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- A. Intravenous
- B. Sublingual
- C. Oral
- D. Transdermal

Answer: C

Rationale: Oral medications are absorbed in the GI tract and travel to the liver via the portal vein. The liver may metabolize a large portion of the drug before it ever reaches systemic circulation.

11. A nurse is calculating the IV flow rate for a client who is to receive 1,000 mL of 0.9% Sodium Chloride over 8 hours. The drop factor is 15 gtt/mL. What is the flow rate in gtt/min? (Round to the nearest whole number).

- A. 21 gtt/min
- B. 31 gtt/min
- C. 42 gtt/min
- D. 63 gtt/min

Answer: B

Rationale: Total volume (1,000 mL) $\times$ drop factor (15 gtt/mL) = 15,000 gtt. Time in minutes = $8 \times 60 = 480$ minutes. $15,000 \div 480 = 31.25$ gtt/min, rounded to 31 gtt/min.

12. A nurse is caring for a client who is to receive 1,500 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride IV over 8 hours. The nurse plans to use IV tubing with a drop factor of 10 gtt/mL. How many gtt/min of IV fluid should the client receive?

- A. 31 gtt/min
- B. 25 gtt/min
- C. 42 gtt/min
- D. 18 gtt/min

Answer: A

Rationale: $1,500 \text{ mL} \times 10 \text{ gtt/mL} = 15,000 \text{ gtt}$. $8 \text{ hours} \times 60 = 480 \text{ minutes}$. $15,000 \div 480 = 31.25 \text{ gtt/min}$, rounded to 31 gtt/min.

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55. A client is prescribed a beta-blocker for hypertension. Which assessment should the nurse perform before administering this medication?

- A. Assess the patient's heart rate and blood pressure
- B. Assess the patient's respiratory rate
- C. Assess the patient's temperature
- D. Assess the patient's oxygen saturation

Answer: A

Rationale: The nurse should assess the patient's heart rate and blood pressure to ensure they are within acceptable limits before administering beta-blockers.

56. A nurse is caring for a client receiving digoxin. Which laboratory value increases the risk of digoxin toxicity?

- A. Potassium 3.0 mEq/L
- B. Sodium 140 mEq/L
- C. Calcium 9.0 mg/dL
- D. Magnesium 2.0 mg/dL

Answer: A

Rationale: Hypokalemia (potassium < 3.5 mEq/L) increases the risk of digoxin toxicity because potassium and digoxin compete for binding sites on the sodium-potassium ATPase pump. A potassium level of 3.0 mEq/L warrants holding digoxin and notifying the provider.

57. A nurse is teaching a client about the adverse effects of amiodarone. Which adverse effect should the nurse include?

- A. Pulmonary toxicity
- B. Hyperglycemia
- C. Hypertension
- D. Tachycardia

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Rationale: Cabergoline is a dopamine agonist used to treat hyperprolactinemia. It should be taken with food to reduce nausea and GI upset. It decreases milk production and should not be stopped abruptly without provider guidance.

88. A client is prescribed octreotide for acromegaly. Which adverse effect should the nurse monitor for?

- A. Gallbladder sludge and gallstones
- B. Hyperglycemia
- C. Hypertension
- D. Tachycardia

Answer: A

Rationale: Octreotide is a somatostatin analog that can cause gallbladder sludge and gallstones, as well as GI upset, bradycardia, and hypoglycemia (or hyperglycemia). Clients should be monitored with periodic gallbladder ultrasounds.

89. A nurse is teaching a client about the administration of insulin. Which statement by the client indicates a need for further teaching?

- A. "I will store my insulin pen at room temperature for up to 28 days."
- B. "I will inject insulin into the same site every day."
- C. "I will rotate injection sites to prevent lipodystrophy."
- D. "I will check my blood glucose before meals."

Answer: B

Rationale: Insulin injection sites should be rotated to prevent lipodystrophy and ensure consistent absorption. Injecting into the same site every day can lead to poor absorption and unpredictable blood glucose levels.

Answer: A

Rationale: The therapeutic range for lithium is 0.6–1.2 mEq/L. A level of 1.8 mEq/L indicates toxicity. Signs of toxicity include coarse hand tremors, vomiting, diarrhea, ataxia, and confusion. Severe toxicity can lead to seizures and coma.

