



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

UCD SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY & HEALTH SYSTEMS

In partnership with

Saint John of God Hospital

HSE Community Healthcare East



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

**Medication Workbook for Stage 4 (Supernumerary) BSc in Mental
Health Nursing**

Student Name:

Student Number:

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Introduction

During your practice placement you will come across a large number and variety of medications. These medications may have many different routes of delivery, formulations, and variable actions. Patients are often taking multiple medications and there are more patients with multiple co-morbidities. This increases the likelihood of drug interactions, side-effects, and mistakes in administration (WHO,2011). The complex role of medication management requires competent knowledge of pharmacology to maintain patient safety (Leufer and Cleary-Holdforth, 2013). Therefore, this workbook has been developed as a tool to assist you in gaining an in-depth knowledge of some of the commonly used medications during your supernumerary practice placement in Stage 4. By working through four case studies, you will make sense of medications in relation to selected patients. Medication administration and professional practice is an important aspect of your National Competency Assessment Document (NCAD) Assessment and the Domains and Standards specific to this area are detailed in the table below:

Domain 1	Domain 2	Domain 3	Domain 4	Domain 5	Domain 6
1.1	2.1 (d)*	3.1	4.1	5.1	6.1
1.2	2.2	3.1(d)*	4.2	5.2	6.2
1.3	2.3 (f)*	3.2			
	2.4				
	2.5				

Table 1: Domains and Standards that pertain to Medication Management Stage 4 Mental Health Nursing Supernumerary Practice Placement

- | |
|---|
| <p>2.1 (d) Integrates knowledge of pathophysiology and pharmacotherapeutics into the assessment of a person</p> <p>2.3 (f) Assists the Registered Nurse in the safe administration, ordering, checking and management of medicines while following legislation and professional guidance</p> <p>3.1 (d) Safely and accurately carries out medication calculations for medication management by diverse routes of delivery</p> |
|---|

Stage 4: this level requires the undergraduate nursing student to competently apply a systematic approach to the provision of person-centred under the **distant supervision** of a Registered Nurse. Distant supervision is defined as the undergraduate nursing student providing safe and effective delegated nursing care to children/service users, persons and supports family members. The undergraduate nursing student accepts responsibility for the provision of delegated care and recognises when the guidance and support of the preceptor and Registered Nurse is required and seeks such assistance in a timely manner.

However, it is important to note that for a staff nurse to co-sign the administration of medications, the nurse must directly observe you carrying out the administration.

Signature Bank

Each registered midwife/nurse who acts as a preceptor/co-preceptor for this student must sign this signature bank.

Preceptors/Co-preceptor Name (Print)	Signature	Preceptors/Co-preceptor Initials	Ward/Area

Learning Outcomes

In relation to medication management within your NCAD Document during your Stage 4 Supernumerary Placement practice placements you will be expected to:

- Assist the Registered Nurse in the safe administration, ordering, checking and management of medicines while following legislation and professional guidance
- Safely and accurately carry out medication calculations for medication management by diverse routes of delivery
- Integrate knowledge of pathophysiology and pharmacotherapeutics into the assessment of a person
- Think critically about the factors effecting the administration and pharmacotherapeutics of medication in selected patient cases
- Identify the nursing considerations for the care of patient in relation to medication administered

The 10 Rights of Medication Management



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The Ten Rights of Medication Management



Source: <https://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/Medicines-Management> (March 2018)

The nurse who is administering medication must adhere to the ten rights of medication administration in their practice placements (NMBI, 2020, pp-15). These are:

1. **Right Patient:** Be certain of the identity of the patient to whom the medicine is being administered by verifying the identification wristband, photograph or name and date of birth on the medicine chart.
2. **Right Reason:** Understand the intended purpose of the medicines to be administered.
3. **Right Drug:** Confirm that the name of the dispensed medicine to be administered corresponds with the generic or brand name of the prescribed medicine, and they must only administer a viable medicinal product – that is, properly packaged and within its expiry date. The nurse must also check, both by asking the patient and inspecting the allergy status box on the medicines chart, whether the patient has a known and recorded allergy to the prescribed drug or no known allergies. The allergy box must be completed.
4. **Right Route:** Administer the medicine via the prescribed anatomical route and site.
5. **Right Time:** Administer the medicine at the prescribed time and prescribed intervals.
6. **Right Dose:** Confirm, through arithmetical calculation that the dose of the medicine being administered concurs exactly with the dose prescribed. Where the local Policies, Procedures, Protocols and Guidelines (PPPGs) identify this process for high risk medicines, the dose must be independently verified.
7. **Right Form:** Confirm that the form of medicine that has been dispensed matches with the specified route of administration.
8. **Right Action:** Ensure the medicine is prescribed for the appropriate reason and state to the patient the action of the medicine and why it is prescribed.
9. **Right Documentation:** Sign, date and retain all documentation recording the administration of each medicine in the medicine's administration chart (or other document directing the administration of a medicine). The chart must only be signed to record a medicine has been administered once the medicine administration has been witnessed.
10. **Right Response:** Observe the patient for adverse effects and assess the patient to determine that the desired effect of the medicines has been achieved.

