
PRINCIPLES OF PEDIATRIC NURSING. TECHNIQUES FOR MEDICAL PROCEDURES AND MANIPULATIONS

Edited by Professor **O.V. TIAZHKA**

RECOMMENDED by
the Ministry of Health of Ukraine as
a study guide for students of higher
medical education establishments of
the 3rd–4th levels of accreditation

**KYIV
AUS Medicine Publishing
2016**

UDC 616-0532
LBC 57.3ya73
P11

Recommended by the Ministry of Health of Ukraine as a study guide for students of higher medical education establishments of the 3rd—4th levels of accreditation (minutes No. 1 of 04.01.2013 of the meeting of the Medicine Board of the Methodological Committee for Education of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine)

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**P11 Principles of Pediatric Nursing. Techniques for Medical Procedures and Manipulations : study guide / O.V. Tiazhka, A.M. Antoshkina, M.M. Vasiukova et al. ; ed. by O.V. Tiazhka. — K. : AUS Medicine Publishing, 2016. — 144 p. + 16 p. color insert.
ISBN 978-617-505-468-0**

The study guide provides material for second-/third-year students of higher medical education establishments of the 3rd—4th levels of accreditation that will help students master the knowledge and skills of medium-level medical personnel. The subject matter of the guide corresponds to the curriculum of the medical faculties that train general practitioners, pediatricians, and family physicians. The material on practical skills is given in the form of detailed step-by-step description of manipulation and procedure techniques. At the end of every chapter you will find questions, tests, and cases intended to help students master the theoretical material and practical skills, and also check the level of the acquired knowledge.

For students of higher medical education establishments, who study the curriculum modules Child Care (2nd year) and Nursing (3rd year).

**UDC 616-0532
LBC 57.3ya73**

ISBN 978-617-505-468-0

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Part I

THE MAIN COMPONENTS OF CHILD NURSING AND CARE. ORGANIZATION OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS

Chapter 1

THE IMPORTANCE OF PEDIATRIC NURSING. THE MAIN ESTABLISHMENTS AND PRINCIPLES OF MEDICAL CHILD CARE

1.1. THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF NURSING. MEDICAL CARE OF SICK CHILDREN

Nursing is a complex of measures directed at comprehensive patient care and creation of optimal conditions for a favorable course of disease, the fastest recovery, relief of suffering and prevention of complications in the child. It also concerns implementation of medical prescriptions. All the medical staff of a medical establishment is engaged in this process. Medical doctors under the direction of the head of the department are responsible for organization and implementation of these measures, and medium-level and junior medical staff are direct executors as far as they have the relevant theoretical knowledge and practical skills of nursing.

Nursing is an integral and essential part of the process of care with an important role in successful treatment of the child. The “nursing” concept refers to some principles — general and special. *General nursing* includes activities in relation to the patient of any age with any disease at a department of any type:

- arrangement of hygienic conditions in the environment of the patient;
- providing convenience for the patient while he/she is in bed and taking proper care of him/her;
- adhering to the main rules of personal hygiene of patients, including severely ill ones;

Part I

- implementation of patient care during meals, and also defecation and urination;
- providing friendly atmosphere around the patient, keeping calm during communication with the patient and supporting his/her faith in fast recovery;
- monitoring of the patient's general condition and timely informing of the doctor about it;
- prevention of complications that may arise in case of improper patient care;
- providing first (pre-medical) care in case of worsening of the patient's condition;
- implementation of doctor's prescriptions: preparation to and carrying out of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and manipulations;
- maintenance of medical records.

Special nursing includes measures provided for patients with certain diseases in specialized departments (infectious, surgical, psychiatric, etc.).

The specific character of nursing in different groups of pediatric patients is conditioned by peculiarities of observation, communication, technique of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. Pediatric nursing must be active and uninterrupted. The nurse must be able to evaluate the condition of the sick child independently.

Each period of childhood is marked by certain psychological features caused by both the degree of child's mental maturity and individual characteristics of temperament, education, and disease progression. Therefore, the medical staff of the pediatric department needs certain knowledge and experience to set contact with patients of all ages and members of their families. In addition, it is necessary to take into account the fact that the child out of fear can reveal negativism and resistance instead of proper fulfillment of procedures and manipulations. That's why medical staff should use methods of psychological preparation of the patients to prescribed screenings and manipulations.

1.2. THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF CHILDREN'S POLYCLINIC AND HOSPITAL

The state system of children's health care, which existed in our country until recently, consisted of two functionally interconnected units: children's clinic and children's hospital. Reformation of the Ukrainian health care system, which began in 2011 and covers the period until 2020, provides creation of new health establishments with simultaneous functioning of those ones that had provided medical care earlier (see below). Therefore, the problems of the structure and functions of children's clinics and