

## Test Generator Questions, Chapter 1, Introduction to Drugs

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Analyze

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 1

Page and Header: 3, Introduction

1. A nurse working in radiology administers iodine to a client who is having a computed tomography (CT) scan. The nurse working on the oncology unit administers chemotherapy to clients who have cancer. At the Public Health Department, a nurse administers a measles–mumps–rubella (MMR) vaccine to a 14-month-old child as a routine immunization. Which branch of pharmacology **best** describes the actions of all three nurses?

- A) pharmacoeconomics
- B) pharmacotherapeutics
- C) pharmacodynamics
- D) pharmacokinetics

Ans: B

**Feedback:** Pharmacology is the study of the biologic effects of chemicals. Nurses are involved with clinical pharmacology or pharmacotherapeutics, which is a branch of pharmacology that deals with the uses of drugs to treat, prevent, and diagnose disease. The radiology nurse is administering a drug to help diagnose a disease. The oncology nurse is administering a drug to help treat a disease. Pharmacoeconomics includes any costs involved in drug therapy. Pharmacodynamics involves how a drug affects the body, and pharmacokinetics is how the body acts on the body.

Format: Multiple

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 3

Page and Header: Legal Regulation of Drugs, 19, Box 1.2

2. The care provider has prescribed intravenous hydromorphone, an opioid, for a client using a client-controlled analgesia (PCA) pump. The nurse is aware that this drug has a high abuse potential. Under what category would hydromorphone be classified?

- A) schedule I
- B) schedule II
- C) schedule III
- D) shedule IV

Ans: B

**Feedback:** Opioids with a high abuse potential are classified as schedule II drugs because of severe dependence liability. Schedule I drugs have high abuse potential and no accepted medical use. Schedule III drugs have a lesser abuse potential than schedule II drugs and an accepted medical use. Schedule IV drugs have low abuse potential and limited dependence liability.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 14, Drug Evaluation

3. When involved in phase III drug evaluation studies, what action should the nurse perform?

- A) Work with animals which are given experimental drugs.
- B) Select appropriate clients to be involved in the drug study.
- C) Monitor and observe clients closely for adverse effects.
- D) Make decisions that will determine effectiveness of the drug.

Ans: C

**Feedback:** Phase III studies involve use of a drug in a larger sample of the population. The purpose is to determine the treatment benefit and to monitor side effects that may not have been apparent in the earlier studies. Phase I studies involve healthy human volunteers who are usually paid for their participation. Nurses may observe for adverse effects and toxicity. Nurses may be responsible for helping collect and analyze the information to be shared with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) but would not conduct research independently because nurses do not prescribe medications. Use of animals in drug testing is done in the preclinical trials. Select clients who are involved in phase II studies have the disease the drug is intended to treat. These clients are monitored closely for drug action and adverse effects.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Analyze

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 22, Legal Regulation of Drugs

4. What concept is **prioritized** when a provider is considering the substitution of brand name drug with a generic drug?

- A) bioequivalency
- B) critical concentration
- C) distribution
- D) half-life

Ans: A

**Feedback:** The goal is that the generic medication is bioequivalent (has the same effect on the body) to the brand name medication. Binders used in a generic drug may not be the same as those used in the brand name drug. Therefore, the way the body breaks down and uses the drug may differ, which may eliminate a generic drug substitution. Critical concentration is the amount of a drug that is needed to cause a therapeutic effect and should not differ between generic and brand name medications. Distribution is the phase of pharmacokinetics, which involves the movement of a drug to the body's tissues and is the same in generic and brand name drugs. A drug's half-life is the time it takes for the amount of drug to decrease to half the peak level, which should not change when substituting a generic medication.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 23, Legal Regulation of Drugs

5. A nurse is assessing the client's home medication use. After listening to the client list current medications, the nurse asks what **priority** question?

