Chapter 3

Careers in Health Care
3:1 Introduction to Health Careers

• Education
  – Requirements vary by program and state
  – High school preparation
  – Health science technology education (HSTE)
  – Post-secondary education
  – Types of degrees
  – National Consortium on Health Science and Technology Education (NCHSTE)
Certification, Registration, and Licensure

- Purpose
- Certification process and examples
- Registration process and examples
- Licensure process and examples
Accrediting Agencies

• Purpose
• Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
• Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)
Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

- Purpose
- Requirements vary between careers
- Student must know requirements in their state
Training Levels

- Professional
- Technologist or therapist
- Technician
- Aide or assistant
Multicompetent or Multiskilled Workers

• New trend in health occupations
• Workers perform a variety of occupations
• Eliminates need for employing specialist for every aspect of care
• Examples
• Education done on the job or through educational programs

Monday, August 23, 2010
Entrepreneur

- Definition
- Work conditions
- Advantages and disadvantages
- Examples
National Health Care Skill Standards (NHCSS)

- Purpose
- Health Care Core Standards
- Therapeutic/Diagnostic Core Standards
- Therapeutic Cluster Standards (Therapeutic Services)
- Diagnostic Cluster Standards (Diagnostic Services)

(continues)
• Health Informatics Services Cluster Standards
• Support Environmental Services Cluster Standards
• Biotechnology Research and Development Standards
Various levels in health care require different educational requirements
- On-the-job training
- HSTE program
- Associate’s degree
- Bachelor’s degree
- Master’s degree
- Doctoral degree (Doctor’s)
Summary

• Different health occupations require different levels of education
• Some careers require certification, registration, or licensure
• Requirements vary from state to state
• Student must obtain information pertinent to an individual state
3:2 Therapeutic Services Careers

- **Basic job description**
  - Use variety of treatments to help patients who are injured, physically or mentally disabled, or emotionally disturbed
  - Direct treatment toward allowing the patient to function at maximum capacity

- **Places of employment**
3:2A Dental Careers

• Basic job duties
  – Health of teeth and soft tissues of mouth
  – Preventing dental disease
  – Repairing or replacing diseased or damaged teeth
  – Treating gingiva (gums) and other supporting structures of the teeth

• Places of employment

(continues)
Dental Careers

(continued)

• Specialty areas
• See Table 3-3 in text
• Dentist
• Dental hygienist
• Dental laboratory technician (CLDT)
• Dental assistant
3:2B Emergency Medical Services Careers

• **Basic job duties**
  – Provide emergency prehospital care
  – Provide care to victims of accidents, injuries, and sudden illness

• **Places of employment**
Emergency Medical Services Careers

(continued)

• See Table 3-4 in text
• Emergency medical technician paramedic (EMT-P, EMT-4)
• Emergency medical technician intermediate (EMT-1, EMT-2, EMT-3)
• Emergency medical technician basic (EMT-B, EMT-1)
• First responder (e.g., police, security, individual)
3:2C Medical Careers

• Basic description
  – Includes physicians and those who work under their supervision
  – Involved with diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of diseases and disorders of the human body

• Places of employment

(continues)
Medical Careers

(continued)

• See Table 3-5 in text
• Physician (doctor): MD, DO, DPM, DC
• Physician assistant
• Medical assistant
3:2D Mental and Social Services

• Basic job duties
  – Mental or emotional disorders or mental retardation
  – Social workers assist others to deal with illness, employment, or community problems
  – Focus: help individuals function to their maximum capacity

• Places of employment

(continues)
Mental and Social Services Careers (continued)

- See Table 3-7 in text
- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Psychiatric/mental health technician
- Social worker (sociologist)
- Genetic counselor
3:2E Mortuary Careers

• Basic job duties
  – Preparation of the body
  – Perform ceremony that honors the deceased and meets the spiritual needs of the living
  – Cremation or burial of the remains
  – Practices and rites vary due to cultural and religious preferences

• Places of employment
3:2F Nursing Careers

• Basic job duties
  – Provide care under direction of a physician
  – Direct care given to meet mental, emotional, and physical needs of the patient

• Places of employment

(continues)
Nursing Careers
(continued)

• See Table 3-9 in text
• Registered nurse (RN)
• Licensed practical/vocational nurse (LPN/LVN)
• Nurse assistant
• Geriatric aide

(continues)
Nursing Careers
(continued)

