

Chapter 2: Legal and Ethical Aspects of Medication Administration

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MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Which of the following statements best describes U.S. drug legislation?
 1. The 1938 update of the Food and Drug Act provided safety testing of drugs and protected the public from the mislabeling of drugs.
 2. The Durham-Humphrey Act of 1952 recognized only prescription and scheduled drugs.
 3. The Kefauver-Harris Act established regulations regarding refills of legend prescription drugs.
 4. The Controlled Substance Act of 1970 was designed to form review panels to reclassify certain nonprescription drugs as scheduled narcotics.

ANS: 1

The 1938 act prevented the marketing of new drugs before they had been properly tested for safety.

PTS: 1

DIF: Cognitive Level: Knowledge

REF: Text Reference: 13

TOP: Nursing Process: General

MSC: NCLEX: General

2. Which of the following agencies exercises control over the inspecting and licensing of the manufacturers of established biologic products?
 1. The Federal Drug Administration
 2. The Public Health Service
 3. The Health, Education, and Welfare Department
 4. The Drug Enforcement Administration

ANS: 2

The Public Health Service performs several functions, one of which is to regulate biologic products. The other options are incorrect.

PTS: 1

DIF: Cognitive Level: Knowledge

REF: Text Reference: 17

TOP: Nursing Process: General

MSC: NCLEX: General

3. Mr. R. is extremely anxious in anticipation of his surgery. You decide to give the preoperative medication at 07:30 instead of waiting for the operating room to call for the client. This nursing action would violate which of the “six rights” for safe medication administration?
 1. Double-checking the order before administration
 2. Administering a medication prepared by another nurse
 3. Administering a medication at a time not specified by the physician
 4. Reading the vial label of the medication three times before administering

ANS: 3

Giving the medication at the right time is one of the six “rights” of medication administration. The others are the right client, drug, dose, route, and documentation.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Application
REF: Text Reference: 28 TOP: Nursing Process: Implementation
MSC: NCLEX: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

4. Before administering a scheduled narcotic such as meperidine (Demerol), the nurse should take which of the following actions?
1. Automatically cancel the order 24 hours after its administration
 2. Document the removal of the controlled substance from the storage area
 3. Count the doses of Demerol on hand if the client does not need the dose urgently
 4. Consult a resource book for information about controlled substances

ANS: 2

When a narcotic drug is administered to a client, the nurse must document the removal of the dose from the storage area according to federal law. The nurse records the date, time removed, client's name, and physician's name and signs the entry. If removed from an automated dispensing machine, these may be automatically recorded.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Application
REF: Text Reference: 16 TOP: Nursing Process: Implementation
MSC: NCLEX: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

5. Which of the following is a characteristic of a schedule I drug?
1. Accepted medical use
 2. Limited physical/psychological dependency
 3. Low abuse potential
 4. Use for research and analysis only

ANS: 4

Schedule I drugs have high potential abuse and no accepted medical use; they are used for research, analysis, or instruction only.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Knowledge
REF: Text Reference: 16 TOP: Nursing Process: General
MSC: NCLEX: General

6. For which of the following would the nurse assume responsibility when caring for a client during phase II of client investigational drug research?
1. Closely monitoring for drug purity and strength
 2. Watching the client for drug effects and adverse effects
 3. Providing the client a partial list of contraindications
 4. Administering a placebo if the original drug is ineffective

ANS: 2

The nurse's role in phase II of investigational drug research includes closely monitoring for drug effectiveness and adverse effects. The other options are incorrect.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Application

REF: Text Reference: 21 TOP: Nursing Process: Implementation
MSC: NCLEX: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

7. The nurse understands that the rights of clients participating in medical research are protected by which of the following?
1. Patient Code of Ethics
 2. ANA Nurse Practice Acts
 3. Nuremberg Code
 4. Patient Code of Rights

ANS: 3

The Nuremberg Code was developed to protect the participants in medical research. The other options are incorrect.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Knowledge
REF: Text Reference: 24 TOP: Nursing Process: General
MSC: NCLEX: General

8. A nurse has the right to refuse to administer a drug to a client in which of the following circumstances?
1. A consulting physician has ordered the drug
 2. The drug order is verbally taken by another registered nurse
 3. An order for a schedule II drug is 24 hours old
 4. The drug has different names depending on the specific manufacturer

ANS: 2

A nurse may refuse to allow administration of a drug against good nursing judgment. If the nurse did not personally take the verbal order and it was not written on the chart by the prescriber, the medication order should not be followed until it is further verified or countersigned.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Application
REF: Text Reference: 27 TOP: Nursing Process: Implementation
MSC: NCLEX: Safe, Effective Care Environment

9. Which of the following is part of a nurse's role in drug research?
1. Administering drug dosages without due consideration
 2. Developing new investigational drug applications
 3. Obtaining new drug approval releases
 4. Adhering to new investigational drug protocols

ANS: 4

The nurse's role during investigational new drug research includes following protocols throughout the investigation.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Knowledge
REF: Text Reference: 25 TOP: Nursing Process: Implementation
MSC: NCLEX: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

10. The Controlled Substances Act classifies by potential for use and abuse. Which of the following lists a drug that is correctly matched with its appropriate schedule classification?
1. Heroin: schedule V
 2. Terpin hydrate: schedule V
 3. Codeine: schedule III
 4. Diazepam: schedule II

ANS: 2

Terpin hydrate may require a written prescription or may be sold without a prescription, depending on state law. For this reason, it is listed as schedule V.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Comprehension

REF: Text Reference: 16 TOP: Nursing Process: General

MSC: NCLEX: Physiological Integrity: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

11. Which law was passed to protect the public from adulterated or mislabeled drugs?
1. The Kefauver-Harris Amendment
 2. The Durham-Humphrey Amendment
 3. The Pure Food and Drug Act
 4. The National Formulary

ANS: 3

In 1906, the first federal Pure Food and Drug Act was passed to protect the public from adulterated or mislabeled drugs.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Knowledge

REF: Text Reference: 13 TOP: Nursing Process: General

MSC: NCLEX: General

12. The nurse concludes that product liability exists for a medication when
1. the manufacturer did not provide literature regarding medication effects.
 2. the medication complies with all manufacturing regulations.
 3. a defect arose after the product left the manufacturer.
 4. no harm was done to the individual.

ANS: 1

Manufacturers are legally responsible for knowing and identifying the effects of their products. The other options do not indicate product liability for a medication.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Comprehension

REF: Text Reference: 17 TOP: Nursing Process: General

MSC: NCLEX: General

13. The nurse is about to administer a prescribed medication to a client. Which characteristic of the drug alerts the nurse that it may be defective?
1. The tablets are brightly colored
 2. The tablets are scored in the middle
 3. Unusual discoloration is present on the tablets
 4. The tablets are in a sealed package

ANS: 3

Nurses should learn to be keenly aware of the physical characteristics of the drugs they administer and make comparisons before administering them; unusual discoloration and other inconsistencies should be considered suspect. The other options listed are satisfactory.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Application

REF: Text Reference: 17 TOP: Nursing Process: General

MSC: NCLEX: Safe, Effective Care Environment