

Allow responsibility for simple tasks (e.g., collecting specimens).

Include child in decision making (e.g., time of day to perform procedure, preferred site).

Encourage active participation (e.g., removing dressings, handling equipment, opening packages).

### **Developing Relationships with Peers**

Prepare two or more children for same procedure or encourage one to help prepare another.

Provide privacy from peers during procedure to maintain self-esteem.

### **Adolescent: Developing Identity and Abstract Thought**

#### **Increasing Abstract Thought and Reasoning**

Discuss why procedure is necessary or beneficial.

Explain long-term consequences of procedures; include information about body systems working together.

Realize adolescent may fear death, disability, or other potential risks.

Encourage questioning regarding fears, options, and alternatives.

#### **Consciousness of Appearance**

Provide privacy; describe how the body will be covered and what will be exposed.

Discuss how procedure may affect appearance (e.g., scar) and what can be done to minimize it.

Emphasize any physical benefits of procedure.

#### **Concern More with Present Than with Future**