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Question: 1

Which of the following medications is indicated to the treatment of depression as well as neuropathic pain?

- A. Gabapentin (Neurontin)
- B. Pregabalin (Lyrica)
- C. Amitriptyline (Elavil)
- D. Divalproex sodium (Depakote)

Answer: C

Explanation:

Gabapentin (Neurontin), pregabalin (Lyrica), and divalproex (Depakote) are antiepileptic drugs that are used to prevent or treat seizure disorders. Neurontin and Lyrica are also indicated for the treatment of neuropathic pain and diabetic neuropathy. Depakote is also indicated for the treatment of bipolar mood disorders. Amitriptyline (Elavil) is a tricyclic antidepressant that is also used to treat neuropathic (nerve) pain. Tricyclic antidepressants are an older class of medication and are less commonly used to treat depression in modern times because they have more side effects than newer antidepressants. They are being used more often to treat neuropathic pain, a type of nerve pain that is difficult to treat because it is resistant to traditional opioid analgesics.

Question: 2

What is sumatriptan (Imitrex) indicated for?

- A. Nausea
- B. Depression
- C. Migraines
- D. Asthma

Answer: C

Explanation:

Sumatriptan (Imitrex) is among the group of drugs known as "triptans" that are used to treat migraine headaches. It is available as an oral tablet, nasal spray, and injection. Other similar drugs include zolmitriptan (Zomig), rizatriptan (Maxalt), naratriptan, and eletriptan (Relpax). Imitrex is the only "triptan" drug listed in the top 200 drugs list.

Question: 3

How many tablespoons (tbsp) are in two cups?

- A. 4
- B. 8
- C. 16
- D. 32

Answer: D

Explanation:

2 tbsp = 1 fl oz; 8 fl oz = 1 cup; 16 fl oz = 2 cups; 16 fl oz x 2 tbsp/fl oz = 32 tbsp.

Question: 4

What can a direct mixture of calcium gluconate and potassium phosphate solutions for injection cause?

- A. Combustion
- B. Emulsion
- C. Precipitate
- D. Suspension

Answer: C

Explanation:

An emulsion results from the mixture of two or more liquids that are immiscible, such as an oil-based solution mixed with water. An example is fat emulsion used for total parenteral nutrition (TPN). Lactated Ringer's solution is used intravenously or for irrigation and contains sodium, potassium, and calcium salts. A suspension results when a solid substance is mixed into a liquid, such as glycerin or water (for example, oral azithromycin suspension). The combination of calcium gluconate and potassium phosphate can result in a precipitate, which is a potentially dangerous formation of solid crystals. Caution should be exercised when dosing and admixing these agents for use in IV preparations because precipitates can cause blockages in vessels when injected.

Question: 5

Drug A regularly costs \$114.00. A drug distributor is offering a discount of 5%. What is the purchase price of drug A?

- A. \$57.00
- B. \$108.30
- C. \$113.43
- D. \$119.70

Answer: B

Explanation:

5% of \$114 is calculated by multiplying 114 by 0.05 for a result (discount) of \$5.70. \$5.70 subtracted from \$114.00 is \$108.30.

Question: 6

A patient has accidentally doubled their dose of warfarin, resulting in gastrointestinal bleeding. What antidote would you expect to be prescribed?

- A. Idarucizumab
- B. Vitamin K
- C. Vitamin B12
- D. Potassium

Answer: B

Explanation:

Warfarin (Coumadin) is an anticoagulant that works by blocking vitamin K, a substance that is needed to produce clotting factors in the blood. An overdose of warfarin can be treated by administering oral or parenteral vitamin K (phytonadione). Idarucizumab (Praxbind) is a drug specifically designed to reverse the anticoagulant effects of dabigatran (Pradaxa). Idarucizumab does not reverse the effects of any other anticoagulants. Neither vitamin B12 nor potassium is used as an antidote.

Question: 7

Which of the following drugs is NOT sensitive to light exposure?

- A. Daunorubicin
- B. Doxorubicin
- C. Didanosine
- D. Dacarbazine

Answer: C

Explanation:

All chemotherapy agents are sensitive to light exposure and should constantly be protected during processing, distribution, compounding, and administration. Exposure to light could lead to product degradation and result in either drug deactivation and/or creation of undesirable photodegradation and impurities. Daunorubicin, doxorubicin, and dacarbazine are all chemotherapy agents. Other common chemotherapy agents include epirubicin, paclitaxel, docetaxel, fluorouracil, cyclophosphamide, carboplatin, cisplatin, oxaliplatin, and topotecan, among others. Didanosine is a human immunodeficiency virus antiretroviral drug belonging to the class of nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

Question: 8

Which of the following is correct about HEPA filters?

- A. HEPA stands for high-efficiency pharmaceutical appliance.
- B. They block particles greater than 3 mg.
- C. Cleaning agents can be sprayed on the HEPA filter.
- D. The hood should be certified any time the HEPA filter becomes wet.

Answer: D

Explanation:

HEPA stands for high-efficiency particulate air. It prevents particles greater than three microns from entering the sterile environment. Cleaning agents, such as 70% alcohol, should not be sprayed on the filter due to the risk of causing holes. The hood should be certified anytime the HEPA filter becomes wet.

Question: 9

Which of the following references would be the best source for determining if two different promethazine with codeine cough syrup products are therapeutically equivalent?

- A. USP <796>
- B. USP <797>
- C. FDA's Orange Book
- D. FDA's Purple Book

Answer: C

Explanation:

FDA's Orange Book contains an official list of all therapeutically equivalent products available on the market. Before a pharmacy substitutes a generic drug for a brand-name drug or one generic for a different generic product, they must first ensure that it is therapeutically equivalent according to FDA's Orange Book. Most pharmacy computer systems will automatically have Orange Book information programmed into the prescription system. FDA's Purple Book contains information about therapeutically equivalent biological products, such as insulins and monoclonal antibodies. For biological products, therapeutic equivalents are often called biosimilars. The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) General Chapter <795> sets the standards for compounding nonsterile products. USP <797> sets standards for compounding sterile products.

Question: 10

What quantity of clobetasol propionate is contained within a 30 g tube of clobetasol propionate 0.05% cream?

- A.1.5 g
- B.1.5 mg
- C.15 mg
- D.15 g

Answer: C

Explanation:

Percentages can be converted into a fraction by placing the number in the numerator and 100 in the denominator. For creams and other solids, the units are g/ 100 g. For solutions or suspensions, the fraction should be expressed in g/ 100 mL. For liquid in liquid formulations, such as emulsions, percentages can be expressed as mL/100 mL.

0.05% = 0.05 g per 100 g

To solve using dimensional analysis:

$$\frac{0.05 \text{ g}}{100 \text{ g}} = \frac{50 \text{ mg}}{100 \text{ g}} = \frac{5 \text{ mg} \times 3}{10 \text{ mg} \times 3} = \frac{15 \text{ mg}}{30 \text{ g}}$$

To solve using cross-multiplication:

$$\frac{0.05 \text{ g}}{100 \text{ g}} = \frac{(x) \text{ g}}{30 \text{ g}}$$

$$(0.05 \text{ g})(30 \text{ g}) = (100 \text{ g})(x)$$

$$1.5 \text{ g} = (x)100 \text{ g}$$

$$x = 0.015 \text{ g} = 15 \text{ mg}$$

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