



Critical Care Skills Assessment Checklist

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please indicate your level of experience

A. Theory, no practice	C. One - two years experience
B. Intermittent experience	D. Two plus years experience

1. Cardiovascular

a.	Assessment	A	B	C	D
	i. Abnormal heart sounds/murmurs	A	B	C	D
	ii. Auscultation (rate, rhythm)	A	B	C	D
	iii. Blood pressure/non-invasive	A	B	C	D
	iv. Doppler	A	B	C	D
	v. Pulses/circulation checks	A	B	C	D
b.	Interpretation of lab results				
	i. Cardiac enzymes & isoenzymes	A	B	C	D
	ii. Coagulation studies	A	B	C	D
c.	Equipment & procedures (Assist with)				
	i. Arterial line insertion	A	B	C	D
	ii. Central line insertion	A	B	C	D
	iii. Open chest emergency	A	B	C	D
	iv. PA catheter/Swan-Ganz insertion	A	B	C	D
	v. Pericardiocentesis	A	B	C	D
	vi. Transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE)	A	B	C	D
d.	Automatic internal cardioverter defibrillator	A	B	C	D
e.	Cardioversion	A	B	C	D
f.	CAVH-D	A	B	C	D
g.	Hemodynamic monitoring				
	i. Cardiac index	A	B	C	D
	ii. Cardiac output	A	B	C	D
	iii. CVP monitoring	A	B	C	D
	iv. Femoral artery sheath removal	A	B	C	D
	v. MAP	A	B	C	D
	vi. PA/Swan-Ganz	A	B	C	D
	vii. PCW pressure	A	B	C	D



viii.	PVR	A	B	C	D		
ix.	Radial a-line	A	B	C	D		
x.	SVO2	A	B	C	D		
xi.	SVR	A	B	C	D		
h.	Intra aortic balloon pump	A	B	C	D		
i.	Monitoring						
	i.	12 lead EKG interpretation	A	B	C	D	
	ii.	Arrhythmia interpretation	A	B	C	D	
	iii.	Lead placement	A	B	C	D	
	iv.	Rhythm strip assessment	A	B	C	D	
	v.	Set up and run 12 lead EKG	A	B	C	D	
	vi.	Pacemaker					
		1.	External	A	B	C	D
		2.	Permanent	A	B	C	D
		3.	Temporary	A	B	C	D
		4.	Transthoracic (epicardial)	A	B	C	D
j.	Care of the patient with:						
	i.	Abdominal aortic aneurysm repair	A	B	C	D	
	ii.	Acute MI	A	B	C	D	
	iii.	Cardiac arrest	A	B	C	D	
	iv.	Cardiac tamponade	A	B	C	D	
	v.	Congestive heart failure (CHF)	A	B	C	D	
	vi.	EP study & ablation	A	B	C	D	
	vii.	Heart transplant	A	B	C	D	
	viii.	Immediate post open-heart surgery	A	B	C	D	
	ix.	Infective endocarditis	A	B	C	D	
	x.	Myocardial contusion	A	B	C	D	
	xi.	Pericarditis	A	B	C	D	
	xii.	Post AICD insertion	A	B	C	D	
	xiii.	Post arthroectomy (DCA)	A	B	C	D	
	xiv.	Post commissurotomy	A	B	C	D	
	xv.	Post intracoronary stent placement	A	B	C	D	
	xvi.	Post percutaneous balloon valvuloplasty	A	B	C	D	
	xvii.	Post rotoblade	A	B	C	D	
	xviii.	Pre/post angioplasty	A	B	C	D	
	xix.	Pre/post cardiac cath	A	B	C	D	
k.	Medications						
	i.	Amiodarone (Cardarone)	A	B	C	D	
	ii.	Atropine	A	B	C	D	
	iii.	Bicarbonate	A	B	C	D	



