
10. Professional Certificate in Level 3 Medical Assistance in Health and Social Care

Medication Administration and Management

Abridged Prescription: an incomplete or partial prescription that lacks one or more essential elements, such as the patient's name, medication name, dosage, or route of administration, and requires further clarification or completion by the prescriber.

Related terms: incomplete prescription, partial prescription, prescription clarification.

Acute Care: a type of medical care that focuses on treating severe or life-threatening illnesses, injuries, or conditions that require immediate attention and intervention, often in a hospital or emergency setting.

Related terms: emergency care, hospital care, intensive care.

Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR): an unwanted or harmful effect of a medication that occurs at a normal or therapeutic dose, which can range from mild to severe and may be dose-dependent or idiosyncratic.

Related terms: side effect, drug toxicity, medication error.

Allergic Reaction: an overactive or abnormal immune response to a medication, which can manifest as a range of symptoms, from mild skin rash to life-threatening anaphylaxis.

Related terms: hypersensitivity reaction, anaphylaxis, allergic response.

As Needed (PRN) Medication: a type of medication that is administered only when the patient experiences symptoms or requires relief, rather than on a fixed schedule or at regular intervals.

Related terms: pro re nata, PRN medication, as-needed medication.

Automated Dispensing System (ADS): an electronic system that stores, dispenses, and tracks medications in a controlled and secure environment, often used in hospitals and healthcare facilities to improve medication safety and efficiency.

Related terms: automated dispensing cabinet, medication dispensing system, electronic medication management.

Barcode Medication Administration (BCMA): a system that uses barcode scanning technology to verify the identity of medications, patients, and caregivers at the point of administration, to prevent medication errors and improve patient safety.

Related terms: barcode scanning, medication administration, patient safety.

Biotransformation: the process by which the body converts a medication into its active or inactive metabolites, which can affect the medication's efficacy, toxicity, and duration of action.

Related terms: metabolism, drug metabolism, pharmacokinetics.

Brand Name: the proprietary or trade name given to a medication by its manufacturer, which can be different from the generic or chemical name of the medication.

Related terms: generic name, chemical name, trade name.

Central Nervous System (CNS) Depressant: a type of medication that slows down or depresses the activity of the central nervous system, which can produce a range of effects, from sedation to anesthesia.

Related terms: CNS depressant, sedative, hypnotic.

Clinical Decision Support System (CDSS): an electronic system that provides healthcare professionals with clinical decision-making support, such as alerts, warnings, and recommendations, to improve patient care and reduce medication errors.

Related terms: clinical decision support, electronic health record, medication management.

Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE): an electronic system that allows healthcare professionals to enter and manage medication orders electronically, which can reduce errors and improve the efficiency of the medication use process.

Related terms: electronic ordering, computerized ordering, medication ordering.

Controlled Substance: a type of medication that has the potential for abuse or dependence, and is therefore subject to strict regulations and controls, such as narcotics, stimulants, and sedatives.

Related terms: controlled medication, scheduled medication, DEA scheduling.

Cytochrome P450 (CYP450): a family of enzymes that play a crucial role in the metabolism of medications, which can affect the efficacy and toxicity of medications, and interact with other medications and substances.

Related terms: CYP450 enzyme, medication metabolism, drug interaction.

Dose: the amount of a medication that is administered to a patient, which can be expressed in terms of the medication's strength, volume, or frequency of administration.

Related terms: dosage, medication dose, dose calculation.

Drug-Drug Interaction (DDI): an interaction between two or more medications that can affect their efficacy, toxicity, or pharmacokinetics, which can be synergistic, antagonistic, or idiosyncratic.

Related terms: medication interaction, drug interaction, adverse interaction.

Electronic Health Record (EHR): a digital version of a patient's medical history, which can include information on medications, diagnoses, laboratory results, and other relevant health data.

Related terms: electronic medical record, digital health record, patient record.

Electronic Medication Management (EMM): an electronic system that manages and tracks medications across the continuum of care, from prescribing to administration, to improve medication safety and efficiency.

Related terms: electronic medication administration, medication management, e-prescribing.

Extemporaneous Compounding: the process of preparing a customized medication or formulation for a patient, which can involve mixing, measuring, or manipulating ingredients to create a unique medication.

Related terms: compounding, customized medication, formulation.

First-Dose Effect: an adverse reaction or response that occurs after the initial dose of a medication, which can range from mild to severe and may be dose-dependent or idiosyncratic.

Related terms: initial dose effect, first-dose reaction, medication reaction.

Generic Medication: a type of medication that is equivalent to a brand-name medication in terms of its active ingredients, dosage form, and therapeutic effects, but is often less expensive and may have a different name.

Related terms: generic name, generic equivalent, therapeutic equivalent.

Half-Life: the time it takes for the concentration of a medication to decrease by half in the body, which can

affect the medication's duration of action, efficacy, and toxicity.

Related terms: elimination half-life, pharmacokinetics, medication metabolism.

High-Alert Medication: a type of medication that has a high risk of causing harm or adverse effects, such as anticoagulants, opioids, and sedatives, which requires special handling and monitoring.

Related terms: high-risk medication, hazardous medication, critical medication.

Informed Consent: the process of educating and informing patients about the risks, benefits, and alternatives of a medication or treatment, which is essential for patient autonomy and decision-making.

Related terms: patient education, informed decision-making, medication counseling.

Inpatient Medication Management: the process of managing and administering medications to patients in a hospital or healthcare facility, which requires careful planning, monitoring, and coordination.

Related terms: hospital medication management, inpatient pharmacy, medication administration.

Labeling: the process of affixing or attaching labels or instructions to a medication or its packaging, which provides essential information on the medication's identity, dosage, and use.

Related terms: medication labeling, drug labeling, packaging instructions.

