Assessment 3 - Written (50%)

**Word count**: 1200 words (leeway 10% either side of the 1200 words).

**Task Description**

This assignment has a focus on evaluating and referencing clinical practice guidelines, evaluating and referencing reputable websites, and analysing ethical considerations in evidence-based nursing practice. You will also need to access the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and information on the quality use of medicines.

**Setting the Scene for your assignment**: You are a nursing student on clinical placement in an Emergency Department. Your RN has shared with you their observation about the number of elderly people coming into the hospital with medication related conditions. The RN is concerned that many elderly people admitted to the Emergency Department do not have adequate knowledge of their medication and this is resulting in increased hospital admissions, poor health outcomes and in some cases death. The RN further adds that the department does not have clinical practice guidelines based on the best available evidence to be used by staff to guide the management of elderly people who are presenting with medication related health issues, or what information the nurse should provide the person. As a result, the RN states that they have seen inconsistent information regarding medication safety provided to elderly people when they are discharged from the Emergency Department. The RN asks you to search and review the current evidence to assist the department to develop policies and procedures with regards to safe medication practice for elderly people.

**Instructions**

Following on from your searches in Assessment 1, you are to write recommendations for the Emergency Department staff to assist them in ensuring their practice aligns with the best available evidence. You also need to explore the ethical considerations around medication safety and elderly people.

**What sources of evidence you must use:** You **MUST** use relevant clinical practice guidelines, reputable websites, credible journal articles, the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and information on the Quality Use of Medicines. You may also use relevant articles from your first assessment.

**What do you need to do next: First**, appraise the evidence presented in clinical practice guidelines, websites and academic materials including journal articles, **secondly**, explore the ethical considerations, and **finally**, provide evidence-based recommendations that can be incorporated into the Emergency Department's policies and into clinical nursing practice.

**To summarise how to set out your assessment:**

**Task 1.** **Summary of evidence and recommendations**. Locate at least one relevant clinical practice guideline, reputable websites and a selection of credible journal articles. Summarise the current evidence and recommendations for this situation. Relate these findings to the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and quality use of medicines.

**Task 2.** **Ethical considerations.** Describe the ethical considerations in relation to medication safety for elderly people as per scenario above. Limit your discussion points to the four ethical principles (autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice). These exact words **MUST** be included in the discussion.

**Task 3.** **Provide evidence-based recommendations for the Emergency Department.** These recommendations must be cited in-text. Provide 2-4 clear evidence-based recommendations able to be incorporate into the Emergency Department's policies and into clinical nursing practice. Justify your recommendations. Be sure to include in-text citations for your recommendations.

**Please note:** Evidence sources should be no older than 5 years.

**The format of your assignment should be as follows:**

· A title page. Please see Assessment 3 exemplar for title page requirements.

· Body (consisting of 3 paragraphs with headings as per the tasks)

· Reference list in the 6th edition of the APA style. This is available via a link on the NURS11158 Moodle site. **Formatting**: i) APA reference list items use a hanging indentation; and ii) the first line of each paragraph should be indented; see the exemplar and the 6th edition of the *Abridged APA Referencing Guide* on the Moodle site for guidance.