



Critical Care Nursing Skills Checklist

Please check the column that best describes your experience level with each skill.

Key:

- 1 - Performs well (no assistance required)
- 2 - Some experience (some assistance required)
- 3 - No experience
- 4 - Not applicable

	1	2	3	4
CV/Circulatory				
arterial line/Swan Ganz set up	_____	_____	_____	_____
obtain blood sample from line	_____	_____	_____	_____
remove arterial line	_____	_____	_____	_____
assess heart sounds	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist w/ pacemaker insertion				
temporary/single/double lumen	_____	_____	_____	_____
recognize pacemaker malfunction	_____	_____	_____	_____
pacemaker care	_____	_____	_____	_____
paceport Swan Ganz	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist with pericardiocentesis	_____	_____	_____	_____
external pacemaker maintenance	_____	_____	_____	_____
blood pressure				
monitoring/automatic machine	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist in:				
arterial line insertion	_____	_____	_____	_____
Swan Ganz insertion with or				
without fluroscopy	_____	_____	_____	_____
dysrhythmia recognition & intervention	_____	_____	_____	_____
normal anatomy of heart:				
left side	_____	_____	_____	_____
right side	_____	_____	_____	_____
normal physiology of CV system	_____	_____	_____	_____
post angiogram care	_____	_____	_____	_____
post open heart care	_____	_____	_____	_____
removal of arterial/venous sheaths	_____	_____	_____	_____
resuscitation:				
team member	_____	_____	_____	_____
perform defibrillation	_____	_____	_____	_____
perform/set up emergency cardioversion	_____	_____	_____	_____
prep and administer meds	_____	_____	_____	_____
set up, run, interpret 12 lead EKG	_____	_____	_____	_____
SVO2 monitoring	_____	_____	_____	_____
interpretation	_____	_____	_____	_____
troubleshooting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Swan Ganz hemodynamic				
monitoring	_____	_____	_____	_____
knowledge of RA/PAP/PCWP/CO/				
SVR/PVR/CI	_____	_____	_____	_____

	1	2	3	4
CV/Circulatory - continued				
troubleshooting waveforms	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aortic Balloon Pump	_____	_____	_____	_____
care	_____	_____	_____	_____
monitoring	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of cardiac monitor	_____	_____	_____	_____
proper lead placement	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of doppler	_____	_____	_____	_____
care of patients with:				
acute aneurysm	_____	_____	_____	_____
acute MI	_____	_____	_____	_____
angina	_____	_____	_____	_____
CHF	_____	_____	_____	_____
deep vein thrombosis	_____	_____	_____	_____
pulmonary edema	_____	_____	_____	_____
shock:				
cardiogenic	_____	_____	_____	_____
hypervolemic	_____	_____	_____	_____
septic	_____	_____	_____	_____
transplant/cardiac	_____	_____	_____	_____
post TPA	_____	_____	_____	_____
Neurological System				
assessing sensory-motor function	_____	_____	_____	_____
extremities	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist with lumbar puncture	_____	_____	_____	_____
cervical traction	_____	_____	_____	_____
cranial nerve assessment	_____	_____	_____	_____
Crutchfield tongs	_____	_____	_____	_____
halo traction	_____	_____	_____	_____
LOC assessment	_____	_____	_____	_____
monitoring of ICP appropriate				
interventions for changes				
in pressure	_____	_____	_____	_____
pre/post neuro surgical care	_____	_____	_____	_____
seizure precautions	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of Glasgow coma scale	_____	_____	_____	_____
visual acuity measurement	_____	_____	_____	_____
care of patients with:				
aphasia	_____	_____	_____	_____
closed head injury	_____	_____	_____	_____
craniotomy	_____	_____	_____	_____

