



# Challenge Exam Information Sheet

## 10-543-103 Nursing Pharmacology

### Course Information

<i>Course # Title</i>	10543103 Nursing Pharmacology
<i>Credits</i>	2
<i>Instructional Area</i>	Nursing
<i>Instructional Level</i>	Associate Degree
<i>Division</i>	Health Science

[Click here to review the detailed course outcome summary](#) for this course to determine if you are prepared to take this challenge exam.

### Challenge Exam Format

**Number/Format of Questions:** 81 multiple choice questions

**Passing Score:** 65 out of 81 questions  
(80 Percent or higher of total points possible)

**Time Allowed For Completion:** 162 minutes (2 minutes per question)  
2 hours and 42 minutes

**Materials Allowed In Testing Room:** None

**When/How Results Will Be Available:** Results will be emailed to your Northwood Tech email account within one week of taking the exam.

## Challenge Exam Guidelines

**Understand that Challenge Exams are evaluative, rather than learning, experiences.** Results indicate only whether a student has earned credit for prior learning: pass or fail. No score is available, nor is a report of how a student performed on any piece of the exam.

- Prior to taking the challenge exam, you must:
  - ✓ be an admitted student.
  - ✓ pay a non-refundable fee of \$50.
- You may only attempt this Challenge Exam once in a 12-month period.
- The exam may be scheduled before or after the course begins, but must be completed within the first seven calendar days from the course start date.
- Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made to ensure access to academic programs, activities, services and employment in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAA). Students with a documented disability must request accommodations by contacting the campus Accommodation Specialist and following required steps to obtain accommodations at the post-secondary level.
- If you are enrolled in the course and successfully complete the Challenge Exam, you will receive a 100 percent tuition refund for the course.

**NOTE:** A reduced credit load may affect your financial aid and/or insurance eligibility if you successfully complete a Challenge Exam. Please contact your advisor or the financial aid office for more information.

## Sample Exam Questions:

**Note: Answers to the sample questions are provided at the end of the question set.**

1. A client requires a high dose of a new antihypertensive medication because the new medication has a significant first-pass effect. What does this mean?
  - a. The medication must pass through the client's bloodstream several times to generate a therapeutic effect.
  - b. The medication passes through the renal tubules and is excreted in large amounts.
  - c. The medication is extensively metabolized in the client's liver.
  - d. The medication is ineffective following the first dose and increasingly effective with each subsequent dose.
2. As you are preparing morning medications, the client says, "I have had loose stools all night long." Your client has scheduled docusate at 0900. What is the priority action?
  - a. Hold the medication and inform the healthcare provider.
  - b. Administer the medication as ordered.
  - c. Increase IV flow rate
  - d. Ask the healthcare provider to increase the dose of the medication.
3. A client taking SMZ/TMP asks the nurse what the name means. The nurse replies sulfamethoxazole is combined with trimethoprim in SMZ/TMP to help the medication effectiveness. How does this work?
  - a. Sulfamethoxazole acts along with trimethoprim as an anesthetic.
  - b. Sulfamethoxazole is highly protein bound and displaces the trimethoprim.
  - c. Sulfamethoxazole increases the excretion of trimethoprim, thereby increasing the response in the bladder.
  - d. Sulfamethoxazole has a synergistic effect with trimethoprim against gram-positive and gram-negative organisms.
4. The nurse will be administering an antitussive medication containing codeine to a client. What is the priority assessment?
  - a. Pulse oximeter reading.
  - b. Lung sounds.
  - c. Respiratory rate.
  - d. Sputum consistency.
5. The nurse is monitoring a client taking furosemide for heart failure. Which electrolyte imbalance must the nurse be alert for?
  - a. Hyperkalemia.
  - b. Hyponatremia.
  - c. Hypokalemia.
  - d. Hyponatremia.

6. A client in the clinic reports difficulty tolerating the current ACE inhibitor medication, and questions if another medication could be used. The nurse correctly suspects the prescriber will choose which medication, which affects the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system?
  - a. Atenolol.
  - b. losartan.
  - c. spironolactone.
  - d. adenosine.
7. The nurse is caring for a client who is taking warfarin. The nurse notes the presence of gross hematuria and large areas of bruising on the client's body. The nurse notifies the health care prescriber and anticipates what medication will be ordered?
  - a. heparin sulfate.
  - b. protamine sulfate.
  - c. phytonadione (Vitamin K).
  - d. oral potassium supplements.
8. A client is about to receive a morning dose of digoxin and has an apical pulse of 53 beats/minute. Which of the following actions should the nurse do first?
  - a. Hold the dose.
  - b. Administer the dose as scheduled.
  - c. Notify the charge nurse of the findings.
  - d. Contact the provider for dose adjustment.
9. What should the nurse include when teaching a client regarding the use of omeprazole?
  - a. Take after meals to increase medication effectiveness.
  - b. Take before meals to increase medication effectiveness.
  - c. Take with meals to increase medication effectiveness.
  - d. May take without regard to meals or other medications.
10. A child is receiving methylphenidate. The mother tells the nurse the client is having trouble sleeping while on the medication. What is the best response by the nurse?
  - a. "Give the medication before 4:00 pm."
  - b. "Give the medication at 8:00 pm."
  - c. "Stop the medication immediately and see the doctor."
  - d. "Add diphenhydramine at bedtime."
11. A client with type 2 diabetes mellitus asks the nurse how metformin decreases blood sugar. What is the best response by the nurse?
  - a. the medication decreases glucose production in the liver.
  - b. the medication increases insulin resistance of the cells in the body.
  - c. the medication blocks carbohydrate absorption in the intestine.
  - d. the medication increases insulin release from the pancreas.

12. The nurse is administering oxycodone to a client. Which common side effect should the nurse teach the client about?
- Paresthesia in lower extremities.
  - Increased intracranial pressure.
  - Occipital headache.
  - Drowsiness.
13. Enteric coated acetylsalicylic acid has been prescribed for a client to treat chronic arthritis. The client calls the clinic nurse because of gagging and difficulty swallowing the tablets. What response would the nurse give to the client?
- “Crush the tablets and mix with juice or food.”
  - “I’ll notify the healthcare provider for a medication change.”
  - “Open the tablet and mix the contents with food.”
  - “Swallow the tablets with large amounts of water or milk.”
14. A client has an order for metoprolol. Prior to medication administration, what does the nurse need to assess?
- Respirations.
  - Temperature.
  - Heart rate.
  - Oxygen saturation.

### Sample Question Answers:

1. c, 2. a, 3. d, 4. b, 5. c, 6. c, 7. b, 8. c, 9. a, 10. b, 11. a, 12. a, 13. d, 14. b, 15 c.