

Pediatric Nursing Process for Students



Ski	ll Steps	Potential Interventions	Demon Yes	strated No	
Preparation and Triage					
1.	. Activate the team and assign roles				
	"Is there any specific equipment that you would prepare?"				
2.	Prepare the room	 May include, but not limited to, the following: Length-based resuscitation tape Pediatric equipment Pediatric protocols and dosing guidelines Scale 			
3.	Don PPE	Consider potential safety threats to the team or need for decontamination.			
	u	The patient has just arrived."			
		General Impression	1		
4.	Assess the three components of the Pediatric Assessment Triangle (PAT) AND categorize the patient as "sick, sicker, or sickest" • Appearance • Work of breathing • Circulation to the skin	No alterations in the PAT = sick One alteration in the PAT = sicker Two or more alterations in the PAT = sickest			
5.	Assess for obvious uncontrolled external hemorrhage or unresponsiveness/apnea and the need to reprioritize to C-ABC	When alterations are identified, intervene as appropriate and reassess. May include, but not limited to, the following: • Assess for a pulse • Control external hemorrhage • Initiate chest compressions			
		Primary Survey	l		
	Alertness and Airway	with Simultaneous Cervical Spinal Stabilization			
6.	Assess level of consciousness using AVPU		**		
7.	Open the airway	 May include, but not limited to, the following: If cervical spinal injury is suspected, provide manual cervical spinal stabilization AND demonstrate manual opening of the airway using the jaw-thrust maneuver. When no trauma is suspected, open the airway with a head tilt-chin lift or jaw thrust maneuver. When the patient is alert and can cooperate, it is acceptable to ask the patient to open their mouth to assess the airway. 			

Skill Steps		Potential Interventions		Demonstrated	
		Potential interventions	Yes	No	
8.	Assess the patency and protection of the airway (identify at least FOUR): Bony deformity Edema Fluids (blood, vomit, or secretions) Foreign objects Loose or missing teeth Sounds (snoring, gurgling, or stridor) Tongue obstruction Vocalization	When alterations are identified, intervene as appropriate and reassess. May include, but not limited to, the following: • Anticipate the need for intubation • Insert an oral or nasopharyngeal airway • Place padding under shoulders/torso • Position patient to optimize airway • Remove any loose teeth or foreign objects • Suction the airway	**		
		Breathing and Ventilation			
9.	Assess breathing effectiveness (identify at least FOUR): Breath sounds Depth, pattern, and general rate of respirations Increased work of breathing Abnormal positioning Grunting Head bobbing Nasal flaring Retractions/accessory muscle use Tachypnea Open wounds or deformities Skin color Spontaneous breathing Subcutaneous emphysema Symmetrical chest rise	When alterations are identified, intervene as appropriate and reassess. May include, but not limited to, the following: • Anticipate need for a chest tube • Anticipate need for drug-assisted intubation • Anticipate need for medications • Anticipate need for decompression of pneumothorax • Anticipate need for oxygen • Provide bag-mask ventilations	**		
10.	If intubated, assess endotracheal tube placement (must identify ALL THREE): i. Attach a CO ₂ detector device; after 5 to 6 breaths, assesses for evidence of exhaled CO ₂ ii. Simultaneously observe for rise and fall of the chest with assisted ventilations iii. Auscultate over the epigastrium for gurgling AND lungs for bilateral breath sounds	If the learner chooses a capnography sensor instead of the one-time-use detection device, credit is given in Step 23.	**		
11.	If intubated, assess ETT position by noting the number at the teeth or gums AND secure the ETT				
12.	If intubated, begin mechanical ventilation or continue assisted ventilation				
	Circulation and Control of Hemorrhage				

