CLINICAL REMINDERS

1. Does following on unit:
   a) Introduces self to nurse in charge of patient or head nurse.
   b) Introduces self to patient with explanation of what she/he is to do at all times.
   c) Identifies self, patient, and room number when seeking help.

2. Organizes care daily.

3. Seeks out instructor when needed.

4. Looks for skills/check-off's in all assigned areas.

5. Monitors safety of patients and self: The student:
   a) Has the bed at a comfortable working level.
   b) Lowers bed level when patient care is completed.
   c) Puts the side rail down when giving patient care.
   d) Puts the side rail up when patient care is completed.
   e) Checks catheter tubing to be sure it is patent following position change of side rail.
   f) Places signal or call bell within the patient's reach when care is completed.
   g) Leaves waste paper basket, water pitcher, and the bedside table with phone and/or personal articles within reach when care is completed.
   h) Offers oral hygiene prior to or after breakfast, combs the patient's hair.
   i) Checks I.V. tubing and/or catheter tubing when turning a patient to be sure it is patent.
   j) Asks patient, “Is there anything more I can do for you?” when care is completed.
   k) Reports immediately any abnormal assessments found during patient care or may need to ask for verification of finding at once.

6. Does not spend time talking (socializing) with nursing personnel or other students in area.

7. Stays with the patient when the physician comes into the room.

8. Collects terminology each day of patient related tests, treatments, drugs, etc.

9. Checks patient's identification wrist band and identifies allergies before giving medications or performing a procedure.

10. “Does not talk too much” instead of using communication as a mechanism of understanding the patient's verbal and non-verbal conversation.

11. Makes certain the patient has plenty of water before giving a medication.

12. Must do procedures the first time in the hospital with the instructor's observation.

13. Calls for the instructor to come for a skills check-off having:
   a) Reviewed the procedure manual.
   b) Gathered all needed materials.
   c) Planned for patient privacy.
   d) Been aware of any breaks in technique.
   e) Planned on what assessment is needed for charting.
14. Keeps only appropriate equipment on bedside table, e.g., no urinals.

15. Assists patient to eat.

16. Avoids saying to patients:
   a) “This is the first time I've done this.”
   b) “I've never seen an incision like this.”
   c) “It's been a long time since I've done this.”
   d) “My goodness, what happened to you? I've never seen anything like this.”
   e) “Oh my, you must have something horrible wrong with you.”
   f) “I've never done this before.”
   g) “I really don't think this will help you.”
   h) “I'm just a student, but I think I know how to do this.”