

College of Micronesia-FSM

Course Outline

Course Title: Health Problems in Children

Department No: CHS 251a

Course Description:

This course is designed for health assistants who are working in places where there is no doctor. It focuses on the major health problems encountered in children in the community. It provides information on standard protocols for the recognition and diagnosis of disease, and its counseling, treatment, and prevention. It covers also the indications and process of referral. This course is designed for health assistants (HAs) who are based in dispensaries in areas where there is no doctor.

Course Prepared By: Dr Mark Durand

Campus: Yap

| Hours Per Week | No. of Week | Total Hours | Semester Credits |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Lecture <u>5</u> | x <u>16</u> | = <u>80</u> | = <u>5</u> |
| Laboratory _____ | x _____ | = _____ | = _____ |
| Workshop _____ | x _____ | = _____ | = _____ |
| Total Semester Credits = | | | <u>5</u> |

Purpose of Course: Degree Requirement _____
Degree Elective _____
Certificate _____ X _____
Other (workshop) _____

Prerequisite: CHS 220a

Signature Chairperson, Curriculum Committee

Date

Signature, President, COM-FSM

Date

General Course Objectives:

Students will acquire medical skills needed to recognize and respond to the major health problems in children using standard WHO (the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness), FSM national, and state protocols. They keep proper clinical records and referral forms and records. They will use registries to facilitate delivery of ongoing care to high risk patients.

Specific Learning Objectives:

- Explain the 10 principles for health workers in the Code of Conduct of the International Red Cross as they apply both to disaster relief and community health (see Community Health. Wood, CH. AMREF, 2nd ed. Nairobi Kenya, 1997.)
- Define confidentiality and explain why it is important for all health workers to preserve confidentiality.
- Demonstrate 3 techniques for establishing rapport with a child.
- Take and record vital signs correctly.
- Identify normal vs. abnormal values for vital signs and recognize the significance of particular abnormal values.
- Identify safe traditional remedies for the following symptoms: cough, runny nose, headache, body ache, abdominal pain, skin bruises, constipation, rash and weakness.
- Recognize when it is dangerous to delay or interrupt modern medical treatments.
- Correctly diagnose child illness, counsel and treat according the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness algorithms.
- Correctly recognize, counsel and treat other childhood conditions using criteria in FSM national and state protocols for care of sick children.
- Counsel parents at time of treatment of child regarding specific preventive measures for each of the major disease conditions.
- Recognize child neglect and abuse and select appropriate response.
- Accurately measure height and weight, plot on growth chart, interpret findings and select proper response.
- Counsel parents of underweight and overweight children, remembering to cite reasons for concern, and to give specific diet and realistic activity prescriptions.
- Recognize the indications, common side effects and dangers of each medicine on the dispensary essential drug list.

- Select correct doses of meds based on diagnosis, patient age and weight.
- Recognize signs and symptoms in children that warrant referral to a higher level of care for the following: eye, ear, mouth and pharynx, chest, abdomen, genitor-urinary tract, nervous system and extremities.
- Classify children as normal vs. abnormal based on age and developmental milestones and select proper management for children with developmental delay.
- Select proper treatment and monitoring plan for patients with tuberculosis and Hansen's disease.
- Demonstrate proper procedure for DOT dose administration.
- Select proper public health actions for acute flaccid paralysis, rash + fever illness, multiple cases of profuse watery diarrhea, dengue-like illnesses, TB and Hansen's disease.
- Calculate the prevalence of children's health problems (e.g. anemia, underweight, obesity) using raw data and explain how this information can be used.
- Provide proper counseling for support of breastfeeding, weaning, and breastfeeding difficulties.
- Demonstrate proper paper records and communications for hospital referral.
- Construct a registry for (CSHCNs) children with special health care needs (including those for a dispensary catchment area (including those with social problems, rheumatic fever, developmental delay, congenital heart disease, failure to thrive, physical disabilities).

Course Contents:

- Normal vs. abnormal child growth, development and physical status.
- The World Health Organization's Integrated Management of Childhood Illness system.
- Counseling parents and children for disease management and prevention.
- Use of individual patient records and case registries.
- The referral process.

Textbooks:

Model Chapter for Textbooks- IMCI, Integrated Management of Childhood Illness. World Health Organization, Dept of Child and Adolescent Health.
[Available at: www.int/child-adolescent-health]

Child Health: A Manual for Medical and Health Workers in Health Centers and Rural Hospitals. Paget Stanfield. African Medical and Research Foundation, Rural Health Series 1 (2nd edition), Nairobi Kenya, 1999. [ISBN # 9966-874-07-0]

Methods of Instruction:

Lecture/ discussion sessions
Role play

Evaluation:

Examinations and graded demonstrations by students of skills.

Attendance Policy:

Per standard COM-FSM policy as stated in the current catalog will be given in writing to students at the start of the course.

Academic Honesty Policy: Per standard COM-FSM Policy as stated in the current catalog.