

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
JOAN KNECHEL CANCER CENTER
PATIENT NURSING ASSESSMENT**

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Effective Date: January 2005

Cross Referenced:

Reviewed Date: 12/11, 4/14

Policy No: ROC NU 15

Origin: Radiation Oncology

**Authority: Executive Director
Chief Nursing Officer**

Revised Date:

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SCOPE

All Joan Knechel Cancer Center Patients receiving radiation treatment in the Center.

PURPOSE

Following nursing practice standards, nurses are able to deliver their services in a structured and organized manner that provides for resolution of both real and potential problems.

DEFINITIONS:

N/A

POLICY

Individualized, goal, directed nursing care shall be given to all patients through the use of the nursing process.

PROCEDURE

1. The nurse process (assessment planning, intervention, evaluation) is applied and subsequently documented on patients receiving radiation therapy.
2. A nursing assessment shall be completed by the fifth visit of beginning treatment.
3. An RN shall plan each patient's nursing care. Nursing goals shall be mutually set with the patient and/or family. Nursing goals shall be based on the nursing assessment and are realistic, measurable and consistent with the therapy prescribed by the radiation Oncologist.
4. Patient/family knowledge of diagnosis shall be given careful consideration in the nursing plan. The instruction and counseling given to the patient/family shall be consistent with that of the Radiation Oncologist's plan of care.
5. The plan of care shall be documented on all patients at the time of visit, and shall reflect current standards of nursing practice.
 - The plan shall include nursing measures that will facilitate the medical care prescribed and that will restore, maintain and promote the patient's wellbeing.
 - As appropriate, such measures shall include physiological, psychological, nutritional, environmental factors, and patient families learning readiness.
 - The scope of plan shall be determined by the anticipated needs of the patient and shall be revised as the needs of the patient changes.
6. Documentation for nursing care shall be pertinent and concise and shall reflect patient status.
 - Nursing documentation addresses the patient's needs, problems, capabilities and limitations.
 - Nursing interventions and patient response shall be noted.
 - Evidence of the instructions and the patient's and family's understanding of these instructions shall be noted in the patient's chart.
 - Such instructions shall be consistent with the Radiation Oncologist's instructions.

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- Documentation shall include patient's knowledge of disease and treatment, knowledge of self-care needed on discharge and knowledge of follow-up plan.