	1	2	3	4
Neurological System - continued				
CVA	_____	_____	_____	_____
multiple sclerosis	_____	_____	_____	_____
multiple trauma patient	_____	_____	_____	_____
overdose patient	_____	_____	_____	_____
seizure disorder	_____	_____	_____	_____
spinal cord injury	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pulmonary				
Ambu bag techniques	_____	_____	_____	_____
administer oxygen	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of apnea monitor	_____	_____	_____	_____
assess lung sounds	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist in intubation/extubation:				
oropharyngeal airway	_____	_____	_____	_____
nasopharyngeal airway	_____	_____	_____	_____
chest tube insertion (assist in)	_____	_____	_____	_____
incentive spirometer	_____	_____	_____	_____
Nebulizer	_____	_____	_____	_____
normal physiology of pulmonary vascular system	_____	_____	_____	_____
obtain arterial blood gas result interpretation	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pavulonized patient	_____	_____	_____	_____
pulse oximetry	_____	_____	_____	_____
suctioning	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of emergency equipment	_____	_____	_____	_____
thoracentesis	_____	_____	_____	_____
tracheostomy:				
trach tray set up	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist with emergency trach	_____	_____	_____	_____
changing of trach or tube	_____	_____	_____	_____
skin care	_____	_____	_____	_____
dressing changes	_____	_____	_____	_____
Ventilator Management:				
patient assessment	_____	_____	_____	_____
troubleshooting with vents	_____	_____	_____	_____
weaning from ventilator	_____	_____	_____	_____
list types of ventilators:	_____	_____	_____	_____
<hr/>				
<hr/>				
care of patients with:				
acute respiratory distress	_____	_____	_____	_____
AIDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
asthma	_____	_____	_____	_____
collapsed lung	_____	_____	_____	_____
COPD	_____	_____	_____	_____
DIC	_____	_____	_____	_____
hemothorax	_____	_____	_____	_____
pneumonia	_____	_____	_____	_____
pulmonary embolism	_____	_____	_____	_____
TB	_____	_____	_____	_____
transplant/pulmonary	_____	_____	_____	_____
ECMO: monitoring	_____	_____	_____	_____
care	_____	_____	_____	_____

	1	2	3	4
Medication Administration				
injections:				
preparation of meds/syringe	_____	_____	_____	_____
site selection (i.e. SQ vs. IM)	_____	_____	_____	_____
PO administration	_____	_____	_____	_____
SL administration	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of the following medications:				
Activase	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aminodarone	_____	_____	_____	_____
Atropine	_____	_____	_____	_____
Bicarbonate	_____	_____	_____	_____
Bretylum	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cardizem	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dextrose	_____	_____	_____	_____
Digitalis	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dopamine	_____	_____	_____	_____
Epinephrine	_____	_____	_____	_____
Esmolal	_____	_____	_____	_____
Heparin	_____	_____	_____	_____
Inderal	_____	_____	_____	_____
Inocor	_____	_____	_____	_____
Insulin	_____	_____	_____	_____
Isuprel	_____	_____	_____	_____
KCL	_____	_____	_____	_____
Levophed	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lidocaine	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mannitol	_____	_____	_____	_____
Magnesium Sulfate	_____	_____	_____	_____
Neo synephrine	_____	_____	_____	_____
Nipride	_____	_____	_____	_____
Nitroglycerin	_____	_____	_____	_____
Nitroprusside	_____	_____	_____	_____
Phenobarbital	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pavulon	_____	_____	_____	_____
Prednisone	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pitressin	_____	_____	_____	_____
Procainamide	_____	_____	_____	_____
Prostaglandins Steptokinanse	_____	_____	_____	_____
Verapamil	_____	_____	_____	_____
Psychiatric Considerations				
psychiatric patient assessment	_____	_____	_____	_____
care of acute psychotic	_____	_____	_____	_____
care of violent patient	_____	_____	_____	_____
administer psychiatric medications	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of restraints	_____	_____	_____	_____
Additional Nursing Responsibilities				
specimen collection:				
capillary blood draw	_____	_____	_____	_____
sputum	_____	_____	_____	_____
stool	_____	_____	_____	_____
venipuncture	_____	_____	_____	_____
wound culture	_____	_____	_____	_____
central line blood draw	_____	_____	_____	_____

