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Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

This course introduces the study of the properties, effects, and therapeutic value of the primary agents in the major drug categories. Topics include nutritional products, blood modifiers, hormones, diuretics, cardiovascular agents, respiratory drugs, and gastrointestinal agents. Upon completion, students should be able to place major drugs into correct therapeutic categories and identify indications, side effects, and trade and generic names.

Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

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Upon completion of this course, the student will demonstrate knowledge of each of the following:

- a. Basic pharmacology, including drug nomenclature, dosage forms, administration routes, drug actions, and body responses.
- b. Basic pharmacology of the gastrointestinal agents.
- c. Basic pharmacology of the respiratory agents.
- d. Basic pharmacology of the cardiac and vascular agents.
- e. Pharmacology of diuretics.
- f. Basic endocrinology and hormone therapy.

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I. Introduction to drug usage

- A. Drug nomenclature
- B. Indications and contraindications
- C. Drug-associated problems of administration

II. Drug dosage forms

III. Determining factors of dosages

- A. Age, body weight, and body surface area
- B. Pregnancy
- C. Time and routes of administration
- D. Excretion rates
- E. Possible toxic reactions
- F. Concomitant disease processes
- G. Drug interactions

IV. Routes of drug administration

- A. Oral
- B. Topical
- C. Parenteral

V. Drug actions and body responses

- A. Where and how drugs act - normal response
- B. Cellular response
- C. Abnormal response

VI. Gastrointestinal drugs

- A. Gastric antacids
- B. Digestants
- C. Gastric stimulants
- D. Emetics
- E. Antiemetics
- F. Agents to treat PUD
- G. Laxatives and cathartics
- H. Antidiarrheals

VII. Respiratory agents

- A. Antitussives
- B. Bronchodilators
- C. Decongestants

VIII. Cardiovascular agents

- A. Cardiac preparations
- B. Renal system and renal preparations - diuretics
- C. Antihypertensives and vasodilators
- D. Shock and hypotension agents
- E. Vascular agents