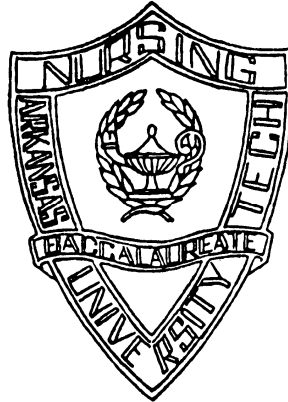


**ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**



**PRACTICUM IN NURSING I**

**NURSING THE INDIVIDUAL CLIENT**

**NUR 3404**

**Fall 2009**

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**ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**

**Course:** NUR 3404  
**Title:** Practicum in Nursing I - Nursing the Individual Client  
**Credit Hours:** Four (4) Semester Hours  
**Contact Hours:** Twelve (12) Hours  
**Placement:** Fall Semester Junior Year

**Instructors:**

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**Course Description:**

Practicum facilitating the integration, synthesis, and application of theories, concepts, and psychomotor nursing skills taught in NUR 2023, NUR 3103, NUR 3204, NUR 3304, NUR 3404, and NUR 3502. The student uses promotive, restorative, and supportive nursing behaviors to assist individuals to reach functional adaptation.

**Instructional Resources:**

**Required Textbooks:**

Smeltzer, S., Bare, B., Hinkle, J. & Cheever, K. (2008), Textbook of Medical-Surgical Nursing (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Taylor, C., Lillis, C., LeMone, P. (2008). Fundamentals of Nursing (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins.

**Recommended textbooks:**

Laboratory and Diagnostic Test Book  
Nursing Diagnosis/Care Plan Book Drug  
Medical Dictionary  
Drug Guide

**Justification/Rationale for the Course**

By the completion of this course the student will progress toward program goals/outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4.

This upper division professional nursing course provides opportunities for the student to apply knowledge and skills from the general education component and from nursing courses to the care of individuals.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Apply knowledge gained from the nursing as well as the bio-psycho-social and physical sciences to individualize care for selected clients.
2. Utilize promotive, restorative, and supportive nursing behavior to assist selected individuals to resolve or reduce a health problem, prevent complications, and promote wellness.
3. Utilize the caregiver, communicator, and collaborator roles to provide caring holistic nursing care to individual clients.
4. Demonstrate the ability to perform basic nursing skills.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the influence of personal attitudes, values, and mores on the behavior of clients and self.
6. Apply the legal scope of practice, the professional standards of care and code of ethics to provide quality nursing care.
7. Utilize critical thinking skills to apply the nursing process to the care of selected clients.

## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

CPR -- Each student must have on file a copy of a verification card showing successful completion of CPR by a certified American Heart Association Instructor. This must be renewed annually and must cover infant, child and adult: Foreign body airway obstruction, CPR, mask, Ambu bag and AED. This must be done before the student will be allowed in the clinical area.

Drug Calculation Test -- Each student must demonstrate competence in the area of medication calculations by successfully passing the ATU Nursing Department Drug Calculation Test with a score of 100 percent. This requirement is validated by: (a) earning a 100% score on the Drug Calculation Test in NUR 2023 the summer/fall immediately prior to enrolling in NUR 3404, and (b) earning a 100% score on the Drug calculation test within the first two weeks of classes in NUR 3404, Practicum I. The student will be allowed to take this test a total of three times. Failure to score 100% on the third attempt will result in failure of NUR 3404.

Insurance -- Each student must present evidence of current professional liability insurance before the student will be allowed to register for any Level courses.

Hepatitis/Tetanus Immunization -- Each student is required to receive the series of injections that provide protection against hepatitis and tetanus. Each student must provide validation of having received at least one of the series of three injections for hepatitis before being allowed in the clinical area. Validation of the second and third injections must be timely if the student is to continue the clinical rotations.

T.B. Skin Test B -- All students must present evidence of current (within last 12 months) T.B. screening.

## WRITTEN WORK:

All written work must be the student's own product. Written work will be presented in an acceptable format: written in ink, or typed when indicated.

