WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE NUMBER: MSN 7320

COURSE TITLE: PRACTICES IN THE REALM OF NURSING AND THE LAW

PREREQUISITE: DIS 095

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course will provide the students with the knowledge and skills to:

1. Identify the role of legal nurse consultants in various types of health care cases.
2. Recognize and discuss the components of medical negligence cases.
3. Analyze medical legal cases for standards of care.
4. Explore the concept of the nurse as expert witness.
5. Create and prioritize documents for use in litigation cases.
6. Compare and contrast strategies for medical literature searches.

II. SUPPLEMENTAL OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify the concept of professional medical negligence and the applicable legal standards.
   - List the four elements of negligence in a medical malpractice claim.
   - Identify the common areas of negligence in claims against the healthcare provider.
   - Identify the various legal stages of a civil trial.
2. Identify the preliminary stages of litigation and the discovery process.
   - Identify the preliminary components of the litigation process in medical negligence, including the complaint and answer.
   - Identify the five-discovery tools of request for admissions, interrogatories, request for production, depositions and medical exam.
   - Understand the pre-trial process.
3. Compare the strategies of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).
   - Discuss the development of demonstrative evidence for use at trial.
   - Formulate a strategy and participate in facilitating settlement of a trial scenario.
   - Identify the difference between ADR and Mediation.
4. Contrast and compare the roles of Legal Nurse Consultant (LNC) and LNC expert witness.
   - Define the role of legal nurse consultants related to consultant versus expert witness.
   - Discuss the legal issues related to expert witness testimony.
   - Analyze a trial strategy.
5. Compare and contrast strategies for medical literature searches.

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IDEA Objectives:

E = 12
I = 4, 6

Identify strategies for analyzing medical literature for relevancy to the medical case scenario.
Evaluate online resources for credibility in the medical literature.

   Discuss standards of care applicable to the medical records used in trial development.
   Formulate search strategy to locate the appropriate standard of care based on medical records.
   Develop a retrieval system for medical-legal research.

7. Recognize the components of Trial Preparation.
   Identify the role of the LNC as a member of the trial team.
   Explain the role of the LNC in analyzing liability in Long Term Care.
   Examine the potential areas of liability in Long Term Care.

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