	1	2	3	4
Additional Nursing Responsibilities - cont.				
admission:				
initial assessment and documentation	_____	_____	_____	_____
charge nurse responsibilities	_____	_____	_____	_____
universal isolation procedures/precautions	_____	_____	_____	_____
lab value interpretation	_____	_____	_____	_____
organ procurement	_____	_____	_____	_____
pain management	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of IV narcotics	_____	_____	_____	_____
PCA pumps	_____	_____	_____	_____
post mortum procedure	_____	_____	_____	_____
problem oriented medical records	_____	_____	_____	_____

	1	2	3	4
GI/GU/Reproductive/Endocrine/ Integumentary				
administer med via NG/gastrostomy tube	_____	_____	_____	_____
assist with vas-cath insertion	_____	_____	_____	_____
AV shunt/fistula care	_____	_____	_____	_____
Catheter insertion				
female	_____	_____	_____	_____
male	_____	_____	_____	_____
care of burn patients	_____	_____	_____	_____
dialysis:				
hemo	_____	_____	_____	_____
peritoneal	_____	_____	_____	_____
insulin preparation and administration:				
blood glucose monitoring	_____	_____	_____	_____
equipment used:				
jejunostomy care	_____	_____	_____	_____
NG tube insertion/lavage	_____	_____	_____	_____
normal physiology of renal & GI system	_____	_____	_____	_____
ostomy/stoma care	_____	_____	_____	_____
peritoneal lavage	_____	_____	_____	_____
poison control	_____	_____	_____	_____
wound care irrigations	_____	_____	_____	_____
care of patients with:				
acute cholecystitis	_____	_____	_____	_____
acute renal failure	_____	_____	_____	_____

Certifications:	Expiration Date:
ACLS	_____
BCLS	_____
CCRN	_____
Other	_____
Other	_____
Other	_____

Specialty Course (Name)	Date:
1) _____	_____
2) _____	_____
3) _____	_____

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

	1	2	3	4
GI/GU/Reproductive/Endocrine/ Integumentary - continued				
bowel obstruction	_____	_____	_____	_____
diabetes	_____	_____	_____	_____
GI bleed	_____	_____	_____	_____
hyper/hypoglycemia	_____	_____	_____	_____
multiple abdominal wounds	_____	_____	_____	_____
renal transplant	_____	_____	_____	_____
pancreatitis	_____	_____	_____	_____
transplant/kidney	_____	_____	_____	_____

	1	2	3	4
IV Therapy				
administration of chemotherapy meds	_____	_____	_____	_____
administration of antibiotic meds	_____	_____	_____	_____
meds via IV push	_____	_____	_____	_____
administration of continuous fluids	_____	_____	_____	_____
blood/blood product				
administration/precautions	_____	_____	_____	_____
autotransfusion	_____	_____	_____	_____
calculate doses	_____	_____	_____	_____
calculate rates:				
mcg/min	_____	_____	_____	_____
mcg/kg/min	_____	_____	_____	_____
hang IV piggybacks	_____	_____	_____	_____
hyperalimentation:				
peripheral/central line	_____	_____	_____	_____
knowledge of solutions	_____	_____	_____	_____
calorie and fluid requirements	_____	_____	_____	_____
insertion of central line:				
CVP tray set up	_____	_____	_____	_____
use of Broviac & Hickman catheters	_____	_____	_____	_____
implanted venous access ports	_____	_____	_____	_____
dressing changes	_____	_____	_____	_____
insertion of peripheral line:				
dressing change	_____	_____	_____	_____
discontinuing line	_____	_____	_____	_____
pump operations:				
IVAC	_____	_____	_____	_____
IMED	_____	_____	_____	_____
other:	_____	_____	_____	_____

List any additional experience.

Location:

Date: _____