PHILOSOPHY, PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Philosophy:

The Wound, Ostomy, and Continence (ET) Nursing Department is an integral part of LSU Health Sciences Center health care team. The WOC (ET) Nurse provides consistent and updated care to all patients who require WOC (ET) nursing care.

WOC (ET) Nurses manage the care of patients with ostomies, draining wounds, incontinence, and pressure ulcers. The WOC (ET) Nurse views each patient as an individual and plans the appropriate treatment regimen. Along with the medical and nursing staff the WOC (ET) Nurse works on a daily basis to achieve the maximum potential of each patient.

Purpose:

To provide individualized care for patients requiring ostomy surgery and those with special skin care needs.

The basic goal of the WOC (ET) Nursing department is to provide acute and rehabilitative care for patients with abdominal stomas, wounds, fistulas, drains, pressure ulcers, and incontinence.

Objectives:

1. Facilitate patient teaching in preoperative and postoperative ostomy surgery / pressure ulcer management.

2. Reinforce information received from physicians regarding ostomy surgery.

3. Initiate and follow through on discharge planning.

4. Provide patients with information regarding resources and community support systems.

5. Develop health education programs within the hospital and in the community.