**Domain 5: Quality and Safety**

| Sub-competency | Progression Indicators (Observable Behaviors) | |
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| | Developing | Developed (Competent) |
| **5.1 Apply quality improvement principles in care delivery.** | | |
| **5.1a** Recognize nursing's essential role in improving healthcare quality and safety. | Identify key concepts of quality and safety in healthcare.<br><br>Describe nurses' responsibility in maintaining healthcare quality and safety.<br><br>Explain the nurse's role in preventing patient harm. | Identify nursing-specific quality indicators and safety initiatives to address clinical improvement needs.<br><br>Identify nursing-related system-level factors contributing to patient safety issues.<br><br>Articulate the importance of the nurse as the last line of defense. |
| **5.1b** Identify sources and applications of national safety and quality standards to guide nursing practice. | Identify key national safety and quality standards relevant to nursing practice.<br><br>Identify key organizations that set national safety and quality standards. | Select national safety and quality standards to analyze clinical situations and guide nursing practice.<br><br>Recommend opportunities to improve patient safety based on national safety and quality standards and new evidence. |
| **5.1c** Implement standardized, evidence-based processes for care delivery. | Identify standardized processes used in nursing practice.<br><br>Follow standardized processes for patient care. | Adapt standardized processes to meet the needs of individual patients.<br><br>Analyze patient situations/characteristics and act to mitigate patient risks. |
| **5.1d** Interpret benchmark and unit outcome data to inform individual and microsystem practice. | Identify key trends in unit-level data.<br><br>Recognize the relationship between unit-level data and national benchmarks. | Analyze unit- and system-level data to identify areas for improvement in patient care.<br><br>Use data to support evidence-based practice decisions. |
| **5.1e** Compare quality improvement methods in the delivery of patient care. | Describe the basic principles of various quality improvement methods. | Select relevant quality improvement methods to support care improvement. |

https://www.aacnnursing.org/essentials/tool-kit/domains-concepts/progression-indicators

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| | Compare the strengths and limitations of quality improvement methods. | |
| **5.1f** Identify strategies to improve outcomes of patient care in practice. | Explain the role of patient engagement in improving patient outcomes.<br><br>Use communication and collaboration strategies to improve patient outcomes. | Select evidence-based practice strategies to improve patient outcomes.<br><br>Recommend protocols essential to improve the outcomes of patient care. |
| **5.1g** Participate in the implementation of a practice change. | Gather relevant data to support the need for a practice change initiative.<br><br>Identify potential barriers to implementing quality improvement initiatives.<br><br>Communicate the rationale for the proposed change to colleagues and patients. | Develop quality improvement projects.<br><br>Model a practice change and serve as a resource for peers. |
| **5.1h** Develop a plan for monitoring quality improvement change. | Describe methods for collecting and analyzing data.<br><br>Analyze key data to monitor the effectiveness of a practice change. | Develop a monitoring plan.<br><br>Justify the selection of a particular quality improvement method to address a clinical issue. |
| **5.2 Contribute to a culture of patient safety.** | | |
| **5.2a** Describe the factors that create a culture of safety. | Identify key factors contributing to a culture of safety.<br><br>Explain how these factors influence patient outcomes. | Identify systemic barriers to a culture of safety.<br><br>Propose strategies to foster a culture of safety. |

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| **5.2b** Articulate the nurse's role within an interprofessional team in promoting safety and preventing errors and near misses. | Identify the nurse's role in developing and implementing a safety plan in an interprofessional team setting.<br><br>Listen to and incorporate input from other team members regarding safety protocols. | Communicate the nurse's role effectively and respectfully within interprofessional teams regarding patient safety concerns.<br><br>Communicate patient safety concerns to other interprofessional team members. |
| **5.2c** Examine basic safety design principles to reduce risk of harm. | Identify basic safety design principles within clinical settings to reduce errors.<br><br>Articulate how standardized procedures and checklists contribute to patient safety. | Analyze outcome data to determine the effectiveness of safety design principles. |
| **5.2d** Assume accountability for reporting unsafe conditions, near misses, and errors to reduce harm. | Identify potential and actual errors and safety concerns related to patient care.<br><br>Articulate the steps for reporting potential or actual errors through authorized channels. | Report observed or suspected patient safety concerns using appropriate channels.<br><br>Accept feedback constructively and reflect on its role in patient safety. |
| **5.2e** Describe processes used in understanding causes of error. | Compare the processes used to analyze the contributing factors for errors. | Participate in discussions about the root causes of patient safety events.<br><br>Analyze root causes of patient safety incidents and identify potential contributing factors. |
| **5.2f** Use national patient safety resources, initiatives, and regulations at the point of care. | Reference relevant national patient safety guidelines and resources in clinical discussions.<br><br>Apply knowledge of patient safety regulations to clinical practice. | Utilize current evidence-based patient safety guidelines and regulations.<br><br>Integrate national patient safety resources into daily clinical practice. |

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| **5.3 Contribute to a culture of provider and work environment safety.** | | |
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| **5.3a** Identify actual and potential level of risks to providers within the workplace. | Demonstrate awareness of potential workplace hazards in clinical settings.<br><br>Seek information about workplace safety protocols and procedures.<br><br>Report observed safety hazards to appropriate personnel. | Conduct a thorough workplace safety assessment within a clinical setting.<br><br>Develop and implement strategies to mitigate identified workplace hazards.<br><br>Educate peers on identified workplace safety risks and preventative measures. |
| **5.3b** Recognize how to prevent workplace violence and injury. | Identify factors that may contribute to workplace violence and injury.<br><br>Describe strategies for preventing workplace violence and injury. | Demonstrate de-escalation techniques when interacting with agitated patients or colleagues.<br><br>Utilize safe patient handling techniques to prevent injury.<br><br>Maintain a safe working environment. |
| **5.3c** Promote policies for prevention of violence and risk mitigation. | Adhere to all workplace safety policies and procedures.<br><br>Participate in safety rounds and discussions related to workplace safety.<br><br>Suggest practical solutions to improve workplace safety within the clinical setting. | Advocate for improved workplace safety policies and procedures within a healthcare setting. |
| **5.3d** Recognize one's role in sustaining a just culture reflecting civility and respect. | Treat patients, visitors, staff, and peers with respect and professionalism.<br><br>Communicate concerns and issues constructively and assertively.<br><br>Demonstrate empathy and compassion towards colleagues. | Recognize and address incivility or bullying through using professional and respectful communication, documenting, and reporting incidents per institutional policies, engaging in conflict resolution strategies, and advocating for a culture of respect in the workplace.<br><br>Model professional behavior to foster a positive work environment. |