

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: *Nursing Skill*

STUDENT NAME _____

SKILL NAME Respiratory Assessment

REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER _____

Description of Skill

Involves examination of the performance of the lungs and patency of the airway usually conducted as part of a physical examination in response to respiratory symptoms.

Indications

As part of routine physical examination
If patient complains of or presents with respiratory symptoms such as shortness of breath, cough, or chest pain.
As part of cardiac examination

Outcomes/Evaluation

Complete report of the findings from the comprehensive respiratory assessment

Potential Complications

Shortness of breath;
Syncope;
Respiratory failure

CONSIDERATIONS

Nursing Interventions (pre, intra, post)

Pre-test:

Inform the patient of the procedure; obtain informed consent
Confirm that it is the right patient using using tier identifiers (name and date of birth); Perform hand hygiene; Help patient to a comfortable position
Obtain all the necessary equipment

Intra-test:

Observe the patient cues for clues on pain or distress
Inform the patient of the procedure step-wise

Post-test:

Help patient to a comfortable position
Thank them for their cooperation
Document the findings

Client Education

Instruct on the need or why they are getting the respiratory examination
Explain the procedure
Outline the any risks, complications, and or benefits associated with the assessment

Nursing Interventions

Ensure the patient is placed in the appropriate positioning based on the underlying disease requirements
Sufficiently manage the symptoms of respiratory failure before hand
Continuously monitor the patient's vital signs
Be swift but comprehensive in the assessment