
Test Bank Questions

Chapter 1: Introduction to Drugs

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
2. What concept is **prioritized** when a health care provider is considering the substitution of a brand-name drug with a generic drug?
 - A) bioequivalency
 - B) critical concentration
 - C) distribution
 - D) half-life
3. 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
 - D) the *Physicians' Drug Reference* (PDR)
4. 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.
5. 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
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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 medication to treat potential adverse effects.
 - D) Provide a 2-day supply of medication to take home until prescription is filled.
9. In response to the client's question about whether drugs are safe, the nurse explains that all medications in the United States undergo rigorous 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)
10. The nurse is assisting with a phase I drug study. What potential participant would be **most** appropriate?
- A) 22-year-old male with an unremarkable health history
 - B) 24-year-old female who takes oral contraceptives
 - C) 49-year-old female who has completed menopause
 - D) 17-year-old male who is in good health
11. 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.
12. The client looks at the prescription provided by the health care provider 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.
13. 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 health care provider 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."
14. 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 health care provider of the increased dosage you were taking?"
15. 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*
16. The nurse explains the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA's) schedule of controlled substances to the unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP) 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 misuse 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."

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 health care provider can prescribe a medication still in the preclinical phase of testing. What is the nurse's **best** response?

- A) "The health care provider 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 health care provider could give them your name."
- C) "Drugs in the preclinical phase of testing are tested on animals and have not received approval from the FDA to be prescribed yet."
- D) "Drugs in the preclinical phase of testing are given only to healthy young males and so would not be available to you."

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

19. 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 general drug information because the nurse can consult a drug guide for specific drug information.
- B) At the completion of the course, the nurse will know everything necessary for safe and effective medication administration.
- C) At the completion of the course, the nurse will know current pharmacologic therapy and will not require ongoing education for 5 years.
- D) At the completion of the course, the nurse will understand each drug action that is associated with each classification of medication.

20. 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 health care providers and pharmacists when they register with the DEA to prescribe and dispense controlled substances."
 - B) "Health care 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 are the standardized codes for each drug that is on the market in the United States."
21. 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."
22. 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 the appropriate response(s) 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."
23. Before administering a prescription medication, the nurse should confirm what information is 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
24. Discharge planning for clients leaving the hospital should include instructions on the use of over-the-counter (OTC) drugs. Which

comment(s) 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."

25. A nursing student is preparing to begin a pharmacology course. The student should anticipate what area(s) of study? **Select all that apply.**

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