

Virginia Western Community College

PNE 174

Applied Pharmacology for Practical Nurses

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

Applies problem-solving skills in preparing and administering medications.

Semester Credits: 1

Lecture Hours: 0

Lab/Clinical/Internship Hours: 3

Required Materials

Textbook:

Henke's Med-Math Dosage Calculation, Preparation and Administration. Buchholz, Susan. (2016). 8th Edition. Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins. ISBN: 9781608317998

Other Required Materials:

Current Nursing Drug Book

Docucare

Skills Lab Kit – Purchase at VWCC Campus Book Store (Follett)

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Discuss the legal and ethical aspects and related nursing responsibilities in the care, preparation, and administration of medications
- Discuss the classifications and characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual drugs
- Identify major concerns in drug therapy of neonates, children, pregnant and lactating women, and older adults
- Discuss common cultural misunderstandings regarding drug therapy
- Know terminology associated with pharmacology and the administration of medications

- Utilize basic principles of drug actions, adverse reactions, and nursing considerations to make sound nursing judgments associated with the administration of medications and drug therapy.
- Compare dosage forms for drugs given by the enteral route
- Demonstrate procedures for giving medications internally, parenterally, and percutaneously
- Identify anatomy landmarks used for giving parenteral injections
- Interpret drug orders for medications in order to calculate correct dosage of drugs ordered
- Read and write drug abbreviations and notations correctly
- Read and interpret medication labels correctly

Topical Description

Chapter 9: Information Basic to Administering Drugs

- Drug Knowledge
- Pharmacokinetics
- Legal Considerations
- Ethical Principles in Drug Administration

Chapter 10: Administration Procedures

- Three Checks and Six Rights
- Medication Administrations Record (MAR)
- Systems of Administration
- Knowledge Base in Giving Medication
- Basic Guidelines in Giving Medication
- Documentation
- Standard Precautions Applied to Administration of Medications
- Routes of Administration
- Administering Injections
- IV Administration
- Application to Skin and Mucous Membranes
- Special Considerations

Note to Instructors