All major written assignments made will be accompanied by guidelines and evaluation criteria. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY THE BEGINNING OF CLASS ON THE DESIGNATED DAY. ASSIGNMENTS HANDED IN ONE DAY LATE WILL RECEIVE A GRADE REDUCED BY ONE LETTER GRADE. ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN MORE THAN ONE DAY LATE WILL RECEIVE An "0" OR AN UNSATISFACTORY AND WILL NOT BE GRADED.**

## EVALUATION:

1. Grading scale:

A - 90-100  
B - 80-89  
C - 75-79  
D - 68-74  
F - 67 or below

2. Students must achieve a passing grade "C" in both the Theories and corresponding Practicum courses in order to progress within the program. Students who repeat a Theories course are required to show clinical competency in order to progress. Students who repeat Practicum are required to show theoretical competency in order to progress.

Clinical competence can be attained by:

1. Take for credit corresponding Practicum course.
2. Complete a 2 hour Independent Study in Directed Practicum with a grade of "C" or better.

Theoretical competence can be attained by:

1. Take for credit corresponding Theories course. Student must maintain a 75% average on all exams.
2. Audit corresponding Theories course. Student must maintain a 75% average on all exams.
3. Make  $\geq 75\%$  on corresponding comprehensive Theory exam.

3. A grade of "C" or above must be achieved in every nursing course in order to progress in the nursing program. Any grade below 75% will not be rounded up.
4. A grade of "I" may be recorded for a student whose work is incomplete due to circumstances beyond the student's control. The student must remove the "I" before progressing to the next nursing level.
5. Failure to provide safe clinical care may result in automatic failure of the course (See "Sources of Ethical and Legal Standards" section on page 10).
6. SNA professional points.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- I. Preparation for practicum, including:
  - A. Completion of care plans for each patient to be cared for including:
    - (a) Identification of client diagnoses.
    - (b) Medication list
    - (c) Diagnostic test cards (one for each test).
    - (d) Necessary research to allow for understanding of patient's condition, nursing diagnoses, interventions, and rationales.
- II. One complete satisfactory nursing care plan each week -- Clinical instructor will indicate each week at what depth the plan is to be completed.
- III. A journal consisting of weekly written self evaluations of how the clinical objectives were met for that week including plans on how they will be met if not completed satisfactorily.
- IV. Interpersonal Process Recordings -- every other week.
- V. Preparation for the participation in clinical seminars.
- VI. A minimum of two evaluation conferences with the clinical instructor.
- VII. Satisfactory completion of health promotion paper.

**NOTE:** Five bibliography cards are due at intervals (see calendar).

GRADING CRITERIA WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL WORK.

**Course Grade:**

Formal and/or informal evaluation conferences with the clinical instructor will keep the student apprized of his/her level of performance. A student whose level of clinical performance is below the satisfactory level (failing) in the practicum rotations, will receive an "F" for the course. A student whose level of performance is satisfactory in practicum rotations will receive a letter grade for the course based on the following formulation:

Quiz Grade . . . . .	10%
Mid-Term Practicum Grade . . . . .	20%
Final Practicum Grade . . . . .	60%
Health Promotion Paper Grade. . . . .	<u>10%</u>
Total grade. . . . .	100%

**Clinical Performance:**

1. Nursing Care Plans
2. Client Care
3. Post Conferences
4. Drug Calculation Quizzes -- when assigned

Each student is expected to adhere to all ethical and legal standards.

Serious violation of any of these standards can result in the **DISMISSAL OF THE STUDENT FROM THE PROGRAM.**

## **SOURCES OF ETHICAL AND LEGAL STANDARDS.**

1. American Nurses Association Code for Nurses (see page 100 of Fundamentals of Nursing by Taylor, Lillus & LeMone).
2. American Nurses Association Standards of Care (see NUR 2023 Syllabus).
3. Arkansas Tech University current Undergraduate Catalog.
4. Arkansas Tech University Student Handbook.
5. Arkansas Tech University Department of Nursing Student Handbook.
6. Legal Guidelines (see Fundamentals of Nursing, Chapter 7, Taylor, Lillis & LeMone.)
7. Policies and Procedure Manuals of Clinical Agencies.

**The student should note that he/she is responsible to maintain familiarity with the standards described in the above listed documents.**

## CONDUCT OF THE COURSE:

**Teacher Roles:** Demonstrator, Planner, Evaluator, Facilitator, Role Model, and Supporter.

**Student Roles:** Learner, Communicator, Caregiver, Collaborator

### **Teacher-Learning Strategies:**

Assignment of selected clients, pre- and post-clinical conferences, seminars, audiovisual materials, daily log, process care plans, interpersonal process recordings.

