Maslow's Hierarchy of
Needs
Adapted for Nursing
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Maslow A. H., A Theory of
Human
Motivation. Psychological
Review. 1943;50:370–398

SelfActualization

Spiritual growth,
ability to
empower and recognize
the point of view of others,
reaching one's maximum potential

Self-Esteem

Acceptance in the community, workforce, personal achievement, sense of control or empowerment, accepting one's physical appearance or body habitus.

Love and Belonging

Foster supportive relationships, methods to avoid social isolation (bullying), employ active listening techniques, therapeutic communication, sexual intimacy

Safety and Security Injury Prevention

(side rails, call lights, hand hygiene, isolation, suicide precautions, fall precautions, car seats, helmets, seat belts), fostering a climate of trust and safety (therapeutic relationship), patient education (modifiable risk factors for stroke, heart disease)

Basic Physiological Needs

Toileting (elimination), nutrition (food, water), exercise, sex, shelter, ABC's (airwaysuction, breathing-oxygen, circulation-pulse check, cardiac monitoring, blood pressure)

Maslow's
Hierarchy helps
to prioritize
care and
formulate a
nursing
diagnosis