Skill Steps	Potential Interventions	Demonstrated		
 13. Assess circulation (must identify ALL THREE): • Assess capillary refill • Inspect AND palpate the skin for color, temperature, and moisture • Palpate a pulse 	When alterations are identified, intervene as appropriate and reassess. May include, but not limited to, the following: • Anticipate goal-directed therapy for shock • Apply a cardiac monitor – credit given in Step 21 • Apply a pelvic binder • Assess patency of prehospital IV line • Compare central and peripheral pulses • Consider sources of internal hemorrhage • Control external hemorrhage • Draw labs – credit given in Step 20 • Facilitate FAST and/or radiographs to identify source of internal hemorrhage • Initiate chest compressions and advanced life support • Obtain IV or IO access • Two sites may be needed • To administer a fluid bolus, determine weight in kilograms • Use the push-pull, rapid infuser, or other method as appropriate for patient weight and IV access • 20 mL/kg for infant/child • 10–20 mL/kg for blood depending on component (packed cells or whole) • 10 mL/kg with frequent reassessments for neonates, cardiogenic shock, or other risk of volume overload • Palpate central pulse if peripheral pulse is absent	Yes **	No	
Disability (Neurologic Status)			l	
 14. Assess neurologic status using the GCS: Best eye opening Best verbal response Best motor response 	When alterations are identified, intervene as appropriate and reassess. May include, but not limited to, the following: • Assess bedside glucose (* with altered mental status) • Anticipate the need for drug-assisted intubation • Anticipate the need for a head CT NOTE: The GCS is documented as non-testable if there is a factor, such as sedation or paralytics, interfering with	**		
dE Assessments	communication.			
15. Assess pupils	sure and Environmental Control			
Remove all clothing AND inspect for obvious abnormalities or injuries	When newly identified life-threatening alterations are identified, intervene as appropriate and reassess. If a transport device is in place, it may be removed. If there are no contraindications, the patient may be turned to quickly assess the posterior. This is deferred until after the head-to-toe and imaging to evaluate spinal and pelvic stability as indicated.	**		

Skill Steps Potential Interventions		Demon Yes	strated No
 17. Provide warmth (identify at least ONE): Blankets Increase room temperature Warmed fluids Warming lights 			
	e to correct life-threatening findings in the primary survey and/will review the primary survey and notify the course director.	or did no	ot
Full Set	of Vital Signs and Family Presence		
18. Obtain a full set of vital signs and weight in kilograms (if not determined earlier)	 BP / mm Hg HR beats/minute RR breaths/minute T °F (°C) SpO₂ % Weight kg 		
19. Facilitate family presence			
Get Adj	juncts and Give Comfort (LMNOP)		
20. L – Consider the need for laboratory analysis	May include, but not limited to, the following: Blood gases Blood glucose Blood cross/type and screen Coagulation studies Complete blood count Cultures Lactate Metabolic panel Pregnancy Toxicology screen		
21. M – Attach patient to a cardiac monitor	Set monitor to record frequent blood pressures as indicated Consider need for 12-lead ECG – credit given in Step 45		
22. N – Consider the need for insertion of a naso- or orogastric tube	Consider venting pre-existing feeding tubes when the patient is intubated or if the abdomen is distended.		
23. O – Assess oxygenation and continuous endtidal capnography (if available)	 May include, but not limited to, the following: Increase or decrease rate of assisted ventilation Wean oxygen (consider parameters other than oximetry due to hypothermia, vasoconstriction, and skin color's impact on pulse oximetry measurements) NOTE: Capnography is highly recommended for all patients and is vital for sedated or ventilated patients. 		
24. P – Assess pain using an appropriate pain scale		*	