iv. Bretylium (Bretylol)	A	B	C	D
v. Digoxin (Lanoxin)	A	B	C	D
vi. Diltiazem (Cardizem)	A	B	C	D
vii. Dobutamine (Dobutrex)	A	B	C	D
viii. Dopamine (Intropin)	A	B	C	D
ix. Epinephrine (Adrenalin)	A	B	C	D
x. Esmolol (Brevibloc)	A	B	C	D
xi. Inocor (Amrinone)	A	B	C	D
xii. Lidocaine (Xylocaine)	A	B	C	D
xiii. Metoprolol (Lopressor)	A	B	C	D
xiv. Nipride (Nitroprusside)	A	B	C	D
xv. Nitroglycerine (Tridil)	A	B	C	D
xvi. Procainamide (Pronestyl)	A	B	C	D
xvii. Reteplase recombinant (Retavase)	A	B	C	D
xviii. Streptokinase	A	B	C	D
xix. TPA (Alteplase)	A	B	C	D
xx. Verapamil (Calan, Isoptin, Verelan)	A	B	C	D

2. Pulmonary

a. Assessment				
i. Adventitious breath sounds	A	B	C	D
ii. Rate and work of breathing	A	B	C	D
b. Interpretation of lab results - arterial blood gases	A	B	C	D
c. Equipment & procedures				
i. Mediastinal chest tube removal	A	B	C	D
ii. Pleural chest tube removal	A	B	C	D
iii. Airway management devices/suctioning				
1. Endotracheal tube/suctioning	A	B	C	D
2. Extubation	A	B	C	D
3. Nasal airway/suctioning	A	B	C	D
4. Oximetry	A	B	C	D
5. Sputum specimen collection	A	B	C	D
6. Tracheostomy/suctioning	A	B	C	D
iv. Assist with				
1. Bronchoscopy	A	B	C	D
2. Chest tube insertion	A	B	C	D
3. Emergency tracheostomy	A	B	C	D
4. Thoracentesis	A	B	C	D
v. Establishing an airway				
1. Assist with intubation	A	B	C	D



2.	Oral airway insertion	A	B	C	D
vi.	Identification/intervention for respiratory complications				
1.	Aspiration	A	B	C	D
2.	Laryngospasm	A	B	C	D
3.	Tension pneumothorax	A	B	C	D
4.	Use of Pleurevac drainage	A	B	C	D
5.	Use of water seal drainage	A	B	C	D
vii.	O2 therapy & medication delivery systems				
1.	Ambu bag and mask	A	B	C	D
2.	ET tube	A	B	C	D
3.	Face masks	A	B	C	D
4.	Nasal cannula	A	B	C	D
5.	Portable O2 tank	A	B	C	D
6.	Trach collar	A	B	C	D
viii.	Ventilator management				
1.	External CPAP	A	B	C	D
2.	High frequency jet ventilation	A	B	C	D
3.	IMV	A	B	C	D
4.	PEEP	A	B	C	D
5.	Pressure support	A	B	C	D
6.	Weaning modes & T-piece	A	B	C	D
d.	Care of the patient with:				
i.	Acute pneumonia	A	B	C	D
ii.	ARDS	A	B	C	D
iii.	Chest trauma	A	B	C	D
iv.	COPD	A	B	C	D
v.	Cor pulmonale	A	B	C	D
vi.	Fresh tracheostomy	A	B	C	D
vii.	Lobectomy	A	B	C	D
viii.	Lung transplant	A	B	C	D
ix.	Near drowning	A	B	C	D
x.	Pneumonectomy	A	B	C	D
xi.	Pulmonary edema/hypertension	A	B	C	D
xii.	Pulmonary embolism	A	B	C	D
xiii.	Status asthmaticus	A	B	C	D
xiv.	Thoracotomy	A	B	C	D
xv.	Tuberculosis	A	B	C	D
e.	Medications				
i.	Alupent (Metaproterenol)	A	B	C	D
ii.	Aminophylline (Theophylline)	A	B	C	D



iii. Bronkosol (Isoetharine hydrochloride)	A	B	C	D
iv. Corticosteroids	A	B	C	D
v. Ventolin (Albuterol)	A	B	C	D