- A) "Do you take any generic medications?"
- B) "Are any of these medications orphan drugs?"
- C) "Are these medications safe to take during pregnancy?"
- D) "Do you take any over-the-counter medications?"

Ans: D

**Feedback:** It is important for the nurse to specifically question use of over-the-counter medications because clients may not consider them important. The client is unlikely to know the meaning of "orphan drugs" unless they are a healthcare provider. Safety during pregnancy, use of a generic medication, or classification of orphan drugs are things the client would be unable to answer but could be found in reference books if the nurse wishes to research them.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 5, Introduction

6. What goal should a nurse set when beginning a course on pharmacology for nurses?

- A) At the completion of the course, the nurse will know everything necessary for safe and effective medication administration.
- B) At the completion of the course, the nurse will know current pharmacologic therapy and will not require ongoing education for 5 years.
- C) At the completion of the course, the nurse will know general drug information because the nurse can consult a drug guide for specific drug information.

D) At the completion of the course, the nurse will understand each drug action that is associated with each classification of medication.

Ans: C

**Feedback:** After completing a pharmacology course, nurses will have general drug information needed for safe and effective medication administration but will need to consult a drug guide for specific drug information before administering any medication. Pharmacology is constantly changing, with new drugs entering the market and new uses for existing drugs identified. Continuing education in pharmacology is essential to safe practice. Nurses tend to become familiar with the medications they administer most often, but there will always be a need to research new drugs and also those the nurse is not familiar with because no nurse knows all medications.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 19, Safety During Pregnancy, Box 1.1

7. A nurse is instructing a pregnant client concerning the potential risk to their fetus from a pregnancy category D drug. What should the nurse inform the client?

A) "Adequate studies in pregnant clients have demonstrated there is no risk to the fetus."

B) "Animal studies have not demonstrated a risk to the fetus, but there have been no adequate studies in pregnant clients."

C) "Animal studies have shown an adverse effect on the fetus, but there are no adequate studies in pregnant clients."

D) "There is evidence of human fetal risk, but the potential benefits from use of the drug may be acceptable despite potential risks."

Ans: D

**Feedback:** Category A indicates that adequate studies in pregnant clients have not demonstrated a risk to the fetus in the first trimester or in later trimesters.

Category B indicates that animal studies have not demonstrated a risk to the fetus. However, there have not been adequate studies in pregnant clients to demonstrate risk to a fetus during the first trimester of pregnancy and no evidence of risk in later trimesters. Category C indicates that animal studies have shown an adverse effect on the fetus, but no adequate studies in humans. Category D reveals evidence of human fetal risk, but the potential benefits from the use of the drugs in pregnant clients may outweigh potential risks.

Format: Multiple Selection

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Analyze

Difficulty: Difficult

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 23, Legal Regulation of Drugs

8. Discharge planning for clients leaving the hospital should include instructions on the use of over-the-counter (OTC) drugs. Which comments by the client should prompt the nurse to provide additional health education? Select all that apply.

A) "OTC drugs are safe and do not cause adverse effects if taken properly."

B) "OTC drugs have been around for years and have not been tested by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)."

C) "OTC drugs are different from any drugs available by prescription and cost less."

D) "OTC drugs could cause serious harm if not taken according to directions."

E) "OTC drugs can often be used as a cost-effective substitute for prescribed drugs."

Ans: A, B, C, E

**Feedback:** It is important to follow package directions because OTCs are medications that can cause serious harm if not taken properly. OTCs are drugs that have been determined to be safe when taken as directed; however, all drugs can produce adverse effects even when taken properly. They may have originally been prescription drugs that were tested by the FDA or they may have been grandfathered in when the FDA laws changed. OTC education should always be included as a part of the hospital discharge instructions. Client should not view OTC drugs as being substitutes for prescribed drugs.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 6, Introduction

9. A nurse is unfamiliar with a drug that a client in the community has recently been prescribed. What information source should the nurse consult?

