

# *Medical Tests*

*PTCB-PTCE*

*Pharmacy Technician Certification Board: Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam*



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# Latest Version: 6.0

## Question: 1

If a patient is to take 2.5 grains of a medication, what is the equivalent amount in milligrams?

- A. 12.5 mg
- B. 195 mg
- C. 162 mg
- D. 26 mg

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

To find how many milligrams are in 2.5 grains of medication, you must know that 1 grain = 64.8 mg in the Avoirdupois measurement system. Therefore,  $2.5 \text{ gr} \times 64.8 \text{ mg/1 gr} = 162 \text{ mg}$ .

## Question: 2

What is the indication of pioglitazone?

- A. Hypertension
- B. Type 2 diabetes
- C. Vertigo
- D. Migraine

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Pioglitazone belongs to a drug class called thiazolidinedione (TZD). TZDs reduce fasting plasma glucose and HbA1C. TZDs are indicated for the treatment of type 2 diabetes and not type 1 diabetes. Pioglitazone and rosiglitazone are the two agents in this drug class.

## Question: 3

Which of the following medications can produce a dry, nonproductive cough?

- A. Benicar
- B. Micardis
- C. Vasotec
- D. Cozaar

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Vasotec (enalapril) is in the class of angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor that is used in the treatment of hypertension. One of the side effects of this class is the production of a dry, nonproductive cough with long-term use.

Cozaar (losartan), Benicar (olmesartan), and Micardis (telmisartan) are all in the class of angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), which are also used for hypertension and work in a similar way to ACE inhibitors, but they do not produce a cough as a side effect.

### Question: 4

Which of the following programs is approved by the FDA to make sure that pregnant women do not take thalidomide?

- A. CARE
- B. STEPS
- C. iPLEDGE
- D. CMEA

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

STEPS stands for "Thalidomide Education and Prescribing Safety" and was approved by the FDA to make sure that pregnant women do not take thalidomide and women do not become pregnant while taking thalidomide.

CARE stands for "Clozaril Administration Registry Enrollment," which is an internet application that facilitates the reporting of white blood cell count for patients who are on clozapine therapy.

iPLEDGE is the isotretinoin registry for patients, practitioners, and pharmacists due to the medication's risk of severe birth defects.

CMEA stands for "Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act"; scheduled listed chemical product (SLCP) was created as the result of this act.

### Question: 5

If a bottle of carvedilol 25 mg has an expiration date of 10/2025, when is the last date that medication in this bottle is deemed to be safe and effective?

- A. 10/31/2025
- B. 09/15/2025
- C. 11/01/2025
- D. 10/01/2025

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

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When the expiration date on a stock bottle only indicates the month and the year, the medication is good until the last day of that month. In this case, it is 10/31/2025.

### Question: 6

How often should the compounding area of the laminar airflow workbenches be disinfected when ongoing compounding activities are occurring?

- A. At the beginning of each shift
- B. Every 30 minutes
- C. Daily
- D. Every hour

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The compounding area of the laminar airflow workbenches must be disinfected every 30 minutes following the previous surface disinfection when ongoing compounding activities are occurring, in addition to at the beginning of each shift, before each batch, after spills, and when surface contamination is known or suspected.

Counters and easily cleanable work surfaces are disinfected daily.

### Question: 7

Which of the following expresses the prefix "hecto-"?

- A. 0.10 of the basic unit
- B. 100 times the basic unit
- C. 1,000 times the basic unit
- D. 10 times the basic unit

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The prefix "hecto-" is used in the metric system and is equal to 100 times the base unit.

The prefix "kilo-" is equal to 1,000 times the base unit. The prefix "deka-" is equal to 10 times the base unit. The prefix "deci-" is equal to 0.10 of the basic unit.

### Question: 8

An insurance company uses which of the following pieces of information to verify insurance coverage?

- A. Identification number
- B. Dosage
- C. Patient's name

D. Date of birth

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

An insurance company uses the patient's name to verify insurance coverage.

