



# **Professional Practice: Medication Administration**

## **N2500**

### **2019**

Course Coordinator: Barbara Sinclair

**Copyright © 2019 Western University**

All rights reserved. This book is protected by copyright. No part of it may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded, or otherwise – without the permission from Western University, London, Ontario, N6A 3K7

## **N2500 Professional Practice: Medication Administration**

### **Calendar Description**

This course focuses on safe, effective and ethical administration of medications.

### **Expanded course description:**

This course is designed to teach students about the administration of medications by various routes. The role and professional accountability of the nurse administering medications will be discussed. Students will learn about various practice standards and best practice guidelines used in the safe medication administration. Ethical considerations will also be discussed. Students will be taught how to correctly calculate medication dosages and develop the necessary psychomotor skills required for safe, competent medication administration, keeping in mind physical, psychosocial, and cultural factors.

### **Goals**

Students will:

1. develop knowledge of the professional responsibilities of the nurse when administering medications;
2. become familiar with best practice guidelines related to medication administration;
3. demonstrate competency in dosage calculation;
4. integrate previous knowledge of health assessment to identify necessary pre and post-medication administration assessments;
5. practice safe medication administration by various routes including oral, subcutaneous, intramuscular and intravenous routes;
6. integrate infection prevention & control principles;
7. demonstrate competency in medication administration.

### **Major Concepts in the course:**

- health assessment
- caring
- professionalism
- clinical judgment
- infection prevention and control
- evidence-informed practice

### **Competencies for entry-level Registered Nurse practice (CNO, 2014) addressed in the course:**

Professional responsibility and accountability: 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 15

Knowledge-based practice: 26, 27, 36, 39, 43, 62, 70, 72

Ethical practice: 79, 82

### **Interprofessional Competencies (CIHC, 2010) addressed in the course:**

- Interprofessional communication
- Role clarification
- Patient/family/community-centred care

### **Nursing Informatics Competencies (CASN, 2015) addressed in the course:**

- uses relevant information and knowledge to support the delivery of evidence-informed patient care: indicators 1
- uses ICTs in accordance with professional and regulatory standards and workplace policies: indicators 1, 5
- uses ICTs in the delivery of patient/client care: indicators 1, 3

### **How this course will contribute to your development as a professional nurse:**

Incorporating previous knowledge of health assessment, students will learn how to safely administer medications by various routes in accordance with the standards for medication administration set out by the College of Nurses of Ontario. Students will begin to develop knowledge and skill in using an electronic medication administration system. This beginning understanding will form the basis upon which students will build further knowledge and skill in safe medication administration.

### **How we will work together:**

Each laboratory session will consist of interactive learning activities designed to assist students to develop clinical judgment and skill in medication administration. It is the student's responsibility to be an **active** and **self-directed** participant in each laboratory session. This requires completion of all learning activities and participation by all members. Attendance at all laboratory sessions is mandatory. Respectful interaction and the provision of nursing care based on College of Nurses (CNO) standards is expected from all participants.

Faculty will support students in the development of necessary knowledge and skills through the use of methods designed to develop critical thinking, provision of demonstrations, guidance during the administration of medication, prompt delivery of feedback and support of meaningful group discussion. Evaluation of the student's learning will be accomplished through both written and practical examinations designed to promote critical thinking and clinical judgment.

### **Textbooks and other resources:**

#### **Required:**

College of Nurses of Ontario Practice Standards (2015). Retrieved from [www.cno.org](http://www.cno.org)

Drug guide of student's choice

Potter, P.A., Perry, A.G., Ross-Kerr, J.C., & Wood, M.J. (Eds.). (2014). *Canadian fundamentals of nursing* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Toronto, ON: Elsevier.

Western University & Fanshawe College. (2017). *Program manual*. London, ON:  
Author. This may be found at [owl.uwo.ca](http://owl.uwo.ca)

Lab kits, which are purchased through the UWO Bookstore.

Uniforms, a name tag, watch and stethoscope are required. Please refer to the Undergraduate BScN Programs Manual [www.owl.uwo.ca](http://www.owl.uwo.ca) for information regarding the uniform policy.

### **Professional Practice Evaluation**

In order to receive a satisfactory grade in N2500, students must be able to meet the competencies associated with safe medication administration, including dosage calculations. Failure to achieve a satisfactory grading in all of the professional practice components of this course will result in an unsatisfactory grade (failure) in the course.

