# **Guided Lecture Notes, Chapter 45, Caring for Pediatric Patients**

Learning Objective 2. Discuss the specific physical needs that children in health care settings have, including infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-aged children, and adolescents. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 2 to 10, 12 to 14, 27 to 30, 39, 40, 53, 54, 62 to 64, 69.)

* Children receive health care in many different types of health care settings. Discuss the reasons that children may require care in a health care setting.
* Explain why the health care staff must understand the basic stages of growth and development to provide for the special needs of children, both physically and emotionally.
* Discuss the fears that may be experienced by a child in the health care setting.
* Explain that it is important for the nursing assistant to recognize the effects of the child’s illness on their family. Point out that not all families follow the traditional “nuclear” model.
* Explain that because an infant is totally dependent on their caregiver, it is important for the caregiver to meet all of the infant’s physical needs, such as feeding, diapering, bathing, and positioning.
  + Explain that while caring for a toddler’s physical needs, it is important for the caregiver to allow the toddler to remain as independent as possible. Discuss the ways in which a caregiver can do this.
  + Describe strategies for assisting the toddler with nutrition.
  + Discuss the use of restraints and cribs with covers to help keep the toddler safe.
  + Describe strategies for assisting a preschooler with meeting their physical needs.
  + Describe why it may be necessary to restrain a preschooler during a procedure to ensure the safety of both the child and the health care worker.
  + Explain that a school-age child tends to be very independent and feels proud about it. Explain strategies for maintaining the child’s sense of independence while assisting the child with meeting their physical needs.
  + Explain that the adolescent wants to be as independent as possible with their daily care. Mention that adolescents may feel very embarrassed when it is necessary to expose their bodies to others.
  + Describe how the nursing assistant can help to ensure adequate nutrition.
  + Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 1. Understand how the stages of development affect the emotional needs of children in health care settings. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 11, 15, 16, 24 to 26, 31, 32, 37, 38, 41 to 44, 50 to 52, 55, 56, 61, 65 to 67.)

* Briefly describe the stage of growth and development that takes place during infancy.
* Discuss the emotional needs of an infant and how failure to meet these needs can lead to failure to thrive.
* Discuss how a nursing assistant helps to meet the emotional needs of an infant.
* Briefly describe the stage of growth and development that takes place between the ages of 1 and 3.
* Describe regression and how a toddler may respond to the stress of illness or injury.
* Describe ways that a nursing assistant can help meet a toddler’s emotional needs when providing care.
* Discuss activities that may be useful to entertain a toddler in a health care setting.
* Briefly describe the stage of growth and development that takes place between the ages of 3 and 5.
* Discuss some of the unique thought processes of the preschooler, and how preschoolers might react to being hospitalized.
* Describe ways in which the nursing assistant can help meet the preschooler’s emotional needs.
* Briefly describe the stage of growth and development that takes place between the ages of 5 and 12.
* Discuss the emotional needs of school-age children. Describe how the nursing assistant can help the school-age child to meet these emotional needs.
* Explain that adolescence is a time of tremendous growth and development, both physically and emotionally.
* Define the term *egocentric* and explain how it applies to adolescents.
* Explain that adolescents want to participate in decisions that are being made about them and their health care needs.
* Describe some of the reasons why an adolescent may need health care. Mention that situations such as mental illness, sexually transmitted infection, or unplanned pregnancy need to be handled with tact.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 3. Describe measures that the nursing assistant can use to help meet the physical and emotional needs of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-aged children, and adolescents in a health care setting. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 13, 14, 16, 26 to 32, 39, 40, 43, 44, 53 to 56, 62 to 64, and 67.)

* After reviewing the emotional and physical needs that are specific to each age group, describe measures that the nursing assistant can use to assist a child in:
* the infant stage
* the toddler stage
* the preschooler stage
* the school-age stage
* the adolescent stage
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 4. List safety considerations that are specific for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, school-aged children, and adolescents. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 17 to 21, 33 to 36, 45 to 47, 57, 58, and 68.)

* Discuss the safety precautions that are taken when caring for an infant.
* Discuss why a toddler is sometimes referred to as “a tornado in training pants.”
* Explain the safety precautions to be taken when caring for the toddler.
* Discuss safety measures specific for the preschooler.
* Discuss the ways in which a school-age child’s curiosity and habit of pushing their physical abilities to the limit bring new dangers, and measures that are taken to keep the school-age child safe.
* Discuss safety measures that may be unique to the adolescent patient.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.

Learning Objective 5. Discuss signs of child abuse and the nursing assistant’s role in reporting suspected abuse. (Refer to PowerPoint slides 72 to 85.)

* List the different types of child abuse: physical, psychological (emotional), and sexual. Mention that neglect is a very common form of child abuse.
* Define *shaken baby syndrome* and explain how it is caused.
* Discuss Munchausen syndrome by proxy.
* Discuss the ways in which a child can be subjected to psychological abuse.
* Discuss involuntary seclusion as a form of child psychological (emotional) abuse.
* Describe what constitutes sexual abuse.
* Discuss the situations that seem to increase the risk that child abuse could occur.
* Describe the responsibility of a nursing assistant in reporting child abuse. Discuss observations that might indicate abuse.
* Have learners refer to learning activities located at the end of the chapter.