Wound Specialty Program
Brochure
VA Eastern Kansas Wound Management Academy

2015 Classes:
March 9-28, 2015
May 4-23, 2015
July 6-25, 2015

“Meeting the wound care challenge through education”
Program Description:

The Wound Management Specialty Program is a continuing nursing education program, offered by the Wound Management Academy of the VA Eastern Kansas Health Care System VA Medical Center and is fully accredited by the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurse Society. The course prepares the nurse to practice preventive, rehabilitative, health maintenance and therapeutic interventions in the management of wounds.

The course focuses on components of a Wound Specialty Program including nursing management of complex wounds, role development, and clinical competencies of wounds. The program is approximately 110 hours with 96 classroom hours and 40 clinical hours.

Graduation from the course is based upon satisfactory completion of two written examinations, a teaching project, a role implementation assignment, critique of a research study for evidence-based practice and satisfactory performance in the clinical arena.

Graduates of the course will be eligible to take the national board certification examination offered by the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Certification Board (WOCNCB) to become a Certified Wound Care Nurse.

International Students Admission Requirements:

The following minimum prerequisites are common for every program. Individual programs may have additional criteria.

1. Applicants must:
   - Be an RN with a Baccalaureate Degree or higher degree with a major in nursing or RN with a Bachelor’s Degree in another field
   - Have one year of RN clinical nursing experience following RN licensure
   - Have current clinical nursing experience within 5 years prior to application to a WOC Nursing Education Program. Documentation of currency of clinical nursing experience within last five years: current, active practice; completion of a nurse refresher course or a clinical performance examination.

2. Out of state applicants must obtain a temporary Kansas license (background check will be done by Kansas State Board of Nursing prior to obtaining license).

3. Applicants must obtain liability insurance

4. Student transcripts must be in English and evaluated for equivalency to a Baccalaureate degree with a major in Nursing to Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing School (CGNFS). Student’s credentials must be submitted for evaluation to CGNFS.

   Approved Credentialing Agency:
   Commission on Graduates of foreign Nursing Schools (CGNFS)
   3600 Market Street, Suite 440 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-2651
   Telephone : 215-222-8454
   http://www.cgnfs.org

5. All education transcripts and nursing license must be evaluated by an approved credentialing agency and the report sent to VAEKWMA and Kansas State Board of Nursing. A full education course by course report should be completed.

Language requirement:

1. All students must show proficiency in writing, speaking and understanding the English language if their education and primary language is not English.
2. Students must complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and TSE exam. Kansas State Board of Nursing requires a minimum score of 213 on the computerized TOEFL and 550 for the paper and pencil TOEFL and a minimum score of 50 on the TSE.

Kansas State Board of Nursing has approved the following scores for the new TOEFL iBT:

- **Minimum Scores:**
  - Writing 20
  - Speaking 20
  - Reading 19
  - Listening 20

Each area must meet the minimum requirement.

TOEFL/ TSE Publications
P.O. Box 6154 Princeton, New Jersey 08541-6154
Telephone: 609-771-7760
http://www.toefl.org

Request the results to be sent to Kansas State Board of Nursing by using the code number 9149 in the results reporting lists.

The course is fast paced, demanding and intense and the ability to write, speak, and understand the English language is strongly recommended.

a. The curriculum consists 90 hours of didactic in English
b. The clinical component consists of 40 hours of precepted clinical in an English speaking environment.

**Qualifications for Admission**

Qualified participants are admitted without discrimination in regard to age, creed, ethnic origin, marital status, sex or sexual preference and must be physically, emotionally, and mentally capable of performing the duties of the wound care nurse.

**Acceptance**

Participants who meet all criteria and have satisfactorily completed the application process are accepted on a space available basis and are notified in writing of acceptance. Early application is encouraged. Class size is limited.

**RN license for international applicants**

International students must obtain an RN license through Kansas State Board of Nursing
a. Information regarding licensing and endorsement forms can be found http://www.ksbn.org
b. Kansas State Board of Nursing require evaluation of curriculum and degree to be done by Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing School (CGNFS) http://www.Cgfns.org

**Drug screen and criminal background checks**

To meet clinical placement criteria, nurses are required to provide evidence of a drug screen and criminal background check (*within 6 months of admission to the course*). Criminal background
checks and drug testing are required for clinical experiences and are the responsibility of the students.

