy and the vital role of compassion
2. Demonstrate professional communication skills required daily in the health care setting
3. Discuss patient confidentiality, the importance of consent and chaperones
4. Discussing the introspective viewpoint of both a patient and student of sonography
5. Provide examples about the impact of communication and imaging procedures
6. Describe the relationship of the sonographer to the patients and their special needs
7. Explain the methods of patient preparation and care before and during a sonogram
8. Listing patient's safety goals and disinfection techniques
9. Discussing ways in which mistakes can be avoided in the clinical area
10. Reviewing clinical scenarios across multiple modalities

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of Medical Ethics by:

1. Engaging in discussions about medical ethics and legal issues
2. Explaining what ethics is, biomedical ethics and the fields of ethics
3. Discussing sonographer code of conduct
4. Defining what are values, core values, types of values and professionalism as a value
5. Explaining the ethical schools of thought and ethical models
6. Discussing the concepts of autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and veracity
7. Discussing patient rights and patient confidentiality
8. Discussing HIPAA regulations
9. Discussing what is the Informed Consent and listing components of Informed Consent
10. Discussing what is the Patient Self-Determination Act of 1991
11. Discussing what is competence and how it relates to Informed Consent and the Advanced Directives
12. Explaining and discussing examples of what confidentiality is and its exceptions
13. Describing special problems encountered and methods related to medical ethics and law in Sonography
14. discussing the standard of care expected of a sonographer
15. Defining euthanasia, the kinds of euthanasia and why it is illegal
16. Discussing Professional Conduct of healthcare workers
17. Explaining the difference between the concepts of diversity and multi-culturalism
18. Explaining the difference between Law and Ethics
19. Discussing what are the Sources of the Law
20. Identifying the Branches of the Law
21. Defining the concept of the Statute of Limitations
22. Discussing the phases of a lawsuit
23. Defining the concepts of the Standard of Care and Scope of Practice
24. Defining what is Tort law and its categories
    a. ab. defining what is negligence and its four elements
    b. ac. explaining malpractice issues in Diagnostic Ultrasound
    c. ad. discussing what is Wrongful Pregnancy, Wrongful Birth, and Wrongful Life. ae. defining the legal

doctrines of *Respondeat Superior*, *Res Ipsa Loquitur*, and af. Personal Liability
d. ag. discussing anti-discrimination laws and discrimination issues in Diagnostic
e. ah. Ultrasound
f. ai. defining different kinds of patient consent
g. aj. identifying situations of liability
h. ak. discussing accountability
i. al. discussing the steps sonographers should take to protect themselves against malpractice suits
j. am. reviewing how sociocultural factors affect ethical decision making
k. an. discussing the importance of confidentiality
l. ao. explaining the ethical interaction between patients, peers, and other healthcare professionals.
m. ap. Describe special problems encountered and methods related to medical ethics and law in sonography

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate knowledge and comprehension general responsibilities of a sonographer by:

1. Discussing the sections of the inpatient chart
2. Discussing some rules of charting
3. Explaining a model of ultrasound practice
4. Identifying ergonomic issues in the practice of Diagnostic Medical Sonography
5. Discussing the criteria for ultrasound practice accreditation
6. Discussing professional scope of practice
7. Discussing responsibilities of staff sonographer's, supervisors, and radiology administrators
8. Discussing quality assurance
9. Explaining the role of the sonographer
10. Describing the relationship of the sonograperh to the patient and their special needs
11. Discuss professional communication skills required on a daily basis in the health care setting

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate knowledge and comprehension about communication, diversity, critical thinking, death and dying by:

1. Discussing protecting the patient's right to privacy based on current federal standards and regulations
2. Discussing how to maintain confidentiality
3. Discussing techniques to move beyond communication barriers
4. Recognizing the effect of cultural and religious influences and tactful professional interactions
5. Demonstrating personalized care of patients with special needs
6. Utilizing skills to improve critical thinking and problem solving
7. Discussing the process of grief and dying, support, compassion, and dignity

Competency 6: The student will demonstrate proper body mechanics to avoid Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders when performing sonographic examinations by:

1. Recognize the importance of, and employ, ergonomically correct scanning techniques, personal fitness, support, tools, and devices
2. Understands the long-term benefits of equipment adjustments and patient positioning by reviewing recommendations for body mechanics and ergonomics
3. Reviewing tools and exercises for ergonomics
4. Discussing ways to create a safe scanning environment

Competency 7: The student will demonstrate knowledge of patient care by reviewing and medical techniques by:

1. Discussing how to respond to the needs of the patient.
2. Defining age related competency (i.e., neonates, pediatric patients, adolescents, adults, and Obstetric patients)
3. Recognizing when sedation may be appropriate
4. Discussing appropriate care in nursery and intensive care environments (ancillary equipment, thermal, central venous lines, ET tubes, respiratory needs)
5. Proper patient positioning, patient safety and moving the patient
6. Identifying proper infection control and sterile technique
7. Identifying life-threatening situations and implementing emergency care as permitted by employer

procedure, Including the following: Pertinent patient care procedures, principles of psychological support, emergency conditions and procedures
8. Discussing the importance of first aid and resuscitation techniques

Competency 8: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role and responsibilities of the sonographer regarding assessments and sonographic protocol by:
1. Explaining the role of the sonographer
2. Describing and explaining the proper uses of orientation and standard labeling of ultrasound images
3. Discussing patient preparation as per modality
4. Describe basic scanning techniques and patient positioning in order to optimize imaging
5. Discuss the integration of laboratory, medical history, physical exams and functional testing to improve the management of care which may impact the diagnostic examination
6. Recognizing the benefit of guided questions
7. Comprehend and employ appropriate medical terminology, abbreviations, symbols, terms, and phrases
8. Explain the basic concepts of ultrasound equipment available and demonstrate safety in their use and basic techniques of scanning providing basic patient care and comfort
9. Maintaining infection control and utilize standard precautions
10. Discussing modification of the scanning protocol based on the sonographic findings and the differential diagnosis

Competency 9: The student will demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of healthcare systems by:
1. Listing and defining the healthcare delivery models
2. Discussing the healthcare system components and how they are organized
3. Discussing key issues in the accreditation of healthcare organizations
4. Defining what is healthcare risk management and quality assurance
5. Listing the names and acronyms of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Organizations
6. Defining what is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA)
7. Discussing maintenance of records
8. Discussing length of time records are stored
9. Describe the organizational structure common to most hospitals with special emphasis placed on the role of the ultrasound department

Competency 10: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role and responsibilities of the sonographer in professional development by:
1. Discussing to the professional codes of conduct/ethics through the following: Medical ethics and pertinent legal principles
2. Discussing professional interaction skills and the foundation of cooperative practice
3. Discussing the fundamental elements for implementing a quality assurance and improvement program, and the policies, protocols, and procedures for the general function of the ultrasound laboratory
4. Discussing the importance of continuing education, through the following: professional journals, conferences, lectures, in-house educational offerings, professional organizations and resources
5. Identifying the importance of first impressions
6. Describing professional and appropriate speech and conduct at the workplace
7. Discuss recent developments in sonography, employment statistics and outlook

Learning Outcomes
- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data