105. A client is prescribed sertraline for depression. Which instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "It may take 2 to 4 weeks to notice improvement."
- B. "Stop taking the medication if you feel better."
- C. "Take the medication at bedtime to prevent insomnia."
- D. "Avoid foods containing tyramine."

Answer: A

Rationale: SSRIs like sertraline take 2 to 4 weeks to reach full therapeutic effect. Clients should not stop taking the medication abruptly (risk of discontinuation syndrome). Sertraline is typically taken in the morning. Tyramine restrictions are for MAOIs, not SSRIs.

106. A client is prescribed phenelzine. Which dietary instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Avoid foods containing tyramine, such as aged cheese and cured meats."
- B. "Increase your intake of green leafy vegetables."
- C. "Drink grapefruit juice with the medication."
- D. "Take the medication with a high-protein meal."

Answer: A

Rationale: Phenelzine is an MAOI. Clients must avoid tyramine-rich foods (aged cheese, cured meats, fermented products, tap beer) to prevent hypertensive crisis. Grapefruit juice should be avoided, and the medication should be taken with food.

- A. "Do not exceed 4 grams per day."
- B. "Take the medication with alcohol for better effect."
- C. "Increase your dose if pain persists."
- D. "Take the medication on an empty stomach."

Answer: A

Rationale: The maximum daily dose of acetaminophen is 4 grams (4000 mg) for adults. Exceeding this dose can cause hepatotoxicity. Clients should avoid alcohol while taking acetaminophen and should check other medications for acetaminophen content.

123. A client is prescribed ibuprofen. Which adverse effect should the nurse monitor for?

- A. Gastrointestinal bleeding
- B. Hypertension
- C. Bradycardia
- D. Hypoglycemia

Answer: A

Rationale: Ibuprofen is an NSAID that can cause gastrointestinal bleeding, ulceration, and perforation. Clients should take it with food or milk to reduce GI upset. Other adverse effects include renal impairment and increased cardiovascular risk.

124. A nurse is teaching a client about aspirin. Which instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Avoid aspirin if you have a history of stomach ulcers."
- B. "Take aspirin with alcohol for better pain relief."
- C. "Give aspirin to children with viral infections."
- D. "Take aspirin on an empty stomach."

Answer: A

Rationale: Aspirin is contraindicated in clients with a history of stomach ulcers or bleeding disorders. It should not be given to children with viral infections due to the risk of Reye's syndrome. It should be taken with food to reduce GI upset.

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- A. "Take this medication with grapefruit juice."
- B. "Notify the provider if you develop muscle pain or tenderness."
- C. "Expect your skin to become flushed and itchy."
- D. "Take this medication on an empty stomach."

Answer: B

Rationale: Statins can cause rhabdomyolysis (muscle breakdown). Clients must report muscle aches, as this can lead to acute renal failure. Grapefruit juice should be avoided as it can increase statin levels.

136. A nurse is monitoring a client receiving lithium. Which finding indicates lithium toxicity?

- A. Serum lithium level of 1.8 mEq/L
- B. Serum lithium level of 0.8 mEq/L
- C. Serum lithium level of 1.0 mEq/L
- D. Serum lithium level of 1.2 mEq/L

Answer: A

Rationale: The therapeutic range for lithium is 0.6–1.2 mEq/L. A level of 1.8 mEq/L indicates toxicity. Signs of toxicity include coarse hand tremors, vomiting, diarrhea, ataxia, and confusion. Severe toxicity can lead to seizures and coma.

137. A client is prescribed phenelzine. Which dietary instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Avoid foods containing tyramine, such as aged cheese and cured meats."
- B. "Increase your intake of green leafy vegetables."
- C. "Drink grapefruit juice with the medication."
- D. "Take the medication with a high-protein meal."

Answer: A

Rationale: Phenelzine is an MAOI. Clients must avoid tyramine-rich foods (aged cheese, cured meats, fermented products, tap beer) to prevent hypertensive crisis. Grapefruit juice should be avoided, and the medication should be taken with food.

- C. Weight loss
- D. Bradycardia

Answer: A

Rationale: SSRIs commonly cause sexual dysfunction (decreased libido, delayed ejaculation, anorgasmia). Other adverse effects include nausea, insomnia, headache, and serotonin syndrome (with concurrent serotonergic drugs).