3. Neurological

a. Assessment

i. Cranial nerves	A	B	C	D
ii. Glasgow coma scale	A	B	C	D
iii. Level of consciousness	A	B	C	D
iv. Pathologic reflexes	A	B	C	D
v. Reflex/motor deficits	A	B	C	D
vi. Visual or communication deficits	A	B	C	D

b. Equipment & procedures

i. Assist with lumbar puncture	A	B	C	D
ii. Halo traction/cervical tongs	A	B	C	D
iii. Intracranial pressure monitoring	A	B	C	D
iv. Nerve stimulators	A	B	C	D
v. Rotating bed	A	B	C	D
vi. Seizure precautions	A	B	C	D
vii. Spinal precautions	A	B	C	D
viii. Stryker frame	A	B	C	D
ix. Use of hyper/hypothermia blanket	A	B	C	D

c. Care of the patient with:

i. Aneurysm precautions	A	B	C	D
ii. Basal skull fracture	A	B	C	D
iii. Closed head injury	A	B	C	D
iv. Coma	A	B	C	D
v. CVA	A	B	C	D
vi. DTs	A	B	C	D
vii. Encephalitis	A	B	C	D
viii. Externalized VP shunts	A	B	C	D
ix. Increased ICP	A	B	C	D
x. Laminectomy	A	B	C	D
xi. Meningitis	A	B	C	D
xii. Metastatic tumor/intracranial resection	A	B	C	D
xiii. Multiple sclerosis	A	B	C	D
xiv. Post craniotomy	A	B	C	D
xv. Spinal cord injury	A	B	C	D
xvi. Ventriculostomy	A	B	C	D

d. Medications



i. Barbiturate induced coma	A	B	C	D
ii. Decadron (Dexamethasone)	A	B	C	D
iii. Dilantin (Phenytoin)	A	B	C	D
iv. Epidural administration	A	B	C	D
v. Phenobarbital	A	B	C	D
vi. Valium (Diazepam)	A	B	C	D

4. Gastrointestinal

a. Assessment				
i. Abdominal/bowel sounds	A	B	C	D
ii. Nutritional	A	B	C	D
b. Interpretation of lab results				
i. Serum ammonia	A	B	C	D
ii. Serum amylase	A	B	C	D
iii. LFTs	A	B	C	D
c. Equipment & procedures				
i. Administration of tube feeding	A	B	C	D
ii. Balloon tamponade	A	B	C	D
iii. Feeding pump	A	B	C	D
iv. Flexible feeding tube (i.e., Corpak)	A	B	C	D
v. Gravity feeding	A	B	C	D
vi. Iced saline lavage	A	B	C	D
d. Management of				
i. Gastrostomy tube	A	B	C	D
ii. Jejunostomy tube	A	B	C	D
iii. T-tube	A	B	C	D
iv. TPN and lipids administration	A	B	C	D
v. PPN (peripheral parenteral nutrition)	A	B	C	D
e. Placement of nasogastric tube	A	B	C	D
f. Salem sump to suction	A	B	C	D
g. Care of the patient with:				
i. Blunt trauma	A	B	C	D
ii. Bowel obstruction	A	B	C	D
iii. Colostomy	A	B	C	D
iv. ERCP	A	B	C	D
v. Esophageal bleeding	A	B	C	D
vi. GI bleeding	A	B	C	D
vii. GI surgery	A	B	C	D
viii. Hepatitis	A	B	C	D
ix. Ileostomy	A	B	C	D



x.	Inflammatory bowel disease	A	B	C	D
xi.	Liver failure	A	B	C	D
xii.	Liver transplant	A	B	C	D
xiii.	Pancreatitis	A	B	C	D
xiv.	Paralytic ileus	A	B	C	D
xv.	Penetrating trauma	A	B	C	D
h.	Medications				
i.	AquaMephyton (Vitamin K)	A	B	C	D
ii.	Inderal (Propranolol)	A	B	C	D
iii.	Kayexelate	A	B	C	D
iv.	Lactulose (Cephulac)	A	B	C	D
v.	Pitressin (Vasopressin)	A	B	C	D

