NCS2102
Adult Health: Case study
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How to approach case studies

Critical reading and re-reading of Case Study
Critical thinking, reading, understanding, researching, problem solving, applying
Prep/Planning – as per instructions in your unit plan
Tutorials – went through an example
Review sample prep doc
Structure of your case study

Introduction
Background
Assessment
Nursing Diagnosis
  Nursing Diagnosis 1
  Planning/Smart Goals x 3
  Implementation x 1 for each goal
Structure of your case study

Nursing Diagnosis 2
Planning/Smart Goals x 3
Implementation x 1 for each goal
Evaluation
Potential Complications
Interdisciplinary Team
Conclusion
References

Can be combined

Example Introduction

The holistic care of a patient postoperatively involves the nurse in developing a nursing care plan that is based around the nursing process and the patient as a whole entity (Doenges, Moorhouse, & Murr, 2013). This case study will explain the postoperative care of a patient on return to the ward after a septoplasty and right ethmoidectomy procedure. The nursing process will be covered including handover, assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation. The focus will be on two priority diagnoses. The paper will also outline potential complications post surgery and the importance of working with the multidisciplinary team.
Background: Isobar handover

Topic sentence: You could define/give context as to why is it important

An iSoBAR ensures a step by step sequential giving and receiving of relevant information of the patient (Calleja, 2016).

Handover in first person. Can use bullet points.

Hi, my name is xx and I am a student nurse looking after the male patient Dave Sawyer, DOB 24/10/1989 on the Surgical ward.

Assessment

Topic sentence: thread process through paper

Assessing a patient extensively and systematically is essential because an assessment guides every component of the nursing process (Jones, 2013).

Preparation/Planning

Assessment data of all the body systems, functioning/ADLs and psychosocial assessment

(focus on 3/4 body systems and 3/4 ADLs of importance to your patient’s presentation

Write up in paragraph(s)
Nursing Diagnosis

Nursing diagnoses are constructed based on the data acquired during the nursing assessment (Gulanick & Myers, 2017).

Review of actual/potential problems – prioritise 2

Nursing Diagnosis 1

After establishing the priorities for the patient, the nurse is able to develop goals and expected outcomes (Jones, 2013). The first priority is...

Rationale for priority

Smart Goals (do not write in the acronym format – just write out in sentence format as specific, realistic, measurable goals)

Implementation
Nursing Diagnosis 2

Nursing Diagnosis 2 The second priority …

Rationale for priority

Smart Goals (do not write in the acronym format – just write out in sentence format as specific, realistic, measurable goals)

Implementation

Evaluation

This small section need to be general. State the importance of evaluating care and what to do if goals are not met.

Note: please do not presume your goals have been met
Potential Complications

- Potential Problems
- Education
- Interdisciplinary team
How is a case study written?

All case studies need to be written in a clear and concise style. The style of writing is more direct than an essay, with a more economic use of language. Writing is usually in full sentences using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. Some smaller paragraphs/bulleted may be allowed. Use the headings provided and write in paragraph format in each section. Organise the paragraphs in a logical sequence.

One key idea per paragraph with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.

All sources must be acknowledged and referenced using APA style.

Body paragraph structure

T.....Topic sentence (One sentence that explains the idea for that paragraph)

E.....Explain (Flesh out the idea a bit more)

E.....Evidence (Provide research to support the idea)

L.....Link (Link the idea back to your topic by explaining how the evidence is significant to the topic)
Example paragraph construct

The second nursing diagnosis prioritised for other patient is the potential risk of X...... X is defined as an .................................(ref). This has been prioritised based on ................... (ref). The risk of X is prioritised over other issues as ............................ (ref). The patient also fits the .................................(ref).
A good conclusion

- Restates the topic.
- Sums up the key ideas in relation to the topic/case study.
- No new ideas.
- Finishes with statement to broader topic.

A word about referencing…

- In-text:
  Surname and year only for paraphrasing e.g.
  Smith (2014) stated….. or
  The objective of nursing care is to resolve actual health problems, prevent
  potential problems and maintain a patient’s healthy state (Phillips, 2013).

Note: most of your paraphrases will focus on content and therefore you will mostly
use parenthetical citations (author in brackets at the end of the sentence) in your
case studies.

- End-text: review ECU Quick Referencing Guide and follow the format
  depending on the source type

- http://ecu.au.libguides.com/referencing
Proofreading and editing

- Editing focusses on the structure of your ideas within paragraphs i.e. What you say.

- Proofreading focusses on the grammar and punctuation. If this is not your strong point, go to this site for the rules:

Consider going to following workshops:
- Proofread for Grammar
- Write Better Sentences
- Perfect Your Punctuation
- Make Your Writing Flow

Review the schedule or PPTs from the Academic Skills Centre community site.

Formatting

Follow the 2019 Assignment Guidelines document and use the assignment template.
What will the marker be looking for in my answer?

1. That you answer ALL parts outlined in the assignment instructions.
2. That you showed critical analysis of the case study and integrated credible, relevant evidence to support your discussion.

…..and?

2. That your answer adheres to the marking rubric.
Good luck!