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Successful Transitions for Nurses

Effective Use of Evidence in Case Studies

Continuing Assessment 1 - Essay based on Case Study
(SNUG102)



UNIVERSITY
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AUSTRALIA

Subject 2019	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment
<u>SNUG101</u>	Week 3 (21/3/19) Creative representation of values & beliefs + 500 wds 30%	Week 7 OSCA Communication & Pt. Assessment Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	Weeks 9 (9/5/19) Reflection 30%	Week 10 (13-17/5/19) Calculation Pass/Fail	EXAM PERIOD 40%
<u>SNUG102</u>	Week 5 (4/4/19) Essay 1000wds 30%	Week 8 Debate Group Assessment 30%			EXAM PERIOD 40%
<u>SNUG103</u>	Week 2, 4, 6, & 8 Quizzes 20%	Week 7 Educational resources & report Resources+1000wds. 40%			EXAM PERIOD 40%
<u>SNUG104</u>	Week 12 (30/5/19) Pre-placement requirements Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	Week 7 (18/4/19) Individual learning goals 40%	Week ? Workplace experience assessment tool Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	PATTERN A (13/6/19) PATTERN B (25/7/19) PATTERN C (8/8/19) Reflective portfolio 60%	

What is a case study?

- ‘A case study is an account of an activity, event or problem that contains a real or hypothetical situation and includes the complexities you would encounter in the workplace’ (Mort, Cross & Downey 2002).
- Case studies are usually written as a narrative (that is, like a story), using the contexts of real-life situations. When you analyse a case study, it helps you to practise applying knowledge, and your thinking, reasoning and decision-making skills, to a real-life situation.



SNUG102 Essay based on a **Case Study**: When Vinko “Vince” Juric had his heart attack 5 years ago he was mistakenly given metoprolol (a beta blocker) that he had a known and documented allergy to. Vince had an anaphylactic reaction to the drug and ended up intubated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The nurse that gave him the drug had dispensed several patients’ medications at once and gotten the patients mixed up and gave Vince the medications meant for the patient in the bed next to him. Vince the family’s sole provider was off work for several months recovering from the ICU admission.

Is it likely that the nurse would be found guilty of negligence if the family had decided to take legal action?

In this assessment you are required to outline each of the elements required for a successful negligence claim and if these were met or not.

Use the following headings and suggested word counts.

1. Introduction (100 words)

2. Duty of care owed (200 words)

- Outline what is a duty of care and whether the nurse owed it?

3. Duty of care breached (400 words)

- Outline if the duty of care was breached and why?
- Was this below the expected standard? (support with evidence)

4. Harm & Causation (200 words)

- What must be proved and by whom?

5. Conclusion (100 words)

6. References

All information presented is to be supported by academic resources.

The **focus of this assessment is negligence** NOT the MI or anaphylaxis.

Last week, we unpacked the task requirements, now,

- Have you identified the **key words** you need for your **database research**?
- Have you identified **documents** you will need to provide relevant information (official documents, policies, Codes of Practice)?
- Have you identified / defined what ‘duty of care is’?
- Remember, you need to **outline each of the elements required for a successful negligence claim.**



Conduct library & online research, choose for relevance, read...

Subject Readings: in Moodle site, UOW library, Subject Outline

References in Subject Readings

Google scholar

UOW Library: A-Z Databases, A-Z Journals, Catalogue

Last week, we unpacked the task requirements, now,

- Have you identified what these elements are?
- Once you have, you can ‘build a case’ as to whether the RN is likely to be found negligent.
- This is the time when you link theoretical knowledge to the case at hand.
- When writing an academic argument you therefore move from the general, to the particular.



Academic Writing

**From the
general...**

- Start with general information, theoretical knowledge.
- Where will this material be accessed? Journal articles, textbooks, other case studies?

**to the
particular.**

- Then make sure you relate this more general information to the case study.
- Link the academic material found in the course of your research to the case study.
- What are the implications for the nurse looking after Vinko?

Now, how do you weave the evidence you found into your paragraphs?

- You need to support your claims
- For this you need to integrate elements of your research into your body paragraphs
- For this, you need to link the research to the particular elements relevant to your case study



You can put the emphasis on *ideas*...

Currently, **Australian health policies** reflect the colonial paternalistic nature of non-Aboriginal practices by sending Indigenous women away from their families and culture to manage their pregnancies and give birth without the consideration of a family-centred care strategies (Cass et al., 2014; Watson et al., 2017).

Documentation reflects the health carer's accountability to the client and is a source of communication with other health care professionals; therefore, documentation is essential in providing sound medical and nursing care (Taylor, 2009).

This is particularly useful when discussing research in a general area.

This is important when **leading up** to the specific studies most relevant to the focus of your report or essay.

Or the emphasis on *the author*

Archell (2007) identifies the issues around retention and attraction of medical officers to remote and regional areas of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services.

This emphasis is useful when introducing research more closely related to a **specific** point because at this stage you want to discuss or **emphasise a particular aspect** of your findings.



What do you need to reference?

Are there any items that you don't need to reference?

All of your research has to be organised into a citation system to allow you to effectively reference.



Are references required here?

Duty of care means that the health care professional has accepted responsibility to deliver a reasonable level of care to the client and avoid all acts that would harm them or have adverse effects. During RN Goodard's shift (2200, 21.05.12 – 0700, 22.05.12) she failed to uphold a professionally appropriate duty of care for Mr Peters and three other clients. RN Goodard demonstrated sub-standard practice in not administering Mr Peters' Morphine in order to provide him with pain relief. According to the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, the user guide on administration of medications, RN Goodard failed in her duty of care by not following the Medical Officer's (MO) orders to administer the prescribed dosage 6 hourly. Furthermore, there was no written record to note whether the medication was given or withheld. The policy directive states that if medication is not given, this should be documented in the client's notes and the MO notified. There is no evidence indicating whether RN Goodard notified the MO or not. It is part of RN Goodard's duty to perform nursing interventions such as the safe administration of medications and provide documentation of this in order to fulfil her duty of care to her clients.

Yes, of course

Duty of care means that the health care professional has accepted responsibility to deliver a reasonable level of care to the client and avoid all acts that would harm them or have adverse effects (Crisp & Taylor, 2009; ANMC, 2006). During RN Goodard's shift (2200, 21.05.12 – 0700, 22.05.12) she failed to uphold a professionally appropriate duty of care for Mr Peters and three other clients. RN Goodard demonstrated sub-standard practice in not administering Mr Peters' Morphine in order to provide him with pain relief. According to the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC, 2011), the user guide on administration of medications, RN Goodard failed in her duty of care by not following the Medical Officer's (MO) orders to administer the prescribed dosage 6 hourly. Furthermore, there was no written record to note whether the medication was given or withheld. The ACSQHC (2011) policy directive states that if medication is not given, this should be documented in the client's notes and the MO notified. There is no evidence indicating whether RN Goodard notified the MO or not. It is part of RN Goodard's duty to perform nursing interventions such as the safe administration of medications and provide documentation of this in order to fulfil her duty of care to her clients (ANMC, 2006).

Version History

Stirling, Jeannette, 2015-2016

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