

University of Basra
College of Nursing
Undergraduate Program

Pharmacology For Nurses

- Pharmacology for second year nursing students
- Comprise 2 semesters - 2 credits for each semester
 1. Pharmacology for Nurses I (15 weeks – 2 hours weekly)
 2. Pharmacology for Nurses II (15 weeks – 2 hours weekly)

Pharmacology for Nurses I (First Semester)

1. Semester Description:

The semester aims to provide the 2nd year nursing students the essentials of pharmacology, with the emphasis on the application of the nursing process, drug actions, uses, routes of administration, dosages, adverse reactions, contraindications, nursing implications, and patient and family teaching about specific drugs information. This course provides the opportunity to the students to deal with different component of drugs taking in consideration the responsibility of drug administration.

2. Semester Goals:

By the end of the semester the student will be able to

1. Identify the basic principles of pharmacology and its application in nursing practice.
2. Realize different types of drug therapy across the life span
3. Identify the essential principle in administration of medications

4. Classify types of drugs according to the body system
5. Differentiate between different types of drug groups
6. Understand the essential information concerning different types of drugs, such as mechanisms of action, indications, pharmacokinetics, contraindications, most common adverse reactions, and important drug interactions associated with commonly prescribed drugs used for the treatment of different disorders.
7. Recognize the responsibility of the graduate nurse related to the drugs therapy.
8. Apply the nursing process, including important teaching points, to care of the patient receiving drug therapy

3.Semester Outline:

Part 1: General Pharmacology

1. Introduction to Pharmacology
2. Basic concepts and processes in Pharmacology
3. Administration of Medications
4. Pharmacology and Nursing Process
5. Drug therapy across the life span

Part 2: Systemic Pharmacology

1. Drugs acting on the Autonomic Nervous System
2. Drugs acting on the Central Nervous System – CNS
3. Drugs acting on the Cardiovascular System

Pharmacology for Nurses II (Second Semester)

1. Semester Description:

This Semester is a complementary to Pharmacology I. It introduces different types of drugs according to the systems of human body. The students gain knowledge about the therapeutic effects of each drug, doses, routes of administration, and side effects and its toxicity.

2. Semester Goals:

By the end of the semester the student will be able to

1. Define and classify types of drugs according to the body system
2. Understand the essential information concerning different types of drugs, such as mechanisms of action, indications, pharmacokinetics, contraindications, most common adverse reactions, and important drug interactions associated with commonly prescribed drugs used for the treatment of different disorders.
3. Recognize poisoning and drugs used to minimize poison absorption and identify the nurse's role in the pharmacological procedures used to management various types of poisons.
4. Recognize the responsibility of the graduate nurse related to the drugs therapy.
5. Apply the nursing process, including important teaching points, to care of the patient receiving drug therapy

3.Semester Outline:

Part 2: Systemic Pharmacology

1. Antihistamines Drugs
2. Drugs acting on the Respiratory System
3. Analgesic Medications
4. Drugs acting on the Endocrine System
5. Drugs acting on the Gastrointestinal System
6. Chemotherapeutic Agents
7. Cancer Chemotherapy
8. Immunosuppressant Medications
9. Medications for Nutrition disorders
10. Toxicology

Teaching Method:

1. Lectures
2. Discussion
3. Seminars

Evaluation:

1. 2 Midterm exams – 40%
2. Quizzes, Attendance, Reports... etc. – 10%
3. Final exam – 50%

References

1. Anne Collins Abrams, Clinical Drug Therapy: Rationales for Nursing Practice, 9th ed., New York, Lippincott, 2009.
2. Richard A. Lehne, Pharmacology for Nursing Care, 8th ed., London, Saunders, 2009.
3. Pharmacology Lecture Notes for Health Science Students