

I. COURSE INFORMATION

- A. Allied Health NHA 240 Pharmacy Calculations
- B. 3 credit hours
- C. Picker, Gloria D.; Amy Picker-Abernathy. *Dosage Calculations*. 4th ed. Cengage
- D. Prerequisites: None

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Pharmacy Calculations offer a clear and concise method for calculating drug dosage. The course responds to the changes in the health care field and includes the introduction of new drugs, replacement of outdated drugs, and new and refined methods of administering medications. The importance of avoiding medication errors is highlighted by the incorporation of applied critical thinking skills based on patient care situations.

III. LEARNING OUTCOMES

- A. Compare the values of fractions and decimals
- B. Convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions, and between reduced and equivalent forms of fractions
- C. Read and write out the value of decimal numbers
- D. Interpret values expressed in ratios
- E. Determine the value of "X" in simple equations
- F. Set up proportions for solving problems
- G. Interpret and properly express metric, apothecary, and household notation.
- H. Convert units of measurement from one system to another
- I. Convert between traditional and international time
- J. Recognize and select the appropriate equipment for the medication, dosage, and method of administration ordered
- K. Read and write correct medical notation
- L. Convert all units of measurement to the same system and same size units
- M. Apply the three steps for dosage calculations: convert, think, and calculate
- N. Consult a reputable drug resource to calculate the recommended safe dosage per kilogram of body weight
- O. Recognize the calibration or drop factor in gtt/ml as stated on the IV tubing package

IV. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- A. Mathematics review
- B. Measurement systems, drug orders, and drug labels
- C. Drug dosage calculations
- D. Advanced calculations

V. ASSIGNMENTS (may include but are not limited to)

- A. Dosage calculation exercises
- B. Reading assignments
- C. Writing assignments

VI. EVALUATION METHODS (may include but are not limited to)

- A. Quizzes
- B. Exams