SECTION 5: RESPIRATORY, GI, & FLUID/ELECTROLYTE PHARMACOLOGY (Questions 141–175)

141. A client is prescribed albuterol. Which instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Use this medication for acute bronchospasm."
- B. "Use this medication daily for long-term control."
- C. "Take this medication at bedtime."
- D. "Take this medication with food."

Answer: A

Rationale: Albuterol is a short-acting beta2-agonist (SABA) used for acute relief of bronchospasm. It has a rapid onset (5–15 minutes) and duration of 4–6 hours. Long-acting beta2-agonists (LABAs) are used for long-term control.

142. A client is prescribed ipratropium. Which adverse effect should the nurse monitor for?

- A. Dry mouth
- B. Diarrhea
- C. Hypertension
- D. Tachycardia

Answer: A

Rationale: Ipratropium is an anticholinergic bronchodilator that commonly causes dry

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148. A client is prescribed metoclopramide. Which adverse effect should the nurse monitor for?

- A. Extrapyramidal symptoms
- B. Diarrhea
- C. Hypertension
- D. Bradycardia

Answer: A

Rationale: Metoclopramide can cause extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS), including acute dystonia, parkinsonism, and tardive dyskinesia, especially with long-term use. It should not be used for more than 12 weeks. Clients should report involuntary movements.

149. A client is prescribed docusate sodium. Which instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Increase your fluid intake while taking this medication."
- B. "Take this medication with a high-fiber diet."
- C. "Expect immediate results within 1 hour."
- D. "Stop the medication if you have a bowel movement."

Answer: A

Rationale: Docusate sodium is a stool softener that works by increasing water absorption into the stool. Clients should increase fluid intake for best effect. It may take 1–3 days to produce a bowel movement.

150. A client is prescribed loperamide. Which instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Do not use this medication if you have a fever or bloody diarrhea."
- B. "Take this medication with a high-fiber meal."
- C. "Increase your dose if diarrhea persists."
- D. "Take this medication on an empty stomach."

Answer: A

Rationale: Loperamide is an antidiarrheal that should not be used in clients with fever

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or bloody diarrhea, as it may worsen the condition by slowing the expulsion of infectious organisms. Clients should not exceed the recommended dose.

151. A client is prescribed furosemide. Which instruction should the nurse include?

- A. "Take this medication in the morning to prevent nighttime urination."
- B. "Take this medication at bedtime."
- C. "Take this medication with a high-potassium meal."
- D. "Stop the medication if you lose weight."

Answer: A

Rationale: Furosemide is a loop diuretic that should be taken in the morning to prevent nocturia. Clients should be instructed to increase potassium intake (unless contraindicated) and monitor for signs of dehydration and hypokalemia.

152. A client is prescribed spironolactone. Which adverse effect should the nurse monitor for?

- A. Hyperkalemia
- B. Hypokalemia
- C. Hyponatremia
- D. Hypocalcemia

Answer: A

Rationale: Spironolactone is a potassium-sparing diuretic that can cause hyperkalemia. The nurse should monitor serum potassium levels closely, especially in clients with renal impairment or those taking ACE inhibitors or ARBs.

153. A client is prescribed hydrochlorothiazide. Which laboratory value should the nurse monitor?

- C. 2 mL
- D. 1.5 mL

Answer: A

Rationale: $50 \text{ mcg} \div 50 \text{ mcg/mL} = 1 \text{ mL}$.

211. A client is prescribed 500 mL of 0.45% sodium chloride IV over 6 hours. The drop factor is 15 gtt/mL. What is the flow rate in gtt/min?

- A. 21 gtt/min
- B. 15 gtt/min
- C. 25 gtt/min
- D. 30 gtt/min

Answer: A

Rationale: Flow rate = $(500 \text{ mL} \times 15 \text{ gtt/mL}) / (6 \times 60 \text{ minutes}) = 7,500 / 360 = 20.8$ gtt/min, rounded to 21 gtt/min.

212. A nurse is preparing to administer haloperidol 5 mg IM. The medication is available as 5 mg/mL. How many mL should the nurse administer?

- A. 1 mL
- B. 0.5 mL
- C. 2 mL
- D. 1.5 mL

Answer: A

Rationale: $5 \text{ mg} \div 5 \text{ mg/mL} = 1 \text{ mL}$.

213. A client is prescribed 1,000 mL of D5W IV over 6 hours. The drop factor is 10 gtt/mL. What is the flow rate in gtt/min?