## POLICIES:

### **Attendance:**

As professionals, we must be responsible for our own learning experiences. Making the most of all educational opportunities is your responsibility. This is a mark of professionalism. Attendance in class reflects your dedication and the value you place on your chosen profession. We, the faculty, expect you to attend ALL CLASSES AND PRACTICUM EXPERIENCES

The student is responsible for notifying the instructor and clinical agency prior to any absence from a clinical experience. Failure to notify the instructor and clinical agency prior to an absence will not only be reflected in the student's grade, but will also result in a clinical incident and could result in failure of the course.

Regular attendance is considered essential if students are to receive maximum benefits from the nursing courses. For clinical rotations, an absence will result in a make-up assignment. Make-up assignments will equal the number of clinical hours missed. Assignments may vary with instructor. Failure to make up clinical assignments will result in failure of the course. **THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTACTING THE INSTRUCTOR REGARDING MAKE-UP ASSIGNMENTS WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THE ABSENCE.**

### **Tardy/Attendance Policy:**

The student is responsible for verbally notifying the instructor and agency if he or she will be late for clinical experience. Excessive tardiness will be reflected on the student's clinical evaluation and grade.

Each Student is responsible for notifying the instructor if they are going to be absent or tardy from clinical prior to the start of that clinical assignment. The student is allowed **one** clinical absence. One clinical absence is defined as “one 10-hour clinical assignment per week”. The student must complete a make-up clinical assignment. In the event of a **second** clinical absence, the student will be called before the Level I faculty to defend their absenteeism. The Level I faculty will decide if the student is allowed to continue in the course or dropped/failed.

Excessive tardiness in clinical is unprofessional. **Two** tardies will equal an absence. Absenteeism and tardiness will be reflected in the student's grade under the professionalism criteria.

### **Dress and Behavior:**

The dress code of the Department of Nursing is the same as that of Arkansas Tech University. However, in those instances when the student uses clinical areas to gather information for any course, they will be required to wear a 3/4 or full length white laboratory coat with the school patch and be identified by the school name pin and badge. Clothing worn under the lab coat should be appropriate for interviewing clients and collaborating with agency staff.

Required dress for the students in practicum consists of a black scrub suit and white shoes and may be purchased anywhere. No certain style is required. The scrub jacket, a black short lab jacket with cuffs, may also be worn. An ATU patch must be visible on the left sleeve and a photo ID attached to the front of the scrub top.

TOPICAL OUTLINE  
NUR 3404  
PRACTICUM IN NURSING I  
NURSING THE INDIVIDUAL CLIENT

- I. Introduction to Practicum I
  - A. Orientation
  - B. Nurse's Roles and Functions
  - C. Introduction to Agency
  - D. Continuing Objectives
  - E. Writing A Formal Paper
  
- II. Application of Nursing Process
  - A. Communication Skills
  - B. Growth and Development Across the Life Span
  - C. Wellness Promotion
  - D. Safe and Therapeutic Environment
  - E. Hygiene
  - F. Vital Signs
  - G. Nutritional Aspects of Client Care
  - H. Ambulation, Activity, and Exercise
  - I. Elimination
  - J. Fluid and Electrolytes
  - K. Medication Administration
  - L. Stress-Adaptation-Homeostasis
  - M. Anxiety/Crisis, Loss/Grief
  - N. Comfort
  - O. Rest/Sleep
  - P. Laboratory Test and Specimen Collection
  - Q. Care of the Surgical Client
  - R. Community

## NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I

### UNIT I - INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICUM I

#### FOCUS A: Orientation to Practicum

#### OBJECTIVES

The nursing student will:

1. Discuss the relationship between the practicum course and the other Level I courses (NUR 3502, 3204, 3304).
2. Set a personal goal and establish a plan to meet the requirements of this course.
  - a. Discuss the contents of the syllabus.
  - b. Clarify course requirements
  - c. Discuss expectations/policies.
3. Discuss ATU Department of Nursing guidelines and policies that relate to practicum.
4. Participate in planned activities to provide practice for new skills.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

**Required Reading:** Read Level I Guidelines, Syllabus for course.

Refer to Calendar of activities.

