

# COMMUNICATION IN NURSING





#### PARTS OF THE DAY

- Morning (until 12 pm or noon)
- Afternoon (from 12 pm 6 pm)
- Evening (from 6 pm 12 am or midnight)
- Breakfast
- Mid-morning snack

(Brunch)

- Lunch
- Mid-afternoon snack
- Dinner/Supper

#### INTRODUCING YOURSELF

- <u>Be professional</u>: GREET PATIENTS and RELATIVES ACCORDING TO TIME OF THE DAY, ALWAYS BE READY TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF, MAKE EYE CONTACT, ALWAYS KNOCK FIRST
- Body language: STAND TALL, HANDS OUT OF POCKETS, DO NOT CROSS ARMS OR LEGS, DO NOT PUT HANDS ON HIPS
- Well-groomed: SCRUBS CLEAN, ADEQUATE SIZE SCRUBS, ID VISIBLE, HAIR TIGHT BACK

## ADDRESSING PEOPLE APPROPRIATELY

- Adequate bedside manner: KIND, SOFT VOICE, DO NOT PATRONISE!, BE RESPECTFUL, REASSURING, ADDRESS PEOPLE BY THEIR TITLE
- > Sir/Madam
- > Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Dr, Father, Reverend, Sister

## **GREETING PEOPLE**

- HOW DO YOU DO? (formalism)
- O HOW ARE YOU?
- ARE YOU ALRIGHT? ARE YOU OK?
- WHAT'S UP? HOW'S TRICKS? HELLO THERE! (coll.)

- O HOW DO YOU DO?
- o I'M FINE, THANK YOU
- o I'M O.K, THANKS

## On departure

- I wish you a very good night
- o I must be on my way
- o I'm afraid I have to go now
- o I look forward to seeing you again soon
- o I hope to see you again tomorrow
- Bye for now
- See you soon
- o (other informal ways)

#### **ASKING PEOPLE HOW THEY FEEL**

- O HOW ARE YOU TODAY?
- O HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
- WHAT'S THE MATTER? / WHAT'S WRONG?
- WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
- WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE TODAY?
- WHAT IS YOUR MAIN COMPLAINT?
- ARE YOU IN ANY PAIN OR DISCOMFORT?

## THANKING PEOPLE

- THANK YOU
- THANK YOU VERY MUCH
- O MANY THANKS
- THANKS
- THANKS A LOT
- CHEERS

- DON'T MENTION IT (formalism)
- YOU ARE WELCOME
- NOT AT ALL
- IT'S OK / IT'S ALRIGHT (coll.)

## **APOLOGISING TO PEOPLE**

- EXCUSE ME (when interrupting)
- SORRY / I AM TERRIBLY SORRY
- SINCERE APOLOGIES
- I FEEL BAD ABOUT IT
- PARDON? (when not understanding)

- DON'T WORRY
- IT'S NOT A PROBLEM
- IT'S OK / IT'S ALRIGHT (coll.)
- IT DOESN'T MATTER
- THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST

#### **EXPRESSING GOOD WISHES**

- GOOD LUCK (BREAK A LEG)
- ALL THE BEST
- HAVE A NICE TIME
- **OI HOPE IT GOES WELL**

- GET WELL SOON / I WISH YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY
- I WISH YOU WELL

- PLEASE ACCEPT MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY
- I FEEL FOR YOU AT THIS TIME
- MY HEART GOES OUT TO YOU
- MY SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON YOUR SAD LOSS

#### **FITNESS**

- YOU LOOK WELL TODAY!
- YOU LOOK AS FIT AS A FIDDLE
- YOU'RE THE PICTURE OF HEALTH
- I'M IN TOP FORM
- I FEEL ON TOP OF THE WORLD

#### **WEAKNESS**

- I FEEL UNWELL
- I DON'T FEEL WELL /TOO GOOD / 100%
- **OIFEEL WOBBLY**
- I FEEL WISHY-WASHY
- o I'M IN AGONY / IN PAIN

## COMFORTING

- ALL IS NOT YET LOST
- STOP TORMENTING YOURSELF
- TRY TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER
- YOU HAVE NO REASON TO WORRY
- EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE ALRIGHT
- THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM
- DON'T UPSET YOURSELF
- LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE
- O CHEER UP! / CHIN UP! / KEEP YOUR SPIRITS UP
- DON'T MAKE YOURSELF ILL / DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELF

#### **SYMPATHY**

- ALL IS NOT YET LOST
- STOP TORMENTING YOURSELF
- TRY TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER
- YOU HAVE NO REASON TO WORRY
- EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE ALRIGHT
- THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM
- DON'T UPSET YOURSELF
- LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE
- O CHEER UP! / CHIN UP!
- DON'T MAKE YOURSELF ILL / DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELF

## **OFFERING HELP**

- I AM ENTIRELY AT YOUR DISPOSAL
- I WOULD BE PLEASE TO HELP YOU
- I WILL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU
- CAN I BE OF ANY HELP TO YOU?
- IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN HELP YOU?
- ANYTHING I CAN DO?
- CAN I GIVE YOU A HAND?
- YOU CAN COUNT ON ME
- ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN MANAGE?
- IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, GIVE US A SHOUT

- -Thank you, that's very kind of you
- -You're an angel
- -I'm ok, thank you
- -Please, don't trouble yourself

## **ASKING FOR PERMISSION**

- MAY I…, PLEASE?
- OCOULD I..., PLEASE?
- IS IT OK IF I...?
- O DO YOU MIND IF I...?
- WOULD YOU MIND IF I…?
- WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT TO...?
- WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WOULD LIKE TO...

- -Certainly / Of course / Sure / Good ahead / Feel free
- -Not now, please / Not now, later if you like
- -Of course not

#### CONGRATULATIONS

- Well done! / Congratulations! / Great job!
- Allow me to congratulate you
- Way to go!
- o Thumbs up!
- o You are just great/terrific!

#### **BREAKING NEWS**

- I AM PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT...
- **O I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT...**
- I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT...
- I AM AFRAID TO TELL YOU THAT...

## **MAKING SUGGESTIONS**

- WHAT ABOUT... (-ing)?
- WHY DON'T YOU...?
- WHAT IF...?
- WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT…?
- o IF I WERE YOU...
- I ADVISE / SUGGEST / RECOMMEND

## INDIGNATION AND DISAPPROVAL

- I'M UNHAPPY ABOUT THAT
- IT'S A DISGRACE / OUTRAGEOUS/ APPALLING / AWFUL / ATROCIOUS
- **OIT'S DISGUSTING**
- o I REFUSE TO...
- WHAT A MESS!
- o I'M FED UP
- I HAVE HAD ENOUGH
- THAT'S NOT ACCEPTABLE