- A) *Drug Facts and Comparisons*
- B) a nurse's drug guide
- C) the website [www.drugs.com](http://www.drugs.com)
- D) the *Physicians' Drug Reference* (PDR)

Ans: B



**Feedback:** A nurse's drug guide provides nursing implications and client teaching points that are most useful to nurses in addition to need-to-know drug information in a very user-friendly organizational style. *Lippincott's Pocket Drug Guide* for Nurses has drug monographs organized alphabetically and includes nursing implications and client teaching points. Numerous other drug handbooks are also on the market and readily available for nurses to use. Although other drug reference books such as *Drug Facts and Comparisons* and PDR can all provide essential drug information, they will not contain nursing implications and teaching points and can be more difficult to use than nurse's drug guides. A reputable drug guide is a better source than a consumer website.

Format: Multiple Selection

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 1

Page and Header: 5, Introduction

10. A nursing student is preparing to begin a pharmacology course. The student should anticipate what areas of study? Select all that apply.

- A) chemical pharmacology
- B) molecular pharmacology
- C) impact of drugs on the body
- D) the body's response to a drug
- E) unexpected drug effects

Ans: C, D, E

**Feedback:** Nurses study pharmacology from a pharmacotherapeutic level, which includes the effect of drugs on the body, the body's response to drugs, and both

expected and unexpected drug effects. Chemical and molecular pharmacology are not included in nursing pharmacology courses.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 1

Page and Header: 5, Introduction

11. The nurse is caring for an older adult who needs to know that drugs, even when taken correctly, can produce negative or unexpected effects. The nurse should address what topic during health education?

- A) teratogenic effects
- B) toxic effects
- C) adverse effects
- D) paradoxical effects

Ans: C

**Feedback:** Negative or unexpected effects are known as adverse or side effects. Teratogenic effects are adverse effects on the fetus and not a likely concern for an older adult. Toxic effects occur when medication is taken in larger than recommended dosages caused by an increase in serum drug levels. Paradoxical effects are drug effects that are the opposite of what is intended.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 1

Page and Header: 5, Introduction

12. The nurse has just administered a client's medication. What action should the nurse perform next?

- A) Assess for drug effects.
- B) Perform a comprehensive health assessment.
- C) Educate the client about the purpose of the drug.
- D) Assess for preexisting conditions.

Ans: A

**Feedback:** After the medication is administered, the nurse assesses the client for drug effects, both therapeutic and adverse. The nurse would assess the client for allergies and preexisting conditions before administering a medication. Assessing for drug effects does not normally necessitate a comprehensive health assessment.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 1

Page and Header: 6, Introduction

13. The nurse receives an order to administer an unfamiliar medication and obtains a nurse's drug guide published 4 years earlier. What is the nurse's **most** prudent action?

- A) Find a more recent reference source.
- B) Use the guide if the drug is listed.

- C) Use the guide because it is less than 6 years old.
- D) Verify the information in the guide with the pharmacist.

Ans: A

**Feedback:** The nurse is responsible for all medications administered and must find a recent reference source to ensure the information learned about the medication is correct and current. Using an older drug guide could be dangerous because it would not contain the most up-to-date information. Asking the pharmacist does not guarantee accurate information will be obtained and could harm the client if the information is wrong.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 1

Page and Header: 5, Introduction

14. The nurse is preparing a client for discharge knowing the client will be self-administering medication at home. What is the nurse's **most** appropriate action?

- A) Provide the client with the nurse's contact information for when the client has questions.
- B) Provide thorough medication teaching about drugs and the drug regimen.
- C) Advise the use of over-the-counter medications to use to treat potential adverse effects.
- D) Provide a 2-day supply of medication to take home until prescription is filled.