To achieve a satisfactory grade in this course students will:

- attend and interact at all laboratory sessions;
- demonstrate safety and competence in professional practice;
- complete all professional practice assignments;
- complete the Intravenous Therapy online learning module with attainment of a minimum of 70% on the final test;
- attain a cumulative average of 95% on all medication administration quizzes;
- attain minimum of 25/30 on the Medication Administration Practical Exam.

### **Title: Intravenous Therapy Self-directed Learning Module**

**Due: February 5 or March 26**

The purpose of the Intravenous Therapy Module is to:

- provide opportunity for students to engage in self-directed learning
- assist students to gain knowledge and skill related to intravenous therapy
- allow students to complete preparatory learning activities prior to each lab session so they are prepared for practice

### **Full Description**

The Intravenous Therapy Module is a self-directed learning package which has been prepared using a variety of learning activities to provide students with basic knowledge of intravenous therapy. Various units will be assigned with each lab session. A final, online, multiple choice test will be completed upon completion of the module. A minimum of 70% is required to achieve a satisfactory grade in the course. The test must be completed by . Student may only attempt the final test once. The intravenous Therapy Module is found in the Online Clinical Skills Lab at <https://owl.uwo.ca>

**Title: Medication Administration Quizzes**

**Due Date: January 29 or March 19 and February 14 or April 4**

The purposes of the medication administration quizzes are for students to:

- demonstrate accuracy with dosage calculations;
- demonstrate knowledge of CNO practice standards;
- demonstrate clinical judgment related to medication administration.

Full Description

Students are required to write two separate medication quizzes. A 95% *cumulative* average of both quizzes is required to achieve a satisfactory grade in the course. There are no opportunities for rewrites. Calculators may be used, in keeping with the NCLEX examination taken upon graduation. The timing and weighting of the quizzes are summarized as follows:

Date	Description
January 29 or March 19	Oral & subcutaneous medication administration 20 questions, 50 minutes allotted 50%
February 14 or April 4	Intramuscular & intravenous medication administration 20 questions, 50 minutes allotted 50%

**Title: Medication Administration Practical Exam**

**Due: February 12 or April 2**

The purposes of this evaluation are for students to demonstrate the ability to:

- engage with a client in a safe, caring, professional, and ethical manner;
- identify relevant assessments prior to administration of medications;
- demonstrate ability to perform dosage calculations correctly
- prepare and administer oral medications according to CNO standards;
- document in accordance with CNO standards.

Full Description

Students will be given a client scenario and a medication administration record (MAR). Students will be asked to identify relevant assessments based on the medications due for that scenario, identify appropriate medications for the client, and prepare and administer the medications to a client following CNO standards. Students will wear uniforms to the Practical Exam. *Students must attain a minimum grade of 25/30 in order to achieve a satisfactory grading in the course.*

The grade for the Medication Administration Exam will be based on:

- engagement with the client in a caring, professional, and ethical manner;

- demonstration of methods to ensure safety for both the client and nurse, including infection control measures;
- identification of relevant assessments prior to administration of medications;
- demonstration of correct procedure when administering medications;
- proper documentation on the MAR.

### **Scholarly Requirements**

In this program, scholarly writing is a requirement. Therefore, all scholarly papers will follow the sixth edition of the *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (2010), which includes guidelines for both content and format. In addition, all other writing will follow APA (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) format when citing or referring to an author's work or ideas. Failure to do so is unethical and is plagiarism.

### **Policies**

All policies related to assignments are in the Undergraduate BScN Programs Manual on the UWO Web site at [www.owl.uwo.ca](http://www.owl.uwo.ca). Please read the policies on Accommodation for Medical Illness-Undergraduate Students and Student Medical Certificate.

### **Social Media**

Students who post information on social media related to their laboratory experiences will be reported to the Associate Dean as this demonstrates a breach of client privacy and confidentiality and violates the Student Code of Conduct. Such behavior may compromise a student's standing in the program.

### **Plagiarism**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Assignments and Exams**

Please refer to the Undergraduate BScN Programs Manual for UWO academic guidelines for penalties for late assignments, re-grading of assignments, and the protocol for missed mid-term or final exams. The Undergraduate BScN Programs Manual is found at [www.owl.uwo.ca](http://www.owl.uwo.ca)

### **Electronic Devices**

Electronic devices, are not permitted in the laboratory setting. Calculators may be used if they are basic, non-programmable devices. Cell phones are not to be used in the laboratory setting.

**Mental Health**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Student Safety**

Please refer to the Undergraduate BScN Programs Manual section on Student Safety Concerns: Guidelines for Responding in the Practice Setting Environment and the Student Safety Flow Chart found on the Undergraduate Programs site at [www.owl.uwo.ca](http://www.owl.uwo.ca)