

Procedure for Drug Dosage Calculations

The following guidelines will be used in the instruction of drug dosage calculations:

1. Objectives for new material will be provided prior to the first drug dosage calculation quiz.
2. Study guides for new types of problems and a sufficient number of practice problems similar to the problems on the drug dosage calculation quiz will be provided prior to the first drug dosage calculation quiz.
3. Some class or out-of-class time with faculty will be provided for those students who need help with any new dosage calculations. Tutorial math assistance is available free in Tutorial Services in Springwood Hall.
4. Students should be free to use any method of drug dosage calculations.

The following guidelines will be used in the composition and administration of drug dosages calculation quizzes.

1. Drug dosage calculation quizzes will be administered early in the course.
2. Content of the drug dosage calculation quizzes will include material presented in previous courses (even when this material may not be relevant to the clinical experiences of this course.)
3. Drug dosages calculation quizzes will include at least one question related to the following:
 - a) Pounds \leftrightarrow Kilograms
 - b) Liters \leftrightarrow Milliliters
 - c) Milligrams \leftrightarrow Grams
 - d) Milligrams \leftrightarrow Micrograms
 - e) Ounces \leftrightarrow milliliters
 - f) Intravenous infusion rates
 - 1) mL per hour
 - 2) drops per minute
 - g) Diluents
4. Conversion tables may be included on drug dosages calculation quizzes. Calculators are permitted.
5. Faculty will proctor all drug dosage calculation quizzes.
6. Expectations for drug dosage calculation must be achieved at specified intervals to progress in the program. Campus specific policies regarding proficiency in both dosage calculation and its application to practice will be provided. Students enrolled in this course must achieve ninety percent (90%) before the first clinical experience.
7. A student will be allowed to take a drug dosage calculation quiz three (3) times. If a student fails the first quiz, the student will be encouraged to do remedial work: i.e. reviewing CAI's, self-program workbooks, practice problems or personal tutor.
8. Upon failure of any math exam, a Math Counseling Form will be completed in order to identify the student's problems with drug dosage calculations. After the student has completed the optional remedial work, this counseling form will be signed by both the faculty and student thus indicating agreement that the student's problems with drug dosages calculations have been satisfactorily reviewed.
9. Proficiency in drug dosage calculation is also considered a critical behavior necessary for successful completion of the nursing program. Therefore, the student who does not pass the third math exam, and is not able to pass medications and demonstrate the critical behavior necessary, will receive an unsatisfactory for the clinical course.
10. An unexcused absence from a scheduled drug dosage calculation quiz will result in the student's failure of that quiz.