Ans: B

**Feedback:** The nurse is responsible for providing thorough medication teaching about drugs and the drug regimen to ensure the client knows how to take the medication and when to notify the provider. The nurse never provides personal contact information to a client. If adverse effects arise, the client is taught to call the healthcare provider and should not self-medicate with over-the-counter drugs, which could mask serious symptoms. The nurse never dispenses medication because it must be properly labeled for home use; this is done by the pharmacy.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Communication and Documentation

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 10, Drug Evaluation

15. In response to the client's question about how to know whether drugs are safe, the nurse explains that all medications in the United States undergo rigorous scientific testing controlled by what organization?

- A) Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- B) Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- C) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- D) Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)

Ans: A

**Feedback:** The FDA is responsible for controlling and regulating the development and sale of drugs in the United States, allowing new drugs to enter the market only after being subjected to rigorous scientific testing. The DEA regulates and controls the use of controlled substances. The CDC monitors and responds to infectious

diseases. The JCAHO is an accrediting body that inspects acute care facilities to ensure minimum standards are met.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Analyze

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 12, Drug Evaluation

16. The nurse is assisting with a phase I drug study. What potential participant would be **most** appropriate?

- A) a 22-year-old male with an unremarkable health history
- B) a 24-year-old female who takes oral contraceptives
- C) a 49-year-old female who has completed menopause
- D) a 17-year-old male who is in good health

Ans: A

**Feedback:** Phase I drug trials usually involve healthy male volunteers because chemicals may exert an unknown and harmful effect on ova in women, which could result in fetal damage when the woman becomes pregnant. Drugs are tested on both men and women, but women must be fully informed of risks and sign a consent stating they understand the potential for birth defects. A 17-year-old would normally be too young to participate.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 11, Drug Evaluation

17. The client tells the nurse about a new drug being tested to treat the disease they are diagnosed with, and asks the nurse whether the doctor can prescribe a medication still in the preclinical phase of testing. What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "The doctor would have to complete a great deal of paperwork to get approval to prescribe that drug."
- B) "Sometimes pharmaceutical companies are looking for volunteers to test a new drug and the doctor could give them your name."
- C) "Drugs in the preclinical phase of testing are only tested on animals and so would not be available to you."
- D) "Drugs in the preclinical phase of testing are given only to healthy young men and so would not be available to you."

Ans: C

**Feedback:** During the preclinical phase of testing, drugs are tested on animals and are not available to clients. In phase I, the drug is tested on volunteers who are usually healthy young men. It is only in phase III studies that the drug is made available to prescribers who agree to closely monitor clients getting the medication.

Format: Multiple Selection

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Communication and Documentation

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 14, Drug Evaluation

18. The nurse is caring for a client who had a severe, acute, previously unseen adverse effect of a drug in phase III testing. The client asks, "After all the testing done on this drug, didn't they know this adverse effect could occur?" What are appropriate responses by the nurse? Select all that apply.

- A) "Pharmaceutical companies sometimes underreport problems to make more money."
- B) "Your response to this medication will be reviewed very closely to address possible adverse effects."
- C) "Adverse effects are studied to determine whether the disease or the drug was the cause."
- D) "The pharmaceutical company weighs the benefits of the drug with the severity of adverse effects."
- E) After a drug reaches phase III testing, it is considered an accepted drug and will not be recalled."

Ans: B, C

**Feedback:** Researchers observe clients very closely, monitoring them for any adverse effects. Often, participants are asked to keep journals and record any symptoms they experience. Researchers then evaluate the reported effects to determine whether they are caused by the disease or by the drug. It would be both unprofessional and inaccurate to imply that pharmaceutical companies put profit ahead of client concern because lawsuits would remove any potential profit if a drug proves harmful. The FDA is responsible for weighing risk versus benefit in deciding whether to allow the drug to move to the next phase of testing. Drugs found to have serious adverse effects can be removed from the market at any time.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1



Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Communication and Documentation

Objective: 3

Page and Header: 19, Legal Regulation of Drugs

19. The telephone triage nurse receives a call from a client asking for a prescription for an opioid (narcotic) to manage the surgical pain. The nurse explains that opioid prescriptions must be written and cannot be called into the pharmacy. The client says, "Why are opioids so difficult to get a prescription for?" What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) determines the risk for addiction, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) enforces their control."
- B) "The increase in the number of drug addicts has made the rules stronger."
- C) "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regulates use of controlled substances to reduce the risk of injury."
- D) "Controlled substances like opioids are controlled by the FDA and the DEA."

