**CHAPTER 1**

**NURSE’S ROLE IN CARE OF THE CHILD: HOSPITAL, COMMUNITY AND HOME**

**LEARNING OUTCOME 1**

Describe the continuum of pediatric health care.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

* Assign students to work in groups. Allow each group to select one nursing specialty (e.g., the students can research the nurse’s responsibility, the location where the nurse works, the population the nurse cares for). Allow each group to present their findings to the class.
* Have students reference Figure 1.1 *The Binder-Ball Continuum of Pediatric Health Care for Children and Their Families.* Ask students to describe examples of family, community, and culture that influences the care that the child receives.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR CLINICAL ACTIVITIES**

* Have students identify the level of care provided by nurses in various clinical settings where nurses encounter children and families.
* Have students investigate current pediatric job postings at the clinical facility. Have the students read the job description and qualifications.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 2**

Compare the roles of nurses in child health care.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

* Have students do an internet search on the Standards for Pediatric Nursing Practice—utilizing the American Nurses Association, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, and Society of Pediatric Nurses—and describe the expectations for professional performance during the care with children and families
* Assign the students a nursing procedure (e.g., an IV start or a blood draw) and have students break down the steps in that procure and specify the differences that may occur in children versus adults.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR CLINICAL ACTIVITIES**

* Have the clinical instructor obtain patient education sheets for the clinical facility. Students can be placed in groups of two and provide each other patient education.
* Have students complete an internet search of the American Academy of Pediatrics’advocacy and policyto read about federal, state and community advocacy.

**LEARNING OUTCOME 3**

Analyze the current societal influences on pediatric health care and nursing practice.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

* Have students complete an internet search of the Institute of Patient and Family Centered Care*.* Have the students write a small excerpt or present to class a topic specific to family-centered care in the pediatric setting.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR CLINICAL ACTIVITIES**

* Have students investigate the roles in the clinical facility (e.g., case management, patient advocate, research, professional development). Have students interview these nurses and report to the clinical students.
* Have students locate any policies of the clinical facilities related to family centered care and present to clinical group.

**KEY CONCEPTS**

1. The continuum of care includes a variety of settings and complexities of care for children and their families.
2. Pediatric nurses have many roles beyond direct patient care.
3. Pediatric nurses apply special knowledge and skills to care for children.
4. Pediatric nurses use the nursing process to identify and solve problems and to plan patient care.
5. Current pediatric nursing is culturally sensitive.
6. Current pediatric nursing is family-centered.
7. Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death throughout childhood.
8. Intentional injury is a major cause of death of children in the United States.
9. Access and financing of health care for children is not consistent across the United States.
10. Research and technology allow many children with congenital anomalies and low birth weights to survive.
11. The parent or legal guardian must give informed consent prior to treatment or research participation.
12. In some cases, a parent might not have legal authority to give consent.
13. Adolescents can legally give informed consent in certain circumstances.
14. Children may be involved in decision making, but the parents make final decisions regarding treatment or research participation.
15. State laws vary regarding what information about an adolescent’s health care may be withheld from the parent.
16. Pediatric nurses might face ethical dilemmas when providing care to children and their families.
17. Pediatric nurses should be aware of the ethical issues and legal responsibilities surrounding the withholding or withdrawing of medical treatment, genetic testing, and organ transplantation for children.