Chapter 7

The Nursing Process in Pharmacology

Steps of Nursing Process

- Assessment
- Establishment of nursing diagnoses
- Planning care with goals and outcomes
- Carrying out interventions
- Evaluating care

Pertinent Assessment Data in Medication Administration

- Health-history information
- Physical-assessment data
- Lab values
- Assessment of medication
  - Therapeutic effects
  - Side effects

Pertinent Assessment Data in Medication Administration

| Health History Assessment Questions Pertinent to Drug Administration |
|---|---|
| **Drugs:** | • Have you been told to take this medicine? 
  • How long have you been taking this medicine? 
  • How many times a day do you take this medicine? 
  • What is your usual dose? 
  • How often do you take this medicine? |
| **Physiological:** | • Do you have any allergies? 
  • Are you taking any over-the-counter medicines? 
  • Are you taking any other prescriptions? 
  • Do you have any other medical problems? |
| **Psychosocial:** | • Have you been told to take this medicine? 
  • How long have you been taking this medicine? 
  • How many times a day do you take this medicine? 
  • What is your usual dose? 
  • How often do you take this medicine? |

Nursing Diagnoses for Drug Administration

- Same as other client condition–specific responses
- Address actual problems, potential problems, maintaining level of wellness
Actual Problems Include

- Diagnostic statement
- Related factor or inferred cause
- Evidence to support statement

Risk Problems Include

- Diagnostic statement
- Related factor or inferred cause

Most Common Nursing Diagnoses for Medication Administration

- Knowledge deficient
- Noncompliance

NANDA–Approved Diagnoses for Drug Administration

- Activity Intolerance
- Risk for Falls
- Urinary Incontinence
- Oral Mucous Membrane Impaired
- Consult books on nursing diagnoses

NANDA–Approved Diagnoses for Drug Administration

*TABLE 7.2 Common Nursing Diagnoses Applicable to Drug Administration*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NANDA-Approved Nursing Diagnoses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insomnia, sleep disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatigue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fluid/Water deficit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in diet</td>
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<td>Urinary Incontinence</td>
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</tbody>
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Goals for Client Receiving Medications

- Based on nursing diagnosis
- Focused on what client will achieve or do
- Prioritized
- Discussed with client or caregiver
- Can be short- or long-term goals

Goals for Client Receiving Medications (continued)

- Goals focused on
  - Safe and effective administration
  - Therapeutic outcome
  - Treatment of side effects

Outcomes for Clients Receiving Medications

- Specific, measurable criteria
- Evaluate degree to which goal is met
- Focus on what client will achieve or do
- Discuss with client or caregiver

Outcomes for Clients Receiving Medications (continued)

- Should be written and should include
  - Subject (client)
  - Action required by subject
  - Circumstances
  - Expected performance
  - Specific time frame

Aim of Interventions

- Client returned to optimal level of wellness
- Safe and effective administration of medications

Key Intervention Strategies

- Five rights of administering medications—Chapter 4
- Techniques of administering medications—Chapter 4
- Monitoring drug effects
- Documenting medications
- Client teaching
Monitoring Drug Effects Is Primary Intervention

- Identifying therapeutic effects
- Reassessing client
  - Physical condition
  - Vital signs
  - Body weight
  - Lab values
  - Serum drug levels

Monitoring Drug Effects Is Primary Intervention

- Taking client statements
- Monitoring side or adverse effects

Documentation of Medication Administration

- When, where, and how
- Therapeutic and adverse effects
- Client statements
- Objective assessment data

Client Teaching

- Directly related to
  - Knowledge deficit
  - Noncompliance
- Elderly and pediatric clients are special challenge
- May need to co-teach client’s caregiver

Evaluation Is a Checkpoint

- Overall goal is safe, effective medication administration
- Therapeutic outcome should be best possible
- Take steps to ensure success

Evaluation Begins New Cycle When

- New assessment data is gathered and analyzed
- Nursing diagnoses are reviewed or rewritten
- Goals and outcomes are refined
- New interventions are carried out