Ans: D

**Feedback:** Controlled substances are controlled by the FDA and the DEA: the DEA enforces control, while the FDA determines abuse potential. Regulations related to controlled substances have remained strict and specific and have not been significantly impacted by substance abusers. The CDC is not involved in control of opioids and other controlled substances.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 3

Page and Header: 19, Legal Regulation of Drugs, Box 1.2

20. The nurse explains the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA's) schedule of controlled substances to the nursing assistant who asks, "Do you ever get a prescription for schedule I medications?" What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "Schedule I medications have no medical use so they are not prescribed."
- B) "Schedule I medications have the lowest risk for abuse and do not require a prescription."
- C) "Schedule I medications are only prescribed in monitored units for client safety."
- D) "Schedule I medications are found in antitussives and antidiarrheals sold over the counter."

Ans: A

**Feedback:** Schedule I medications have no medical use and are never prescribed. Schedule II have high abuse potential with severe dependence liability. Schedule III have less abuse potential than schedule II drugs and moderate dependence liability. Schedule IV have less abuse potential than schedule III and limited dependence liability. Schedule V medications have the lowest risk for abuse and are found mostly in antitussives and antidiarrheals, but they are not sold over the counter.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 2

Page and Header: 18, Legal Regulation of Drug, Box 1.1

21. The nurse, working on the maternity unit, receives a call from a pregnant client asking how they can know whether a medication is safe to take while pregnant.

What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "You can take any drug indicated as a category A."
- B) "No medications should be taken during pregnancy."
- C) "Never take medication until you receive approval from your healthcare provider."
- D) "Most medications are safe but you need to weigh benefit against risk."

Ans: C

**Feedback:** The best response to a pregnant client asking about medication usage is to talk with their obstetric practitioner because the best advice will come from someone who knows their health and pregnancy history. While category A drugs have no known risk, they may be contraindicated by the client's health condition or pregnancy issues, and many pregnant clients would not know what it means to be a category A drug. Medications can be helpful during pregnancy if taken safely and appropriately. Although risk benefit needs to be weighed, it should occur with advice from the obstetric practitioner.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 3

Page and Header: 20, Legal Regulation of Drugs, Box 1.2

22. A client asks the nurse, "What is a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) number?"

What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "DEA numbers are given to primary care providers (PCPs) and pharmacists when they register with the DEA to prescribe and dispense controlled substances."
- B) "Providers must have a DEA number in order to prescribe any type of medication for clients."
- C) "DEA numbers are case numbers given when someone breaks the law involving a controlled substance."
- D) "DEA numbers the standardized codes for each drug that is on the market in the United States."

Ans: A

**Feedback:** All pharmacists and providers must register with the DEA. They are given numbers that are required before they can dispense or prescribe controlled substances. DEA numbers are only needed when prescribing controlled substances. A DEA number is neither a case number nor a drug code.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 3

Page and Header: 20, Legal Regulation of Drugs

23. The nurse is preparing to move to another state. The nurse should complete which action?

- A) Become familiar with local policies and procedures for controlled substance administration.
- B) Obtain local providers' Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) number for prescribing controlled substances.

C) Become familiar with pregnancy drug categorization system used in the new state.

D) Learn about the particular OTC drugs that are for sale in the new state.