Medication Adherence: the extent to which a patient takes a medication as prescribed, which can be influenced by factors such as patient education, motivation, and access to care.

Related terms: medication compliance, patient adherence, treatment adherence.

Medication Error: an adverse event or harm caused by a medication, which can result from errors in prescribing, dispensing, administering, or monitoring medications.

Related terms: medication mistake, medication adverse event, patient harm.

Medication Reconciliation: the process of verifying and reconciling a patient's medication list at transitions of care, such as hospital admission or discharge, to prevent medication errors and ensure continuity of care.

Related terms: medication review, medication verification, transition of care.

Medication Therapy Management (MTM): a service that provides patients with personalized education and counseling on their medications, to improve medication adherence, efficacy, and safety.

Related terms: medication counseling, medication education, pharmaceutical care.

Medication Use Evaluation (MUE): a systematic review of medication use to assess its appropriateness, efficacy, and safety, which can identify areas for improvement in medication management and patient care.

Related terms: medication review, medication assessment, quality improvement.

Off-Label Use: the use of a medication for a purpose or indication that is not approved by the FDA or other regulatory agencies, which can be based on clinical experience, research, or expert opinion.

Related terms: off-label prescribing, unapproved use, investigational use.

Outpatient Medication Management: the process of managing and administering medications to patients in an ambulatory or community setting, which requires careful planning, monitoring, and coordination.

Related terms: ambulatory medication management, community pharmacy, medication administration.

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication: a type of medication that is available for purchase without a prescription, which can include analgesics, antihistamines, and other non-prescription medications.

Related terms: OTC medication, non-prescription medication, self-medication.

Parenteral Medication: a type of medication that is administered parenterally, or outside the digestive tract,

such as by injection, infusion, or implantation.

Related terms: parenteral administration, injection, infusion.

Patient Education: the process of educating and informing patients about their medications, including their purpose, dosage, side effects, and potential interactions.

Related terms: medication education, patient counseling, health literacy.

Pharmacokinetics: the study of how the body absorbs, distributes, metabolizes, and eliminates medications, which can affect their efficacy, toxicity, and duration of action.

Related terms: pharmacodynamics, medication metabolism, drug disposition.

Pharmacology: the study of the interactions between medications and the body, including their therapeutic effects, side effects, and potential interactions.

Related terms: pharmacotherapy, medication therapy, pharmaceutical science.

Polypharmacy: the use of multiple medications by a patient, which can increase the risk of adverse effects, interactions, and medication errors.

Related terms: polypharmacy management, medication management, multiple medication use.

Prescription: a written or electronic order for a medication, which includes the patient's name, medication name, dosage, and other essential information.

Related terms: medication order, prescription order, electronic prescription.

Prescription Label: a label or instruction that is affixed to a medication or its packaging, which provides essential information on the medication's identity, dosage, and use.

Related terms: medication label, prescription instructions, packaging instructions.

Prescriber: a healthcare professional who is authorized to prescribe medications, such as a physician, nurse practitioner, or pharmacist.

Related terms: prescriber authority, prescribing privileges, medication ordering.

Randomization: the process of assigning patients to treatment groups or arms in a clinical trial, to minimize bias and ensure the validity of the results.

Related terms: randomization procedure, treatment group, clinical trial design.

Route of Administration: the method or pathway by which a medication is administered, such as orally, topically, or parenterally.

Related terms: administration route, medication administration, dosage form.

Scheduled Medication: a type of medication that is subject to strict regulations and controls, such as narcotics, stimulants, and sedatives, due to its potential for abuse or dependence.

Related terms: controlled substance, DEA scheduling, medication control.

Self-Administration: the process of a patient administering their own medications, which requires careful planning, monitoring, and education to ensure safe and effective use.

Related terms: self-medication, patient-administered medication, medication adherence.

Side Effect: an unwanted or unintended effect of a medication, which can range from mild to severe and may be dose-dependent or idiosyncratic.

Related terms: adverse effect, medication reaction, side effect profile.

Single-Dose Container: a container that holds a single dose of a medication, which can help to prevent

medication errors and improve patient safety.

Related terms: single-dose packaging, unit-dose container, medication packaging.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP): a written or electronic document that outlines the steps or procedures for a specific task or process, such as medication administration or handling.

Related terms: standard procedure, operating procedure, medication protocol.

Steady State: a condition in which the concentration of a medication in the body remains constant over time, which can affect the medication's efficacy, toxicity, and duration of action.

Related terms: steady-state concentration, pharmacokinetics, medication metabolism.

Terminal Elimination Half-Life: the time it takes for the concentration of a medication to decrease by half in the body, which can affect the medication's duration of action, efficacy, and toxicity.

Related terms: elimination half-life, pharmacokinetics, medication metabolism.

Therapeutic Equivalent: a medication that is equivalent to another medication in terms of its therapeutic effects, which can be based on clinical trials, research, or expert opinion.

Related terms: generic equivalent, therapeutic alternative, medication substitution.

Topical Medication: a type of medication that is applied topically, or directly to the skin or mucous membranes, such as creams, ointments, or patches.

Related terms: topical administration, transdermal medication, dermatological medication.

Unit-Dose Container: a container that holds a single dose of a medication, which can help to prevent medication errors and improve patient safety.

Related terms: single-dose container, unit-dose packaging, medication packaging.

Vital Sign: a measurement or indicator of a patient's physiological state, such as temperature, blood pressure, or heart rate, which can be used to monitor the effects of a medication.

Related terms: vital sign monitoring, patient monitoring, medication safety.

Waste Disposal: the process of disposing of unused or expired medications, which requires careful handling and disposal to prevent environmental harm or misuse.

Related terms: medication disposal, waste management, environmental safety.