5. Renal/Genitourinary

a.	Assessment				
i.	A-V fistula/shunt	A	B	C	D
ii.	Fluid status	A	B	C	D
b.	Interpretation of lab results				
c.	BUN & creatinine	A	B	C	D
i.	Serum electrolytes	A	B	C	D
d.	Equipment & procedures				
i.	Bladder irrigation	A	B	C	D
ii.	Insertion & care of straight and Foley catheter				
1.	3-way Foley	A	B	C	D
2.	Female	A	B	C	D
3.	Male	A	B	C	D
4.	Supra-pubic	A	B	C	D
e.	Care of the patient with:				
i.	Acute renal failure	A	B	C	D
ii.	CAVH dialysis	A	B	C	D
iii.	Hemodialysis	A	B	C	D
iv.	Nephrectomy	A	B	C	D
v.	Peritoneal dialysis	A	B	C	D
vi.	Renal rejection syndrome	A	B	C	D
vii.	Renal transplant	A	B	C	D
viii.	TURP	A	B	C	D
ix.	Urinary diversion	A	B	C	D
x.	Urinary tract infection	A	B	C	D

6. Endocrine/Metabolic



a.	Interpretation of lab results					
	i.	Blood glucose	A	B	C	D
	ii.	Thyroid studies	A	B	C	D
b.	Equipment & procedures					
	i.	Blood glucose measuring device: type	<hr/>			
	ii.	Blood glucose monitoring	A	B	C	D
	iii.	Performing finger stick	A	B	C	D
c.	Care of the patient with:					
	i.	Diabetes mellitus	A	B	C	D
	ii.	Diabetic ketoacidosis	A	B	C	D
	iii.	Disorders of adrenal gland	A	B	C	D
	iv.	Disorders of pituitary gland (e.g., DI)	A	B	C	D
	v.	Drug overdose	A	B	C	D
	vi.	Hyperthyroidism (Grave's disease)	A	B	C	D
	vii.	Hypothyroidism	A	B	C	D
	viii.	Insulin shock	A	B	C	D
	ix.	Thyroidectomy	A	B	C	D
d.	Medication - insulin pump		A	B	C	D

7. Wound Management

a.	Assessment					
	i.	Skin for impending breakdown	A	B	C	D
	ii.	Stasis ulcers	A	B	C	D
	iii.	Surgical wound healing	A	B	C	D
b.	Equipment & procedures					
	i.	Air fluidized, low air loss beds	A	B	C	D
	ii.	Sterile dressing changes	A	B	C	D
	iii.	Wound care/irrigations	A	B	C	D
c.	Care of the patient with:					
	i.	Burns	A	B	C	D
	ii.	Pressure sores	A	B	C	D
	iii.	Staged decubitus ulcers	A	B	C	D
	iv.	Surgical wounds with drain(s)	A	B	C	D
	v.	Traumatic wounds	A	B	C	D

8. Phlebotomy / IV Therapy

a.	Equipment & procedures					
	i.	Administration of blood/blood products				
		1. Cryoprecipitate	A	B	C	D
		2. Packed red blood cells	A	B	C	D



3.	Plasma/albumin	A	B	C	D
4.	Whole blood	A	B	C	D
ii.	Drawing blood from central line	A	B	C	D
iii.	Drawing venous blood	A	B	C	D
iv.	Starting IVs				
1.	Angiocath	A	B	C	D
2.	Butterfly	A	B	C	D
3.	Heparin lock	A	B	C	D
b.	Care of the patient with:				
i.	Central line/catheter/dressing				
1.	Broviac	A	B	C	D
2.	Groshong	A	B	C	D
3.	Hickman	A	B	C	D
4.	Portacath	A	B	C	D
5.	Quinton	A	B	C	D
6.	Peripheral line/dressing	A	B	C	D

9. Pain Management

a.	Assessment of pain level/tolerance	A	B	C	D
b.	Care of the patient with:				
i.	Epidural anesthesia/analgesia	A	B	C	D
ii.	IV conscious sedation	A	B	C	D
iii.	Patient controlled analgesia	A	B	C	D

10. Miscellaneous

a.	Care of the patient with:				
i.	Anaphylactic shock	A	B	C	D
ii.	Disseminated intravascular coagulation	A	B	C	D
iii.	Hypovolemic shock	A	B	C	D
iv.	Multi-system organ failure	A	B	C	D
v.	Organ/tissue donation	A	B	C	D
vi.	Septic shock	A	B	C	D



Certification:

Please read and agree to the statements below by signing and dating the bottom of this form.

I attest that the information I have given is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that I am the individual completing this form. I hereby authorize RN Exclusive to release this Skills Checklist to the Client facilities in relation to consideration of employment with those facilities.

Signature: _____ Date: _____