# Principles of Perioperative Nursing – Post Anaesthetic Care

**GCAR700** 

Credits	10	Level	7	
EFTS	0.0833	Grade Scale	G29aa	
Notional Learning Hours	100	Work Integrated Learning	0	
Effective from	February 2019	Date of this version	September 2018	
Course information	Students must be a Registered Nurse and hold a current Practising Certificate issued by the Nursing Council of New Zealand.  Students must also be employed as a perioperative nurse/PACU nurse in order to be able to complete the learning outcomes of this course.			

#### **Aim**

To enable Registered Nurses to extend their knowledge, skills and practice relating to post anaesthetic care.

### **Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of this course, within the context of post anaesthetic care nursing, the Registered Nurse will be able to:

- 1. apply an understanding of physiology and physiological responses and their impact on the patient post anaesthetic.
- 2. evaluate principles of post anaesthetic care nursing relating to patient safety.
- 3. analyse and evaluate the role of the nurse during the patient's anaesthetic and post anaesthetic period.
- 4. apply an understanding of applied pharmacology related to post anaesthetic care.
- 5. discuss nursing management issues surrounding potential complications during the post anaesthetic phase.
- 6. practise safely using specialty equipment and/or procedures.
- 7. critically evaluate literature and evidence regarding best practice in post anaesthetic care nursing.

#### Indicative curriculum

- Physiological responses post anaesthesia
- Homeostatic challenges for surgical patients
- Nursing assessment data interpretation and clinical decision making
- Fitness for anaesthesia
- Management of specific patient groups post anaesthetic recovery challenges: Including but not limited to: older adults, obstetrics and paediatric
- Complications related to anaesthesia and surgical intervention
- Principles and priorities in PACU nursing

- Pharmacological intervention
- Pain management

## **Learning Activities**

Online course delivery, clinical practice, self-directed learning.

#### **Assessment**

Assessment	Assessment Method and Context	Pass Criteria	Weighting	Learning outcome assessed
1	Clinical skills portfolio	Р	-	6
2	Participation in online discussion forums and activities	50%	20%	2, 4, 5 & 7
3	Assignment	50%	80%	1-5 & 7

#### **Recommended Texts and Resources**

Any of these:

Odom-Forren, J. (2017). Drain's Peri-Anesthesia Nursing: A critical care approach. (7th Ed). USA: Elsevier

Hatfield, A. (2014). The complete recovery room book (5th Ed.). Oxford, England: Oxford University Press.