Ans: A

**Feedback:** The nurse needs to learn local policies and procedures for controlled substance administration because they can vary with some local governments more rigorous than others. Nurses do not memorize a provider's DEA numbers. The DEA is a federal agency that monitors controlled substances in all states. Pregnancy drug categories are standardized nationwide, and there is minimal variation on the availability of OTC drugs.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 21, Legal Regulation of Drugs

24. The client looks at the prescription provided by the doctor and asks the nurse about the notation "DAW." What implication of this notation should the nurse explain?

A) The prescription will be filled once the pharmacy is informed of the prescriber's DEA number.

B) The pharmacy where the client fills the prescription will not substitute a generic drug.

C) The drug falls under the purview of the DEA's Drug Action Watch program.

D) The drug is associated with a high risk of adverse effects.

Ans: B

**Feedback:** DAW stands for “dispense as written” and means that the doctor does not want a generic substituted for the prescribed medication. This is unrelated to the prescriber’s DEA number, and there is no “Drug Action Watch Program.” The drug is not necessarily associated with a high risk of adverse effects.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 14, Drug Evaluation

25. The nurse is preparing to administer the drug papaverine (*Pavabid*). What does the nurse identify the name *Pavabid* as?

- A) the generic name
- B) the chemical name
- C) the brand name
- D) the chemical and generic name

Ans: C

**Feedback:** Several clues indicate the brand name including capitalization of the first letter in the name and in parentheses. Generic names are not capitalized; chemical names are descriptions of the chemistry of the medication resulting in complicated names.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 20, Legal Regulation of Drugs

26. The client is prescribed a medication that was just approved by the FDA. The client tells the nurse, "This medication is too expensive. Could the doctor order a generic form of this medication?" What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "New medications are patented by the manufacturers. A generic is not available."
- B) "You can request the generic form but the binder used may make the drug less effective for this medication."
- C) "The generic form of the medication would not be any less expensive because this is a relatively new medication."
- D) "Generic medications are lower-quality drugs and that would mean you would not be getting the best treatment available."

Ans: A

**Feedback:** When a new drug enters the market, it is given a time-limited patent; generic forms of the medication cannot be produced until the patent expires. Because no generic version of this drug will exist because it is so new, it is impossible to predict what binder will be used or what the cost would be.

Format: Multiple Selection

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 4

Page and Header: 22, Legal Regulation of Drugs; Orphan Drugs

27. The nurse learns that a drug needed by the client is classified as an orphan drug. The nurse should recognize what possible characteristics of this drug? Select all that apply.

- A) The drug is rarely prescribed.
- B) The drug has dangerous adverse effects.
- C) The drug treats a rare disease.
- D) The patent on the medication is still effective.
- E) It is produced by a company that only manufactures drugs.

Ans: A, B, C

**Feedback:** Drugs are classified as orphan drugs when they are not financially viable for a drug company to produce either because of risk for lawsuits about adverse effects or because the drug is not prescribed, which is often seen in rare diagnoses. Generic drugs are not produced until the patent expires, but this has no impact on classifying a particular drug as an orphan drug. Generic drugs are often produced by companies that only manufacture drugs without conducting research, but this has no bearing on the classification of orphan drugs.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 23, Legal Regulation of Drugs

28. While collecting a medication history, the client admits to doubling the recommended dosage of acetaminophen, saying "It's harmless or they would require a prescription." What is the nurse's **best** response?



- A) "OTC drugs are serious medications and carry serious risks if not taken as directed."
- B) "Taking medications like that is careless and you could cause yourself serious harm if you keep doing it."
- C) "Sometimes you need to take more than the package directs to treat the symptoms. It's important not to do this frequently."
- D) "Did you notify your doctor of the increased dosage you were taking?"

Ans: A

**Feedback:** OTC drugs are no less a medication than prescription drugs and carry the same types of risks for overdose and toxicity if directions are not followed. Although increasing the dosage is careless and dangerous, it is important to use the information as a teaching opportunity rather than scolding the client. Agreeing with the clients or asking them if they talked to the doctor misses the teaching opportunity, which could be harmful for the client.

