

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills for Clinical Placements at SickKids

Demonstrated strong clinical and academic performance (a minimum of B average grade) is a prerequisite for any clinical placement at SickKids.

Content	Knowledge	Skills
Patient Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors influencing physical assessment • Elements of a complete physical, psychosocial, spiritual, and family assessment. • Norms and abnormalities for all body systems as seen from birth to 18 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of a systematic head to toe assessment • Ability to take a full set of vital signs • Basic ability to obtain subjective and objective data through history taking, physical exam, review of patient records, and communication with family and the health care team • Communication of relevant data to health care team (requires ability to analyze data and think critically through patient situation)
Growth and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paediatric differences in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) anatomy and physiology b) gross/fine motor skills c) psychosocial skills d) cognitive levels e) language skills • Growth and development stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of patient's developmental stage • Beginning to integrate developmental knowledge into assessment and nursing plan of care
Medication Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources for medication administration • Knowledge of how to look up and consider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculation of dosages based on weight • Calculation of IV medication rates

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	<p>the following for each medication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) indications for use b) side effects c) adverse reactions d) contraindications e) normal dosage ranges f) method of administration g) special considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical knowledge of how to administer medications by all routes 	
Fluid and Electrolyte Balance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of electrolyte functions, regulatory mechanisms, and clinical indicators of imbalances • Knowledge of fluid requirements, regulatory mechanisms, and clinical indicators of imbalance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic knowledge of how to identify clinical indicators of over hydration, dehydration, fluid shifts and electrolyte and pH imbalance • Maintenance of accurate intake and output records • Calculation of maintenance fluids based on weight • Calculation of adequate urine output based on weight
IV Assessment and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationale for IV therapy • Common complications of IVs and theoretical knowledge of how to treat • Knowledge of commonly used IV solutions and their functions • Types of IV access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic ability to assess the IV site, the tubing, the pump, the patient response to IV therapy and the fluid type. • Considers compatibility of solution with medications and other IV therapies • Changing of IV bags and tubing • Priming of IV lines

Content	Knowledge	Skills
Principles of Asepsis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of asepsis (medical and surgical) • Principles of medical asepsis • Principles of surgical asepsis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilization of techniques that maintain medical asepsis (i.e. hand washing, keeping soiled items away from clothes or the floor) • Utilization of techniques that maintain surgical asepsis (should have beginning ability to apply these with sterile dressings or sterile urinary catheterizations)
Infection Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles of infection control • Definition of and when to use routine precautions • Definition of and when to use transmission based precautions • Knowledge of isolation surveillance techniques (i.e. swabs, cultures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of routine practices • Demonstration of transmission based precautions (i.e. gloving, gowning, masking when identified as appropriate)
Ability to Work Within a Multicultural Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of recognizing one's values, beliefs, and attitudes and how these influence the therapeutic relationship • Importance of developing cultural knowledge and integrating knowledge into care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginning ability to assess and integrate patient and family's individual cultural beliefs and practices.
Effective Verbal and Written Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors influencing the communication process • Developmentally appropriate communication • Standards of Nursing documentation (as per College of Nurses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of communication needs of the patient/family • Demonstration of communication that is appropriate for the patient and family • Communication of findings to health care team members verbally and in written format

Content	Knowledge	Skills
Family-Centred Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of recognizing one's own values, beliefs, and attitudes Principles of family-centred care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of family's cultural beliefs, attitudes, values and practices that may influence the plan of care Beginning ability to identify patient and family needs and to implement a plan of care based on needs
Patient Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factors that might influence patient/family learning Appropriate media, learning strategies, and learning environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning ability to assess educational needs and learning styles of patients and families Beginning ability to integrate findings into educational plan Evaluation of effectiveness of learning plan

Unit	Prior Experience Required
7BCD Paediatric Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Respiratory Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd year of 4-year-degree or higher 1st year of 2-year-degree or higher
5AB General Surgery, Orthopaedics, ENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd year of 4-year-degree or higher 1st year of 2-year-degree or higher

Unit	Prior Experience Required
4C Medical Short Stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final year students only
5C Neurology , Neurosurgery, Trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd year of 4-year-degree or higher 1st year of 2-year-degree or higher
7A Psychiatry & Adolescent Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd year of 4-year-degree or higher 1st year of 2-year-degree or higher
8C Burns and Plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd year of 4-year-degree or higher 1st year of 2-year-degree or higher
8AB Haematology/Oncology Immunology Bone Marrow Transplant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final year students only
4D Cardiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final year students only
CCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have previous acute care paediatric placement Final year students only
NICU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have previous acute care paediatric placement Final year students only

Unit	Prior Experience Required
Emergency Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have previous acute care paediatric placement • Final year students only
OR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final year students only • OR certificate course students • Must have previous acute care paediatric placement
PACU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have previous acute care paediatric placement • Final year students preferred
6A Rheumatology, GI/Nutrition, Nephrology, Multi-organ Transplant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have previous acute care paediatric placement • Final year students only

SICKKIDS CLINICS

Placements can also be requested in ambulatory clinics. Be aware that the availability of many of our clinics changes from term to term. Below is a list of clinics that have accepted students in the past.

Many of these clinics are not suitable for students seeking a final consolidation placement.

Haematology/Oncology	Ophthalmology	Plastic Surgery	Infectious Diseases
Safe Kids Canada	Neurology	Gynaecology	Sickle Cell/Thalassemia
Occupational Health	Paediatric Consult	Immunology Clinic	
Ontario Poison Control	Respiratory Medicine	Dermatology	