

CHUKA

UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
SCIENCE IN NURSING

NURS 257: PHARMACOLOGY II

STREAMS: BSs. NURSING (Y2S2)

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: MONDAY 14/04/2025

2.30 P.M. – 4.30 P.M.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Do not write anything on the question paper.
- Mobile phones and any other reference materials are NOT allowed in the examination room.
- The paper has THREE sections. Answer ALL questions
- All your answers for Section I (MCQs) should be on one page.
- Number ALL your answers and indicate the order of appearance in the space provided on the cover page of the examination answer booklet.

**MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (10 Marks)**

1. A patient is admitted to the emergency department with an overdose of a benzodiazepine. The nurse immediately prepares to administer which of the following antidotes from the emergency drug cart?

- a. naloxone    b. naltrexone    c. nalmefene    d. flumazenil

2. The most effective drug for stopping generalized tonic-clonic convulsions in adults is:

- a. Lamotrigine    b. Ethosuximide    c. Diazepam    d. Zonisamide

3. Prolonged lithium therapy can cause

- (a) Diabetes mellitus    (b) Goiter    (c) Parkinsonism    (d) Gout

4. A client with myasthenia gravis is receiving pyridostigmine (Mestinon). The nurse monitors for signs and symptoms of cholinergic crisis caused by an overdose of the medication. The nurse checks the medication supply to ensure that which medication is available for administration if a cholinergic crisis occurs?

- a. Vitamin K      b. Atropine sulfate      c. Protamine sulfate      d. Acetylcysteine  
(Mucomyst)

5. Which of the following antiarrhythmics may worsen angina symptoms by increasing myocardial oxygen requirements?

- a. lidocaine      b. verapamil      c. propranolol      d. furosemide

6. All of the following statements about stool softeners are true EXCEPT

- (a) There is minimal systemic absorption  
(b) the onset of action is usually 1–2 days  
(c) they are useful in patients with constipation who have experienced an acute myocardial infarction  
(d) they can be taken with little or no water

7. Established clinical uses of which of the following drugs include enuresis and chronic pain

- (a) Bupropion      (b) Fluvoxamine      (c) Imipramine      (d) Phenelzine

8. Which of the following is NOT an indication for  $\beta$ -blocker therapy?

- a) Hypotension      b) Angina pectoris      c) Arrhythmias      d) Myocardial infarction

9. A patient you follow in clinic has a well-known heroin abuse problem. Drug which could potentially prevent an abstinence withdrawal syndrome during hospitalization is:

- a. morphine      b. nalbuphine      c. methadone      d. pethidine

10. While teaching a patient newly diagnosed with a seizure disorder, the nurse correctly states the goal of pharmacologic therapy as:

- a. Eradicating all seizure activity and then weaning off medication once the patient is seizure free for 3 months
- b. Reducing seizure occurrence to one per week
- c. Maximally reducing seizure activity while minimizing side effects of medication therapy
- d. Maximizing drug dosages to control seizure activity

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30 marks)**

- 1. State any four (4) pharmacologic effects of sedative hypnotics (4 marks)
- 2. Explain three (3) ways through which histamine antagonists work (6 marks)
- 3. Outline four (4) effects of sympathomimetics in the body organs or systems (4 marks)
- 4. Bronchodilators are used in management of acute asthmatic attack. Explain any three (3) classes of bronchodilators clearly indicating their mechanism of action (6 marks)
- 5. Classify **diuretics** that regulate salt excretion according to their site of action (6 marks)
- 6. Describe any two main mechanism(s) of action of anticonvulsants (4 marks)

**ESSAY QUESTIONS (30 marks)**

- 1. Discuss three (3) classes of drugs used in management of depression clearly outlining their mechanism of action. (15 marks)
- 2. Explain, giving relevant examples any THREE (3) classes of drugs used in management of cardiac failure (Except diuretics). (15 marks)

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