

Educational Rationale and Need

This scenario is designed to teach students to use the ACES Essential Knowledge Domains and Nursing Actions as a framework for thinking about the care and planning of nursing interventions. Listed below are other recommended resources and tools. Students should be introduced to these concepts before simulation.

The scenario is based on best practices, but because treatments vary by region, faculty may wish to include medications, treatments, and standards of care that are current practice in their areas.

ACES Framework – Essential Nursing Actions

Assess Function and Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the older adult's individual aging pattern and functional status using standardized assessment tools. Use effective communication techniques to recognize, respond to, and respect an older adult's strengths, wishes, and expectations. Include findings of assessment of older adult's cognition, mood, physical function, and comfort to fully assess the individual aging pattern.
Coordinate and Manage Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage chronic conditions, including atypical presentations, in daily life and during life transitions to maximize function and maintain independence. Assist older adults and families/caregivers to access knowledge and evaluate resources. Advocate during acute exacerbations of chronic conditions to prevent complications.
Use Evolving Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand geriatric syndromes and unique presentations of common diseases in older adults. Access and use emerging information and research evidence about the special care needs of older adults and appropriate treatment options. Interpret findings and evaluate clinical situations in order to provide high quality nursing care based on current knowledge and best practices.
Make Situational Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze risks and benefits of care decisions in collaboration with the interdisciplinary team and the older adult and family/caregivers. Evaluate situations where standard treatment recommendations need to be modified to manage care in the context of the older adult's needs and life transitions. Consider the older adult's wishes, expectations, resources, cultural traditions, and strengths when modifying care approaches.