• Home health care assistant
• Medication aide
• Certified nurse technician
• Patient care technician
Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

- Purpose
- Requirements vary between careers
- Student must know requirements in their state
3:2G Nutrition and Dietary Services Careers

• Basic job duties
  – Recognize importance good nutrition has for health
  – Promote wellness and optimum health through good nutrition
  – Provide dietary guidelines used to treat various diseases
  – Teach proper nutrition
  – Prepare food for health care facilities

• Places of employment

(continues)
Nutrition and Dietary Careers

(continued)

- See Table 3-10 in text
- Dietitian or nutritionist
- Dietetic technician
- Dietetic assistant or food service worker
3:2H Veterinary Careers

• Basic description
  – Work with all types of animals
  – Range from house pets to livestock to wildlife

• Places of employment

(continues)
Veterinary Careers (continued)

- See Table 3-11 in text
- Veterinarian (DVM or VDM)
- Veterinary (animal health) technologist (VTR, registered)
- Veterinarian assistant (animal caretaker)
3:2I Vision Services Careers

• Basic job duties
  – Provide care to prevent vision disorders
  – Treat vision disorders

• Places of employment

(continues)
Vision Services Careers

(continued)

• See Table 3-12 in text
• Ophthalmologist (MD)
• Optometrist (OD)
• Ophthalmic medical technologist (COMT)
• Ophthalmic technician (COT)
• Ophthalmic assistant (COA)
• Optician
• Ophthalmic laboratory technician
3:2J Other Therapeutic Services Careers

- See Table 3-13 in text
- Occupational therapist (OT)
- Occupational therapy assistant
- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy technician
- Physical therapist (PT)
- Physical therapist assistant

(continues)
Other Therapeutic Services Careers

(continued)

• Massage therapist
• Recreational therapist (TR)
• Certified therapeutic recreation specialist
• Recreational therapy assistant or activity director
• Respiratory therapist (RT)
• Respiratory therapy technician

(continues)
Other Therapeutic Services Careers

(continued)

- Speech-language therapist/pathologist and/or audiologist
- Surgical technician/technologist
- Art, music, dance therapist
- Athletic trainer
- Dialysis technician
- Perfusionist, certified clinical perfusionist, or extracorporeal circulation technologist
3:3 Diagnostic Services Careers

• See Table 3-14 in text
• Cardiovascular technologist
• Registered diagnostic vascular technologist (RDTV)
• Electrocardiograph (ECG) technician
• Electroencephalographic technologist

(continues)
Diagnostic Careers
(continued)

- Electroneurodiagnostic technologist
- Medical (clinical) laboratory technologist
- Medical (clinical) laboratory technician
- Medical (clinical) laboratory assistant
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic technologist
3:4 Health Informatics Careers

• Basic job duties
  – Documentation of patient records
  – Health information
  – Health education

• Places of employment

(continues)
Health Informatics Careers

(continued)

• See Table 3-15 in text
• Health information (medical records) administrator registered (RRA)
• Health information (medical records) technician registered (RHIT)
• Medical transcriptionist
• Admitting officers/clerks

(continues)
Health Informatics Careers

(continued)

• Unit secretary/ward clerk/health unit coordinator/medical records clerk
• Epidemiologist
• Medical interpreter/translator
• Medical illustrator
• Medical librarian
3:5 Support Services Careers

• Basic description
  – Create therapeutic environment
  – Operate support departments
  – Each department has workers at all levels with varying amounts of education

• Places of employment

(continues)
Support Services Careers
(continued)

- See Table 3-16 in text
- Health care administrator, health services manager, or health care executive
- Biomedical (clinical) engineer
- Admitting officer/clerk
- Central/sterile supply worker
- Housekeeping worker/sanitary manager
3:6 Biotechnology Research and Development Careers

• Basic description
  – Use living cells to create products
  – Research and development
  – Disease prevention

• Unlimited potential for biotechnology

• Places of employment
Biotechnology Careers

(continued)

- Refer to Table 3-17 in text
- Biological or medical scientists
- Biotechnological engineers (bioengineers)
- Biological technicians
- Process technicians
- Forensic science technicians
Summary

• Health care careers are as exciting as they are diverse with over 250 different opportunities available
• Each career has specific education requirements, job descriptions, and annual salaries earned
• There are many occupational opportunities for a successful career in health care