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## ***COURSE OUTLINE:***

### ***CONCEPTS FOR MEDICAL NURSING PRACTICE IN CANADA***

#### ***COURSE DESCRIPTION***

This course provides participants with concepts that are pertinent to medical nursing practice in Canada. This learning is facilitated by the use of case studies based on common medical health challenges. The course consists of nine study sessions. Participants will be expected to apply learning from the first course in this Bridging Program, 'Canadian Fundamentals of Medical-Surgical Nursing', to their work in this course. Key concepts include, comprehensive health assessment, focused assessments, common medical health challenges involving cardiovascular disease, diabetes mellitus, respiratory conditions, hepatic disorders, diseases compromising the immune system, renal, endocrine and reproductive systems, blood dyscrasias. Participants are also expected to integrate knowledge of biological sciences, pharmacology, lab tests and values, treatments, collaborative practice, and care planning into their responses in each case study.

**Pre-requisites:** Graduation from an entry-level psychiatric nursing program outside Canada. Completion of the 'Canadian Fundamentals of Medical-Surgical Nursing' or evidence of equivalent certificated learning.

**Co-requisites:** None.

#### ***LEARNING OUTCOMES***

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Identify medical conditions commonly encountered by clients in psychiatric nursing
- Describe the processes and procedures involved in conducting a comprehensive health assessment
- Identify significant data derived from assessments and state how the nurse should respond to such data
- Demonstrate an integrated approach to holistic assessment and treatment of the client
- State the nursing principles and approaches to the management of common medical health challenges

**Course Hours: 40 hours**

#### **Modes of Instruction and Learning**

This course is delivered through online modes of teaching and learning. This includes reading and literature search, researching websites and providing responses to scenarios presented in case studies. The education process may also include time spent working with the consultant to process the readings, the ideas contained there and their applications to specific medical nursing contexts.

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### **Assessment and Evaluation**

Participants are required to successfully complete all learning activities and assignments in order to achieve an overall **Mastery grade** for the course. The specific criteria for success will vary with the type of learning activity/assignment and are indicated in each individual description (online). Generally, participants will be able to resubmit an assignment twice when a learning activity is deemed by the Consultant as not meeting some or all of the expected outcomes. This course should be completed within the maximum time frame of 10 weeks.

Participants are required to achieve a '**Mastery**' grade in all assessable components of the course in order to receive the certificate of completion.

Since the focus of the program is on achieving competencies, assignment marks become irrelevant. The grading system is a 'Mastery' one, based on competency criteria addressed in each assignment. This results in assignments being returned to the participant with, for example, a request to add a paragraph or refer to a resource for further learning. Assignments are also returned to participants with written feedback directly on the paper. Participants are expected to read these comments and pay attention to them. Evidence that you have done so will be demonstrated in later assignments and/or clinical practice.

Assignments will be graded within a maximum of 14 days. We ask module participants to contact the office and provide a reminder if they have not heard from us by 10 days after submission of an assignment. Exceptions to these timeframes apply under unusual circumstances, such as when a participant registers for a module and then delays starting or begins the module and is then absent for an extended period of time. Additionally, participants are expected to complete and submit assignments progressively over the course of the module; it is not acceptable for a participant to suddenly submit multiple assignments over the course of one or two days. In any of these situations, the normal maximum of 14 days for return of assignments will be extended at the discretion of, and according to the needs of, the consultant. Moreover, in the event that a participant needs to be reinstated in a module (see Attendance and Participation subsection below), return of assignments may be further delayed by any work-related travel the consultant originally had planned in the new period.

**IMPORTANT:** *When you are resubmitting assignments it is important to abide by the following guidelines:*

1. *Only resubmit the section of the assignment which the consultant has identified as needing to be resubmitted.*  
**AND**
2. *Please use the "track-changes" function in Microsoft Word (or any other word processing program) to write your responses. This will save enormous amounts of time in turning assignments around and will make it easy for you and the consultant to see the difference between the original submission and the resubmission.*

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### **Attendance and Participation**

The deadline for completing this course is 10 weeks from the date you first log onto the course-specific site. You are expected to be working on the course and assignments on a regular basis and to indicate to the Consultant how you are progressing or if you need assistance to progress. Failure to complete this course within the deadline or to maintain regular communication for a prolonged period (one month) could result in your being withdrawn from the online learning centre. A reinstatement fee of \$100.00 may be payable should you wish to continue with the course after this time. If you repeat the same failure to maintain communication for a **second time**, you will be required to pay another reinstatement fee of \$100.00. If you repeat the same failure to maintain communication for a **third time**, or if you are absent for a period of six months without communication (even if this is your first time failing to communicate regularly), you will have to pay the entire course and administration fees over again. Decisions in this regard are at the sole discretion of JCC Inc.

### **Technical Issues**

Technical problems can arise from a number of sources in online learning programs. Participants having technical difficulties should report them to JCC Inc. as soon as possible by e-mail, fax or phone. The news forum or e-mail will be used to notify participants of any known issues. Please read the news forum and check your e-mail frequently to keep aware of current conditions and issues. Participants will not be penalized for technical problems which arise from our LMS or the Server. Requests for assistance will be given priority responses.

### **Recommended Reading**

*Many learning resources are provided in the online course. In addition, the following are texts are recommended to support your learning.*

Dunning, M., & Fischbach, F. (2010). *Nurses' Quick Reference to Common Laboratory & Diagnostic Tests* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Karch A.M. (2011). *Focus on Nursing Pharmacology*. Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Potter, P. A., & Perry, A. G. (2010). *Canadian Fundamentals of Nursing* (4th ed.). Ross-Kerr, J., and Wood, M. (Eds.) Toronto, ON: Elsevier Canada.

Timby, Barbara and Smith, Nancy (2010). *Introductory Medical-Surgical Nursing* (10<sup>th</sup> ed.). Philadelphia PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

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### **Withdrawal & Refund Policy**

In order to withdraw from continuing education at JCC Inc., all participants must provide written notice. The date upon which this written notice is received will be used to determine the amount of any potential refund based upon the following policy:

- (a) If written notice of withdrawal is received by JCC Inc. or a participant is dismissed within 7 days since the participant first logged on to the Online Learning Centre, then JCC Inc. may retain 30% of the tuition.
- (b) If written notice of withdrawal is received by JCC Inc. or a participant is dismissed after 7 days and within 21 days since the participant first logged on to the Online Learning Centre, then JCC Inc. may retain 50% of the tuition.
- (c) If written notice of withdrawal is received by JCC Inc. or a participant is dismissed at any point after 21 days since the participant first logged on to the Online Learning Centre, then JCC Inc. may retain 100% of the tuition.

**\*N.B.:** Notice must be received by e-mail to [info@jcollinsconsulting.com](mailto:info@jcollinsconsulting.com) by 4:00 p.m. (PST) on or before the days stated above.