Format: Multiple Selection

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Difficult

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 23, Legal Regulation of Drugs

29. The client asks the nurse, "Is it safe to take over-the-counter (OTC) medications with prescription medications?" What are appropriate responses by the nurse? Select all that apply.

- A) "OTC medications can interact with prescription medications."
- B) "It is important to tell your doctor all medications you take, including OTC."
- C) "OTC medications could mask or hide signs and symptoms of a disease."

- D) "You should avoid taking any OTC medication when taking prescription drugs."
- E) "Taking OTC medications can make your prescription medication more effective."

Ans: A, B, C

**Feedback:** OTC medications can interact with prescription medications or other OTC so it is always important to consult your pharmacist and provider for advice. To provide the most accurate instruction, the healthcare provider must know all medications taken including dietary supplements, OTC, and prescription. OTC medications could mask or hide symptoms of a disease so it is always important to consult a health care provider if symptoms persist. OTC medications are not prohibited when taking prescription drugs as long as no drug interaction occurs. How an OTC will impact a prescription medication varies depending on the medications involved, so it is incorrect to say it will make the prescription drug more effective.

Format: Multiple Selection

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 25, Sources of Drug Information

30. Before administering a prescription medication, the nurse should confirm what information on the drug label? Select all that apply.

- A) brand name
- B) generic name
- C) drug dosage
- D) expiration date
- E) adverse effects
- F) therapeutic effects

Ans: A, B, C, D

**Feedback:** Prescription drug labels will contain the brand name, generic name, drug dosage, and expiration date. Adverse effects and therapeutic uses will not be listed on drug labels.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Remember

Difficulty: Easy

Integrated Process: Nursing Process

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 25, Sources of Drug Information

31. The nurse explains that what drug resource book is compiled from package inserts?

- A) *Nurses Drug Guide*
- B) *Physicians' Desk Reference (PDR)*
- C) *Drug Facts and Comparisons*
- D) *AMA Drug Evaluations*

Ans: B

**Feedback:** The PDR is a compilation of information found on package inserts. The *Nurses Drug Guide* uses more easily understood language and incorporates nursing considerations and client teaching points. *Drug Facts and Comparisons* includes cost comparison, often not found in other drug resource guides. The *AMA Drug Evaluations* is far less biased than the PDR and includes drugs still in the research stage of development.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Apply

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 27, Sources of Drug Information

32. A client has been prescribed a new medication but is skeptical to begin taking it after reading about potential risks in an online discussion forum. What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "It's excellent that you're investigating your medications. Can I recommend some useful websites for you?"
- B) "Just remember that there is a lot of highly inaccurate information on the internet. A lot of the time it's best to just avoid it."
- C) "How did you find that particular discussion forum?"
- D) "Knowledge is power." "The more information you can get about something as important as your health, the better."

Ans: A

**Feedback:** The nurse can promote a therapeutic dialogue by commending the client's efforts and hopefully directing the client to valid and reliable information sources. The nurse must avoid reprimanding the client. The method by which the client found the discussion forum is not important. The nurse should not suggest that any, and all, information is beneficial or equally valid.

Format: Multiple Choice

Chapter: 1

Client Needs: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Cognitive Level: Understand

Difficulty: Moderate

Integrated Process: Teaching/Learning

Objective: 5

Page and Header: 27, Sources of Drug Information

33. Which journal should the nurse use to **best** support effective nursing practice?

- A) *American Journal of Nursing*
- B) *Medical Letter*
- C) *Journal of American Medical Association*
- D) *New England Journal of Medicine*

Ans: A

**Feedback:** The *American Journal of Nursing* offers information on new drugs, drug errors, and nursing implications. While the other options may provide medication-related information, none are as specific to nursing as is the *American Journal of Nursing* and it's identified focus on nursing practice.