Skill Steps		Potential Interventions	Demonstrated		
	Give appropriate nonpharmacologic comfort measures (identify at least ONE): Distraction Family presence Places padding over bony prominences Repositioning Splinting Verbal reassurance Other, as appropriate	NOTE: Applying ice to swollen areas may be appropriate but consider hypothermia risk for major trauma and very small pediatric patients. Warmth may also be appropriate, but consider burn risk.	Yes	No	
26.	Consider obtaining order for analgesic medication				
	Conside	ration of Need for Definitive Care			
	"Is there a need to consider trans	fer to a pediatric-capable facility, surgery, or critical care?"			
		Secondary Survey			
		History and Head-to-Toe			
27.	Obtain pertinent history (identify at least ONE): • Medical records/documents • Prehospital report • SAMPLE				
	TE: The learner describes and demonstrates the nonstrating appropriate auscultation and palpati	head-to-toe assessment by describing appropriate inspection te on techniques.	chnique	s and	
28.	Inspect and palpate head for abnormalities				
29.	Inspect and palpate face for abnormalities				
30.	Inspect and palpate neck for abnormalities	Demonstrate removal AND reapplication of cervical collar for assessment (if indicated)			
31.	Inspect and palpate chest for abnormalities				
32.	Auscultate breath sounds				
33.	Auscultate heart sounds				
34.	Inspect the abdomen for abnormalities				
35.	Auscultate bowel sounds				
36.	Palpate all four quadrants of the abdomen for abnormalities				
37.	Inspect and palpate the flanks for abnormalities				
38.	Inspect the pelvis for abnormalities				
39.	Apply gentle pressure over iliac crests downward and medially				
40.	Apply gentle pressure on the symphysis pubis (if iliac crests are stable)				
41.	Inspect the perineum for abnormalities				

Skill Steps	Potential Interventions		Demonstrated	
		Yes	No	
42. Consider how to measure urinary output	 Assess for contraindications for an indwelling urinary catheter 			
	External catheter			
	Weighing diapers			
43. Inspect and palpate all four extremities for				
neurovascular status and abnormalities				
	Inspect Posterior Surfaces			
NOTE: If the patient has a suspected spinal or pelvic maneuver may cause secondary injuries including sp	injury, imaging is obtained PRIOR to turning the patient. The lopinal injury or hemorrhage.	g roll		
Instructor prompt: "Imaging has been performed, it	is safe to turn the patient," or "It is not safe to turn the patient	."	1	
44. Inspect and palpate posterior surfaces	Not required if suspected spinal or pelvic injury	*		
NOTE: Summarize abnormalities identified, listed below, throughout the scenario. If the learner has not already identified them all, the instructor will ask for any additional noted.				
"What interventions o	r diagnostics can you anticipate for this patient?"			
45. Identify at least THREE interventions or	May include, but not limited to, the following:			
diagnostics	Antibiotics			
	• Consults			
	 Head CT for any alterations in mental status Imaging (other radiographs, CT, US, interventional 			
	radiology as indicated)			
	Law enforcement			
	Mandatory reporting			
	Psychosocial support			
	Social services			
	• Splinting			
	Tetanus immunization Wound care			
	Wound care			
	Just Keep Reevaluating			
"What findings will you co	ntinue to reevaluate while the patient is in your care?"		1	
46. Reevaluate vital signs				
47. Reevaluate all identified abnormalities and effectiveness of interventions				
48. Reevaluate primary survey				
49. Reevaluate pain				
Definitive Care or Transport				
"What is the definitive care for this patient?"				
50. Consider need for admission or transfer to a				
pediatric-capable facility				
"Is there anything you would like to add?"				

Double starred (**) criteria to be done in order – assessments and interventions must be completed prior to moving to the	next
step:	

- **Alertness and Airway
- **Breathing
- **Circulation
- **Disability
- **Exposure

Single starred (*) criteria to be done, sequence not critical:

- *Reassessment of primary survey interventions
- *Blood glucose if any mental status alterations identified
- *Pain assessment using an appropriate scale
- *Inspects posterior surfaces (unless contraindicated by suspected spine or pelvic injury)

Skills Performance Results Evaluation Form

☐ Station successfully completed						
 All ** critical steps demonstrated in order 						
 All * demonstrated 						
 Demonstrated at least 	t X of X poin	nts (70%)				
☐ Incomplete. Needs minima	al instructio	n before re	evaluatio	n		
☐ Incomplete. Needs consid	erable instr	uction befo	re reevalı	uation		
Potential instructor (must achieve 90%) ☐ Yes ☐ No						
Demonstrated points		Number		Percentage		
Total possible	= _		/	100%		
Learner demonstrated	=					