**Nursing Care of the Client with Liver Failure**

**Learning Activity Week 10 & 12**

**Overview:**

The liver is a critical organ for not only lipid synthesis but the detoxification of endogenous and exogenous substances such as hormones, drugs and poisons, thus any interruption or change in its ability to function can adversely affect the client’s health. There are numerous types of liver disease that affect all ages and for a variety of reasons. For example, liver cancer, autoimmune diseases and hepatitis are some health issues that can adversely affect liver function. According to the Canadian Liver Foundation (2013), there are approximately 3 million Canadians living with liver disease. Furthermore, death rates from liver disease continues to rise which places more emphasis on early screening, diagnosis and effective treatment strategies for maintenance and symptom management. In this unit we will review the nursing management of liver disease with a focus on assessments and interventions to client comfort.

**Concepts:**

* *Comfort*
* *Epidemiology*
* *Healing*
* *Spirituality*
* *Hope*

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

* Understand the nursing care of the client with liver failure including assessment, labs, and interventions.
* Understand the concepts of comfort, spiritual health, and hope in providing nursing care to a client with end stage liver disease

**In Preparation:**

**For Week 10:**

1. Read

Potter, P.A., Perry, A.G., Ross-Kerr, J.C., & Wood, M.J., Astle, B.J. & Duggleby, W. (2014), Canadian fundamentals of nursing 5th Ed. Toronto, Canada: Mosby Elsevier

Chapter 27 Spiritual Health pg. 433-445 and Chapter 17 Communication pg. 254

1. **If your last name begins with the letter A-K, you will read the following article posted on moodle:**

Lau-Walker M., Presky J., Webzell I., Murrells T., & Heaton N. (2016) Patients with

alcohol-related liver disease – beliefs about their illness and factors that influence their self-management. *Journal of Advanced Nursing 72(1),*173–185. doi: 10.1111/jan.12826

**If you last names begins with the letter L-Z, you will read the following article posted on moodle:**

Aghahosseini, S. S., Nayeri, N. D., Shahsavari, H., & Tosi, M. N. (2017). Life Experiences of Hepatitis Patients Waiting for Liver Transplantation. *Hepatitis Monthly*, *17*(10), 1-8. doi:10.5812/hepatmon.57775

1. **Please prepare a synopsis of the article you were asked to read (see above) to share to the class. Highlight 2 significant points from the article.**

**\*\* Liver Failure quiz will be based on the above readings and in class material. The quiz will consist of 20 marks, short answer and multiple choice.**

**\*\*Quiz given in week 12**

**For Week 12:**

1. Read

Lewis, S. M., Dirksen, S. R., Heitkemper, M. M., Bucher,L. & Camera, I. (Eds.). (2014). Medical*-surgical nursing in Canada: Assessment and management of clinical problems* (3rd ed.).Toronto, ON: Canada: Elsevier Mosby

Chapter 46 – Nursing Management: Liver, pancreas and biliary tract problems. Pages 1233 - 1245 (stop at disorders of the Fulminant Hepatic failure)

**In Reflection:**

Consider how a client’s autonomy, dignity and self-determination can be promoted during liver failure.