## **NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**

### **UNIT I - INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICUM I**

#### **FOCUS B: Nurse's Roles and Functions**

#### **FOCUS C: Introduction to Agency**

<b>OBJECTIVES</b>
<p>The nursing student will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Become familiar with the policies and regulations of each clinical agency.</li><li>2. Locate supplies, equipment in each clinical agency.</li><li>3. Observe and note the functions of three agency personnel of different education levels (example: L.P.N., R.N., Nurse aide).</li><li>4. Review the methods of charting and medication administration for each clinical agency.</li></ol>
<b>LEARNING ACTIVITIES</b>
<p>Attend orientation sessions</p> <p>Tour of agency</p>

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT I - INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICUM I**  
**FOCUS D: Continuing Objectives**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Utilize the caregiver, communicator, and collaborator roles to assist a selected client to meet basic needs.
2. Assess the ability of the client to meet basic human needs.
3. Collect data from primary and secondary sources regarding the client's wellness/health problem status.
4. Apply knowledge of cultural and ethnic aspects to the care of clients.
5. Apply knowledge of growth and development of each age group to the care of clients.
6. Collaborate with the client to determine the nursing diagnoses and outcomes.
7. Utilize promotive, restorative, and supportive nursing interventions to reduce/resolve the client's health problems, prevent complications, and promote wellness.
8. Identify the rationales for each nursing intervention.
9. Evaluate the progress toward, or achievement of, client outcomes.
10. Demonstrate the ability to provide care within the guidelines of the Code of Ethics, legal boundaries, Standards of Clinical Nursing Practice, and Standards of Professional Practice.
11. Write a complete individualized care plan for one client each week of clinicals.
12. Demonstrate preparation for clinical in pre-conferences.
13. Apply the nursing process to at least one health problem or wellness promotion need of the assigned client in post-conference.
14. Evaluate the progress toward, or achievement of, course objectives.
15. Utilize nursing assessment skills to identify the nursing care needs of a selected client.
  - a. Collect data from relevant sources both primary and secondary.
  - b. Utilize "assessment guidelines" to complete systematic assessment of areas previously emphasized.
  - c. Identify from the collected data all indicated client care problems.
  - d. Rank the stated problems from the important crucial to the least important.
  - e. Develop the complete nursing care plan for the two top ranked problems.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

Review: Concepts from NUR 2023

**NUR3404: Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT I: INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICUM I**  
**FOCUS E: Writing A Formal Paper**

**OBJECTIVES**

On completion of this focus, the student should be able to:

1. Define plagiarism.
2. Differentiate between plagiarism and paraphrasing.
3. Discuss the expression of ideas through writing styles, grammar, and reduction of bias in language.
4. Identify correct methods of editorial style, including the following: punctuation, spelling, capitalization, italics, abbreviations, headings, quotations, numbers, reference citations in text, and reference list.
5. Discuss correct manuscript preparation, including the following: paper, typeface, double-spacing, margins, headings, spacing and punctuation, quotations, parts of manuscript, title page, abstract, text, references, appendices.
6. Write a paper according to APA format correctly.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

Read the APA Publication Manual, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS A: Communication**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Identify the factors that facilitate communication with clients.
2. Identify the blocks and barriers that hinder the communication process with clients.
3. Apply the skills and techniques that promote a helping relationship.
4. Utilize interviewing skills to complete the nursing assessment.
5. Utilize communication skills to assess the wellness status of the clients.
6. Identify any real or potential health problems indicated by the assessment data.
7. Collaborate with the client to determine health problems or wellness promotion needs.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Introduction of Professional Nursing

**Required Written Assignment:**

Interpersonal Process Recording the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> weeks of clinicals.

See Calendar

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS: B. Growth and Development Across the Life Span**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Describe the level of development of clients.
2. Identify the developmental task for each client.
3. Identify the specific developmental tasks for the elderly.
4. Determine what anticipatory guidance is needed.
5. Apply knowledge of responses to illness of each age group to the care of clients.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Theories and Concepts I.

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS: C. Wellness Promotion**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Assess the client's level of wellness.
2. Collaborate with the client to determine wellness diagnoses and outcomes.
3. Utilize promotive, restorative and supportive nursing interventions to achieve the outcomes.
4. Evaluate the client's achievement of or progress toward wellness outcomes.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Introduction to Professional Nursing and Theories and Concepts I.

Psychomotor skills checklist

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS: D. Safe and Therapeutic Environment**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. List the factors to be included in assessment of environmental safety.
2. Identify factors that influence the therapeutic environment.
3. Assess the safe and therapeutic factors of the client's room and corridor to the nurses' station.
4. Utilize nursing interventions to provide a safe and therapeutic environment.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Introduction to Professional Nursing and Theories and Concepts I.

## NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I

### UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS

#### FOCUS: E. Basic Hygiene

#### OBJECTIVES

The nursing student will:

1. Utilize handwashing techniques to protect clients and self from harmful microorganisms.
2. Utilize the caregiver role to assist a client to meet basic hygiene needs.
3. Demonstrate appropriate body mechanics for the nurse when lifting, turning, and positioning the client.

#### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

**Review:** Concepts from Skills I: asepsis, personal hygiene, body mechanics, moving and positioning patients.

Psychomotor skills checklist

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS F: Vital Signs**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Assess the temperature, pulse, respirations, and blood pressure of selected clients.
2. Examine the pulse rate to identify any of the following:
  - a. Pulse deficit
  - b. Bradycardia
  - c. Tachycardia
  - d. Change in rate related to time of day
  - e. Change in rate related to activity
  - f. Change in rate related to an elevation in body temperature
3. Auscultate the lung sounds.
4. Assess the depth and quality of the respirations.
5. Identify factors in the client's internal and external environment that influence his heat production, distribution, and control.
6. Identify the following through primary or secondary sources:
  - a. Hyperthermia
  - b. Hypothermia
  - c. Changes in body temperature relative to time of day
  - d. Changes in body temperature related to activity
7. Record the vital signs and note any deviations from normal.
8. Write a nursing diagnoses relevant to vital signs.
9. Include diagnoses in care plan.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Skills I, Theories and Concepts I.

Psychomotor skills checklist

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS G: Nutritional Aspects of Client Care**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Utilize assessment skills to assess the nutritional status of a selected client.
2. Determine nutritional needs by analyzing nutritional data collected
3. Write a nursing diagnoses relative to nutritional needs from data collected.
4. Collaborate with the client to develop a plan of care relative to nutritional needs.
5. Assess a selected client's need for assistance with eating.
6. Modify the environment to enhance a selected client's appetite.
7. Assist a selected client to eat a meal.
8. Utilize communication skills to provide a pleasant atmosphere during feeding.
9. Apply the nursing process to clients with selected diseases of the gastro intestinal tract.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review :** Concepts from Nutrition, Theories and Concepts I, and Skills I

Compare diet to recommended standards.

Psychomotor skills checklist

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS: H. Ambulation, Activity, and Exercise**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Utilize principles of body mechanics to assist the client to meet exercise and activity needs.
2. Assess the client's activity level.
3. Implement ROM exercises as indicated.
4. Direct a client through complete range of motion exercises.
5. Utilize passive range of motion with selected clients.
6. Assist the client in turning, moving, and ambulation.
7. Write appropriate nursing diagnoses that are relevant to the exercise and activity needs of the client.
8. Include relevant diagnoses in the care plan.
9. Apply the nursing process to clients with selected respiratory and cardiac diseases

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Psychomotor skills checklist  
Concepts from Theories and Concepts I and Skills I

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS: I. Elimination**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Utilize assessment skills to determine the elimination status of a selected client.
2. Collect data regarding client's past bowel habits and problems.
3. Utilize given guidelines to assess the client's present bowel status.
4. Identify significant data from client's history.
5. Write the nursing diagnosis for the problems indicated by data collected.
6. Identify independent and dependent nursing measures to aid normal defecation.
7. Demonstrate the administration of an enema to a selected client.
8. Chart all pertinent information about enema administration.
9. Collect data regarding past renal status and urinary habits.
10. Analyze data collected and write the nursing diagnosis for the problem(s) indicated by the significant data.
11. Identify independent and dependent nursing measures to aid normal micturition.
12. Apply the nursing process to the client with selected diseases of elimination.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Theories and Concepts I and Skills.

Psychomotor skills checklist

**NUR 3404 - Practicum in Nursing I**  
**UNIT II - APPLICATION OF THE NURSING PROCESS**  
**FOCUS: J. Fluid and Electrolytes**

**OBJECTIVES**

The nursing student will:

1. Identify the Intake-Output form used in the agency.
2. Identify items of food and fluid to be measured and recorded on a client's tray.
3. Identify different forms of intake which must be included on I & O forms.
4. Identify items to be measured as "Output".
5. Assess the fluid and electrolyte status of the client.
6. Write nursing diagnoses relevant to fluid and electrolyte balance.
7. Include the relevant diagnoses in the care plan.
8. Apply the nursing process to clients with diabetes.

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

**Review:** Concepts from Theories and Concepts I and Skills I

Psychomotor skills checklist