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Community NCD Older Adult and Mental Health Screening

Practical 04 / Supervised community practicum

Aim

Complete a supervised chronic disease and functional screening activity and document appropriate referrals.

Principle

Repeated valid measurements, screening limitations and practical linkage to services support early review.

Articles and Materials

- Fictional community clinic register and screening cards
- BP device, growth or nutrition tools and referral checklist

Procedure

1. Confirm target group, age and current screening criteria. Explain the session, obtain permission and ask about urgent symptoms first.
2. Record approved measures such as blood pressure or capillary glucose with technique, timing and units. Repeat or verify unexpected findings.
3. Review NCD history, medicines and lifestyle context and check the programme's referral criteria for the assigned case. Explain any screening limitations.

Continue with step 4 on the next page.

Procedure Continued

Community NCD Older Adult and Mental Health Screening

4. Assess an older adult's function, falls, sensory support and caregiving needs with an approved tool. Document baseline and meaningful change.
5. Use the approved mental health screen with privacy and verify clinical interpretation and safety needs with the supervising team.
6. Explain findings and agree a practical referral, prevention action or recheck. Confirm access and preferred contact.
7. Record the result and plan and coordinate with the authorised field worker or clinic. Track whether the referral was completed.
8. Document outcome, limitations and reassessment time without disclosing unnecessary personal details.

Precautions

- Follow programme and clinical criteria.
- Attend to new urgent physical or mental health concerns promptly.

Observations and Record

Community NCD Older Adult and Mental Health Screening

Documentation

Item	What to record	Why it matters
Measurements	Technique, values and context	Supports valid results
Risk	Functional and mental health concerns	Tailors care
Follow-up	Threshold, referral and completion	Protects linkage

Worked Example

A newly elevated BP screen is confirmed with correct technique and a repeat. The student records the values and books authorised follow-up.

Result and Evaluation

Complete a sound screening assessment and document a verified next step.

Viva Questions and Answers

Why repeat a questionable measurement?

It helps check technique and reliability.

What accounts for a positive screen?

It identifies need for appropriate assessment according to the programme.

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