Course Overview/Description

This course will help you learn to recognize and respond to the risk factors and warning signs of clients with congestive heart failure. It will also help you learn comfort and care measures that may be needed when working with such clients. As a home health care worker, you play an important role in the health and well being of your clients. This course is designed to help you enhance your ability to serve your clients.

This course consists of four modules which when completed provides eight hours of continuing education. In the first module, you’ll learn what congestive heart failure is, including its causes and risk factors. In the next module, you will learn about diagnosing congestive heart failure. You’ll learn about the tests that are used to diagnose heart failure, the classifications of congestive heart failure, and how heart valve disease and heart rhythms relate to congestive heart failure. In the third module of the CHF course, you will learn about the medications, surgical interventions, and medical devices used to treat congestive heart failure, as well as how to help clients in post-surgical care. The course concludes with a final module in which you will be asked to use your basic knowledge of congestive heart failure to determine effective care and comfort measures for congestive heart failure clients.

As you progress through the CHF course, you will “meet” and interact with five different virtual clients, learning how to identify if each suffers from CHF or not and what sorts of comfort and care measures might be needed in each of their situations. The course also includes periodic “Knowledge Checks” designed to help ensure you understand the content you are learning. Each of the four modules ends with an exam that you must successfully pass in order to move forward with the rest of the course.

By successfully completing the Aide Care of the CHF Client course, you will learn new things and expand your frame of reference. It is designed to help you learn how to give your clients a higher level of service than you might currently be used to providing. Its goal is to help you become an even more valuable member of the team that serves your clients.
Course Outline

Welcome & Orientation

Course Introduction

Module 1 – General Overview of Congestive Heart Failure

Goal: In order to provide better care for their clients, learners will understand basic information regarding Congestive Heart Failure.

Objectives:

• Learners will be able to explain what congestive heart failure is.
• Learners will be able to identify the risk factors and warning signs of congestive heart failure.

Module 1 Lessons

• Lesson 1.1 – What is Congestive Heart Failure?
• Lesson 1.2 – Causes of Congestive Heart Failure
• Lesson 1.3 – Red Flags: Symptoms of Congestive Heart Failure

Module 2 – Diagnosing Congestive Heart Failure

Goal: Learners will use their basic knowledge of CHF to learn about diagnosing congestive heart failure.

Objectives:

• Learners will understand basic information regarding the exams and tests involved in diagnosing congestive heart failure.
• Learners will be able to recognize the classifications of congestive heart failure.
• Learners will be able to recognize the role of heart valve disease and heart rhythms present in congestive heart failure.

Module 2 Lessons:

• Lesson 2.1 – Diagnosing Congestive Heart Failure
• Lesson 2.2 – Classification of Congestive Heart Failure
• Lesson 2.3 – Arrhythmias, Heart Murmurs and Heart Valve Disease in Congestive Heart Failure Clients
Module 3 – Treatment of Congestive Heart Failure

Goal: Learners will learn about the medications, surgical interventions, and medical devices used to treat congestive heart failure, as well as how to help clients in post-surgical care.

Objectives:

• Learner will be able to assist clients with precautions to minimize side effects of medications used to treat congestive heart failure.

• Learners will be able to understand the use of surgical intervention and medical devices utilized in treating congestive heart failure.

Module 3 Lessons:

• Lesson 3.1 – Medications Used in Treating Congestive Heart Failure

• Lesson 3.2 – Other Medical Management of Congestive Heart Failure

Module 4 – Effective Care and Comfort Measures for Congestive Heart Failure Clients

Goal: Based on their knowledge of congestive heart failure, learners will determine effective care and comfort measures for congestive heart failure clients.

Objectives:

• Learners will be able to help clients who have congestive heart failure to self-monitor symptoms that indicate their CHF is worsening.

• Learners will be able to help clients prevent complications and hospitalization resulting from CHF by determining effective comfort and care measures regarding lifestyle changes.

• Learners will be able to support clients who have advanced heart failure with palliative care.

Module 4 Lessons:

• Lesson 4.1 – Self-Monitoring for Congestive Heart Failure

• Lesson 4.2 – Lifestyle Changes for the Congestive Heart Failure Client

• Lesson 4.3 – Care and Comfort Measures for the Advanced Heart Failure Client