*Confirmation of drug screen and criminal background checks on a VA Eastern Kansas Health Care System employee will be obtained from Human Resources.*

**Objectives for Wound Specialty Program:**

Upon completion of the Wound Specialty Program, the student will be able to:

- a. Identify primary and secondary factors that contribute to altered skin integrity.
- b. Develop evidence-based strategies to prevent skin breakdown.
- c. Conduct a comprehensive wound assessment of patients with acute and chronic wounds.
- d. Use assessment data to develop individualized, evidence-based, care plans to manage patients with complex wounds.
- e. Demonstrate skill and competence in the delivery of complex wound care.
- f. Integrate theoretical and evidence-based principles into clinical practice.
- g. Utilize principles of adult learning to individualize patient, family, and staff education.
- h. Identify opportunities for role development of the wound care specialty nurse to effect change, provide professional leadership, and enhance community involvement.
- i. Collaborate with interdisciplinary team members to provide comprehensive wound care.
- j. Discuss national, legal, ethical, and cultural issues that influence the specialty practice of wound care nursing.

**Course Tuition:**

- Cost of program: $4,000

- There is a $150 non-refundable processing fee that should accompany application to the program. Make check payable to: **Department of Veterans Affairs.**

- Upon notification of acceptance into the program, a non-refundable $300 deposit will be required. The remaining balance of the tuition fee will be due two (2) weeks prior to the start of the program. Make check payable to: **Department of Veterans Affairs.**

**Course content:**

- History and evolution of WOCN
- Legal and ethical considerations
- National health care issues
- Professional responsibilities
- Role implementation strategies
- Infection control principles
- Human development
- Continuity of care
- Nutritional/hydration factors
- Patient education principles/counseling/cultural considerations
- Establishing a clinic
- Utilizing evidence-based practices
• Critique of research
• Development of continuing education program
• Normal structure and function of skin
• Factors contributing to skin breakdown
• Physiology of wound healing
• Nursing management and interventions
• Debridement techniques
• Differential assessment and management of venous, arterial, and neuropathic ulcers
• Care of draining wounds and fistulas
• Drain and tube management
• Management of patients with special wound care needs

Preparation for Course:

The course is very comprehensive and intense. It is highly recommended to begin assignments prior to the beginning of the course. A teaching project is required. If you choose to begin your assignments; we suggest you think about a clinically related wound management topic of interest for your teaching project. You will be expected to develop a one-hour continuing education program and present it to the class. Approval of all topics will be done by Wound Specialty Program Director. A critique of a nursing research article for evidence-based practice and writing a Wound Care Nurse job description are two other assignments. Assignments will be graded according to Rubric criteria included in the course syllabus. APA format is required for all assignments. You will need to purchase required textbook and it is suggested to begin reading as soon as possible prior to the beginning of the class.

Required textbooks for the course are:

Acute & Chronic Wounds: Current Management Concepts
Ruth A. Bryant, MSN, RN, CWOCN
Denise Nix, MN, RN, CWOCN

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association
Harold Gelfand, PhD

Faculty

Sharon Saim, DNP, ANP-BC, CWCN
Director, Wound Management Academy

Ann Heintzelman, MS, ARNP-C, CWCN

Kathy Kump, MS, ARNP-C, CWOCN

Valerie Ramones PhD, RN
Educational Consultant

Guest lecturers and clinical preceptors from the community participate in class and clinical instruction.
Continuing Education Credit. VA Eastern Kansas Health Care System (EKHCS), as an approved provider of continuing education by the Kansas State Board of Nursing, offers this program for (90) contact hours applicable towards relicensure. Graduates will receive a continuing education certificate after successful completion of the program.

Authority: Under authority of Section 301 of Public Law 104-362 and 38 U.S.C. 8153, the training described herein shall be provided by the VA Eastern Kansas Health Care System on the date(s) so indicated, and such training received by the applicant constitutes completion of this agreement. No warranty is implied or given.

Cancellation Policy: We reserve the right to cancel the program if necessary. Full tuition fees (minus the non-refundable processing fee) will be refunded for canceled programs. The Academy cannot be responsible for reimbursement of airline or other transportation fares, hotel or rental car charges, including penalties in the event a course is cancelled.

Housing, Transportation and Parking. Students are responsible for their own housing and transportation. Parking is available on campus within walking distance to the Academy. Travel is required for clinical experiences and is the responsibility of the participant. Housing list is available upon request.

Questions
For more information or an application contact:

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