



Camp Nursing Learning Scenarios for Clinical Use

As nursing programs consider opportunities to collaborate with camps for potential clinical activities, this document can be a resource for learning scenarios. Our desire is that we can support the transition of clinical experiences to community based programs like camp. The following are potential scenarios related to healthcare in the camp setting. Consider how you might use for educational purposes, case study presentations, or potential simulation activities.

1. A nurse is providing care in an overnight camp setting. On the third day of the camp three campers from the same cabin present with vomiting and diarrhea. What action should the nurse take?

Two hours later two campers from a different cabin present with the same symptoms. What additional information will the nurse need to collect related to the cases presented?

By the end of day four more than half of the camp is sick with the same symptoms. What actions should the nurse take?

2. A nurse is developing a teaching plan for camp staff during pre-camp training. The majority of the staff are college-aged. What information should the nurse include related to personal care and wellness?
3. The camp nurse is part of the team establishing a plan for mental health support at camp. What tools and techniques could be used to promote a positive camp environment? How can the team go about creating a sense of belonging for the campers and staff?
4. A counselor in the green cabin reports to the nurse concerns about bullying in the cabin group. The counselor shares that he has separated the campers and tried to get campers to “follow the rules”. Is there a potential different approach? Create a plan for addressing bullying in the camp setting.
5. A camper visits the nurse and shares their dad passed away last year and they now live with their grandparents. The camper shares that they have woken up and found their

grandfather in their room watching them sleep and they don't feel safe at home. What action should the nurse take?

6. During check-in a parent provides the nurse with homeopathic supplements that they want their child to have on a daily basis. What action should the nurse take?
7. A nurse is working at a camp that uses the practice of "repackaging" medications for campers (preparing them and putting them in small envelopes labeled with the camper's name). The nurse prepared and administered the campers medication each day. After camp closes you get a phone call from an upset mother whose daughter has significant depression saying that when her daughter returned from camp she said she had not been given her daily dose of Zoloft. How should you respond?
8. A camper brings growth hormone injections to camp. The camp policy is that no injections are given at camp because of the risk of an allergic reaction. The mother assures the nurse the child has been receiving them for months and has had no problems. The camp director would like the child to stay. What should the nurse do?
9. An adult with special needs comes to camp. All of his medications are crushed and melted into a bar of chocolate by his mother with the different days and times loosely scored. The patient will not swallow pills and has always taken his medication this way. What action should the nurse take?
10. There is a weather warning that there are tornados expected in the area of the camp overnight. What action should the nurse take?
11. The camp nurse notes that there are several boys who are complaining of chaffing to their inner thighs. What education can the nurse provide to the staff and campers?
12. One of the staff reports that they have found three ticks on themselves after hiking in the woods. What training should the nurse provide regarding prevention of tick bites and checking for ticks? What precautions should be taken?
13. A camper reports to the health center with complaints of a headache at the end of the day. What assessment should be done? What actions could the nurse implement to address the camper's complaint? What education can the nurse provide to campers and staff that may address prevention of dehydration?
14. A teenaged camper is perscribed buspirone daily for anxiety. The nurse notes that the camper does not come to the healthcare center at bedtime to take their medication and knows the parent was explicit about the camper taking their medication. When the nurse

goes to the cabin to administer the medication the camper says they don't need it and don't take it regularly at home and refuse to take it. What action should the nurse take?

15. During camper arrival day, nursing students are helping to complete the intake process which includes medications, tick checks, and abuse screening. The nursing student finds several bruises on the back and arms of a camper. What questions might need to be asked? What are the next steps?
16. A camp participant slips on a rock at the lake and hits their head on ground reporting some pain on the left posterior aspect of head. The next step is to complete an incident report. What should be included in the incident report? Who should be part of the conversation regarding the accident? What follow up should be organized?