An insurance company uses the dosage to determine the cost of the medication. An insurance company uses the patient's date of birth to verify that the medication is dispensed to the appropriate patient. An insurance company uses the patient's identification number to provide coverage authorization.

### Question: 9

Which of the following beta blockers is used as a class III antiarrhythmic agent?

- A. Sotalol
- B. Carvedilol
- C. Bisoprolol
- D. Metoprolol

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Sotalol is the beta blocker used as a class III antiarrhythmic agent.

### Question: 10

Which dispense as written (DAW) code is used as an "all-purpose" override?

- A. DAW 0
- B. DAW 5
- C. DAW 6
- D. DAW 9

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

A DAW 6 is used as an all-purpose dispense-as-written override.

A DAW 0 is used when the prescriber allows the generic form to be dispensed. A DAW 9 is used as an "other" override. A DAW 5 is used when the prescriber allows the generic form to be dispensed, but the pharmacy dispenses the brand form as the generic.

### Question: 11

Which one of the following antifungals comes in a vaginal cream or suppository form?

- A. Miconazole (Micatin)
- B. Ketoconazole (Nizoral)
- C. Fluconazole (Diflucan)
- D. Clotrimazole (Lotrimin AF)

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Miconazole (Micatin) is the active ingredient in Monistat used to treat fungal infections of the vagina. It is found in both vaginal cream and vaginal suppository formulations.

Fluconazole (Diflucan) is found in an oral tablet form. Clotrimazole (Lotrimin AF) is mainly found as a cream. Ketoconazole (Nizoral) is found in tablet, shampoo, and cream forms.

### Question: 12

A patient takes Humalog 200 units/mL injection vials. Where should their syringes and needles be placed after use?

- A. In a sharps container
- B. In a red biohazard bag
- C. In a gallon container
- D. In a plastic bag and then into a trash can

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Once a needle and a syringe have been used, they should be disposed of in a FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, also known as a sharps container.

Hazardous substances are any substances that meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Carcinogenicity
- Teratogenicity
- Reproductive toxicity in humans
- Organ toxicity
- Genotoxicity

It might be helpful to associate hazardous substances with the skull and crossbones symbol.

Toxic medications should be placed in a red biohazard bag to be disposed of. Hazardous substances—such as used needles—should never be placed in the trash, dumpster, or in containers other than sharp containers.

### Question: 13

Which of the following means "Instill three drops into right eye every four hours"?

- A. Instill 3 DR OD Q4H
- B. Instill 3 gtts OD Q4H
- C. Instill 3 DR OS Q4H

D. Instill 3 gtts OS Q4H

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The sig "Instill 3 gtts OD Q4H" means instill three drops into right eye every four hours.

The sig "Instill 3 DR OD Q4H" means instill three delayed release into right eye every four hours. The sig "Instill 3 gtts OS Q4H" means instill 3 drops into left eye every four hours. The sig "Instill 3 DR OS Q4H" means instill three delayed release into left eye every four hours.

### Question: 14

Which of the following is not an additive for total parenteral nutrition (TPN)?

- A. Potassium
- B. Calcium
- C. Magnesium
- D. Epoetin alfa

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Epoetin alfa is indicated for the treatment of anemia in patients with chronic kidney disease.

Additives for TPN include both electrolytes and minerals:

- Calcium
- Chloride
- Magnesium
- Phosphate
- Potassium
- Sodium

### Question: 15

According to USP <797>, how often must nonviable sampling be performed?

- A. Every 12 months
- B. Every 3 months
- C. Every day
- D. Every 6 months

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

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USP <797> requires environmental monitoring, temperature monitoring, nonviable and viable airborne particle testing program monitoring, and surface disinfection sampling and assessment to be documented.

Nonviable and viable particle sampling must be performed and documented every 6 months. Temperature monitoring must be recorded at least every day. Pharmacy weights need to be calibrated once a year.



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