*The information required can be obtained from a number of sources including: www.medicines.ie which contains accurate, up to date, regulator approved information on medicines available in Ireland (Medicines.ie), The Irish Medicines Formulary, British National Formulary, Hospital Formulary, the hospital/community pharmacist, doctors, nursing/midwifery colleagues, articles, local policies and guidelines and NMBI guidelines.

Always refer to the local policy for Medication Administration and Management

Instructions for Use: Medication Case Study

You are expected to complete a total of 4 case studies. Please discuss the choice of patient with your preceptor and/or your CPC.

These case studies will assist you to link your knowledge of medications to the care that you deliver to individuals.

Identify an individual who is receiving medication and explore their prescribed medications.

A total of 4 case studies are required to be completed.

The following explains the information required for each selected case study.

Medication Generic Name	This refers to the approved name of the medication, which is the name that must be used when the medication is prescribed.
Brand/Trade Name	It is common to hear or see medications referred to by their brand name e.g. Panadol for paracetamol. It is important to be aware of the brand and generic name of medications.
Medication Group	What group does the medication belong to? Is it an analgesic, anti-hypertensive, anti-pyretic, antibiotic?
Indication	Why is this medication used and for which condition and/or symptoms?
Route	How should the medication be administered e.g. orally, rectally, intravenously, inhalation, intramuscularly, subcutaneously.
Frequency	How often should this medication be administered? What is meant by a 'regular prescription' and a prescription that is 'PRN'? Where possible include the maximum dose in a 24-hour period or highlight the differences in frequency depending on route used.
Form	Confirm that the form of medicine that has been dispensed matches with the specified route of administration and that it is appropriate for your selected patient.
Dose	Doses may vary depending on weight, age, route used or the indications for use- apply this to your selected patient case.
Action of Medication	Explain how the medication works.
Side-Effects	When you know the side-effects, you can identify the reason quickly and prevent or manage the side-effect in an effective manner.
Nursing Considerations	Factors to consider in your nursing care related to administration of this medication. For example, checking blood pressure when patient is on anti-hypertensives.
Important Information	Consider the potential interaction with other patient medications, polypharmacy and other potential medication safety concerns for example increased risk of falls.

Medication Case Study 1

Male/Female	Age:	Weight:	Allergies:						
Previous mental health/medical history:									
Present Diagnosis:									
Medication Name: (Brand and Trade Name)	Indication	Route	Frequency	Times	Form	Dose	Action	Side Effects	Mental Health Nursing Considerations
Important Information: Consider potential interactions with the medications, polypharmacy and other potential medication safety concerns:									
Preceptor/Supervising RPN Signature:			Student Signature:				Date:		

Medication Case Study 2

Male/Female	Age:	Weight:	Allergies:						
Previous mental health/medical history:									
Present Diagnosis:									
Medication Name: (Brand and Trade Name)	Indication	Route	Frequency	Times	Form	Dose	Action	Side Effects	Mental Health Nursing Considerations
Important Information: Consider potential interactions with the medications, polypharmacy and other potential medication safety concerns:									
Preceptor/Supervising RPN Signature:			Student Signature:				Date:		

Medication Case Study 3

Male/Female	Age:	Weight:	Allergies:						
Previous mental health/medical history:									
Present Diagnosis:									
Medication Name: (Brand and Trade Name)	Indication	Route	Frequency	Times	Form	Dose	Action	Side Effects	Mental Health Nursing Considerations
Important Information: Consider potential interactions with the medications, polypharmacy and other potential medication safety concerns:									
Preceptor/Supervising RPN Signature:			Student Signature:				Date:		

Medication Case Study 4

Male/Female	Age:	Weight:	Allergies:						
Previous mental health/medical history:									
Present Diagnosis:									
Medication Name: (Brand and Trade Name)	Indication	Route	Frequency	Times	Form	Dose	Action	Side Effects	Mental Health Nursing Considerations
Important Information: Consider potential interactions with the medications, polypharmacy and other potential medication safety concerns:									
Preceptor/Supervising RPN Signature:			Student Signature:				Date:		

Reference List and Further Resources

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (2020) *Guidance for Registered Nurses and Midwives on Medication Administration*. Available at:
<https://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/Medicines-Management>

Leufer, T., & Cleary-Holdforth, J. (2013) "Let's do no harm: Medication errors in nursing: Part 1." *Nurse Education in Practice*, 13(3), 213–216.
<http://doi.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2013.01.013>

World Health Organisation (2011) *Patient Safety Curriculum Guide: Mutli-professional Edition*. WHO:Malta

Additional Notes