

**WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Nursing**

**Course Number:** NUR 585

**Course Title:** Advanced Practice Nursing Management of the Chronically Ill Adult-Gerontology Populations

**Credits:** 2 SH

**Placement:** ROLE Development

**Pre-requisites:** NUR 580 and 582 or 583 or permission of the MS coordinator;

**Course Description:**

Introduction to and development of nursing expertise in assessment, diagnosis, treatment, evaluation, and prevention of complications and promotion of health throughout the lifespan of young adults to older adults with chronic illnesses considering the genetic and genomic relationship that may exist.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the semester, the student will demonstrate progression from advanced beginner to competent practitioner in the care of chronically ill adults in:

1. Acquisition of knowledge of the natural history of chronic disease processes, their pathophysiology and symptomatology, and human responses to the illness and its treatment.
2. Analysis of symptomatology, laboratory data, and other measures of function in light of actual and/or potential pathophysiological processes to formulate diagnostic hypotheses and intervention strategies with the chronically ill adult.
3. Incorporation of strategies of risk analysis and reduction, screening, lifestyle change, and disease detection and prevention into all aspects of advanced nursing practice.
4. Analysis and interpretation of patterns of aging, developmental stages, life transitions, and behavior as they apply to clinical practice with adults.
5. Analysis of the interaction of individual, illness, and family dynamics as they affect the health status of chronically ill adults.

6. Application of principles of pharmacology, including pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, to the management of the chronically ill adult.
7. Evaluation and integration of research into practice with chronically ill adults in order to maintain quality and competency of practice.
8. Critically examines history and physical assessment for genetic, environmental and genomic influences and risk factors.
9. Develops a plan of care that incorporates genetic and genomic assessment information.

**Content Outline:**

- I. Evaluation and management of: Cardiovascular Problems
  - A. Chronic hypertension
  - B. Coronary artery disease risk factors
  - C. Heart murmurs
  - D. Chronic congestive heart failure
  - E. Chronic arterial/venous problems
- II. Evaluation and management of: Respiratory Problems
  - A. Tuberculosis
  - B. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
  - C. Lung cancer
- III. Evaluation and management of: Gastrointestinal Problems
  - A. Chronic abdominal pain
  - B. Hepatitis
  - C. Cirrhosis and chronic liver failure
  - D. Gastrointestinal cancers
- IV. Evaluation and management of: Hematological Problems
  - A. Screening of hematological cancers

- B. Management of outpatient anticoagulant therapy
- V. Evaluation and management of: Endocrinological problems
  - A. Diabetes mellitus
  - B. Hyper/hypothyroidism
- VI. Evaluation and management of: Gynecological Problems
  - A. Reproductive cancers
  - B. Fertility control and menopause issues
- VII. Evaluation and management of: Genitourinary Problems
  - A. Genitourinary cancers
  - B. Chronic renal failure
  - C. Benign prostatic hypertrophy
- VIII. Evaluation and management of: Musculoskeletal Problems
  - A. Chronic back pain and osteoporosis
  - B. Osteo/rheumatoid arthritis
  - C. Fibromyalgia, PMR, temporal arteritis
- IX. Evaluation and management of: Neuropsychological Problems
  - A. Chronic headaches
  - B. Alzheimer's disease
  - C. Brain attack
  - D. Parkinson's disease
  - E. Spinal cord injuries
- X. Evaluation and management of: Dermatologic Problems
  - A. Skin cancers
  - B. Disturbances in pigmentation and hair loss
- XI. Evaluation and management of: Ophthalmologic Problems
  - A. Age-related changes
  - B. Glaucoma

C. Cataracts

XII. Evaluation and management of: ENT Problems

A. Oral cancers

B. Patients with:

1. Chronic nasal discharge and congestion
2. Excessive snoring
3. Temporomandibular joint disease (TMJ)

XIII. Evaluation and management of: Psychiatric and Behavioral Problems

A. Depression

B. Anxiety

C. Chemical dependency

D. Eating disorder

XIV. Evaluates, assesses and diagnoses common chronic disease based on genetic and genomic risk factors

A. Indicators of disease susceptibility or a genetic condition

B. Family history

C. Selected Genetic tests available

XV. Develops an interprofessional plan of care to address common chronic genetic and genomic health care issues

A. Identifies ethical, cultural, religious, fiscal, societal and legal issues related to genomic information, treatment and technologies

B. Selected targeted treatments available

C. Identifies Reliable sources of information

D. Advocates for clients

Approved: Jan 2006 Graduate Council

REVISED: MONTH YEAR

Programs Committee 2/20/13

Department of Nursing Feb 2013

AVP March 2013