



Medication Administration

N2500S/T

Course Coordinator: Jessica Timbrell

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Office Hours by Appointment

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N2500S/T Professional Practice: Medication Administration

Calendar Description

This course focuses on safe, effective, and ethical administration of medications.

Expanded course description:

This course is designed to teach students about the administration of medications by various routes. The role and professional accountability of the nurse administering medications will be discussed. Students will learn about various practice standards and best practice guidelines used in the safe medication administration. Ethical considerations will also be discussed. Students will be taught how to correctly calculate medication dosages and develop the necessary psychomotor skills required for safe, competent medication administration, keeping in mind physical, psychosocial, and cultural factors.

Course Weight & Delivery: 0.125FCE, Lab, 4 hours/week

Course Learning Outcomes

Students will:

1. develop knowledge of the professional responsibilities of the nurse when administering medications
2. become familiar with best practice guidelines related to medication administration
3. demonstrate competence in dosage calculations
4. integrate previous knowledge of health assessment to identify necessary assessments pre-and-post-medication administration
5. practice safe medication administration by oral, intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, and enteral routes
6. integrate principles of infection prevention & control
7. demonstrate competence in safe medication administration.

Major Concepts in the course:

- health assessment
- safety
- caring
- professionalism
- clinical judgment
- infection prevention and control
- evidence-informed practice

Competencies for entry-level Registered Nurse practice (CNO, 2020) addressed in the course:

Clinician: 1.4, 1.7, 1.8, 1.11, 1.21

Professional: 2.2, 2.13

Communicator: 3.5, 3.8

Coordinator: 5.2

Leader: 6.6

Advocate: 7.2

Educator: 8.4

Scholar: 9.8

Interprofessional Competencies (CIHC, 2010) addressed in the course:

- Interprofessional communication
- Role clarification
- Patient/family/community-centred care

Nursing Informatics Competencies (CASN, 2015) addressed in the course:

- uses relevant information and knowledge to support the delivery of evidence-informed patient care: indicators 1, 2
- uses ICTs in accordance with professional and regulatory standards and workplace policies: indicators 1, 5
- uses ICTs in the delivery of patient/patient care: indicators 1, 3

How this course will contribute to your development as a professional nurse:

Incorporating previous knowledge of health assessment, students learn how to safely administer medications by various routes in accordance with the standards for medication administration set by the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO). Students begin developing knowledge and skill in the use of the electronic medication administration record (eMAR) which allows for comprehension, interpretation, and enactment of medication orders alongside their own assessments of simple to more complex patient situations.

Course Materials

Required:

- College of Nurses of Ontario Practice Standards (2019). www.cno.org
- Drug guide of student's choice. The average cost of a nursing drug guide is approximately \$60.
- Online Clinical Skills Lab site, owl.uwo.ca (SAKAI)
- [Undergraduate Student Information Site](#)
- Lab kit, purchased through the UWO Bookstore.
- Uniform, name tag, watch, & stethoscope are required. Please refer to the Undergraduate Student Information Site for more information on the dress policy.

Methods of Evaluation

A total of five (5) dosage calculation quizzes are administered, all of which are designed as ***10 minute quizzes***, with 5 questions each. In keeping with the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and in support of students with accommodations, **all students will have 15 minutes to complete their dosage calculation quizzes**. Please note that it is not possible to provide students with a separate space to complete the quizzes. Absolutely NO ADDITIONAL time to complete the quizzes is permitted.

All quizzes are completed as hard copies in-person at the beginning of the designated lab

Due Date	Assessment	Weight
Lab 3	Oral medications	Cumulative average across best 4/5 quiz scores must be \geq 90% to pass the course.
Lab 6	Subcutaneous medications	
Lab 8	Intramuscular medications	
Lab 10	Intravenous medications	
Lab 12	Blended routes	

Students must be able to meet the competencies associated with safe medication administration, including dosage calculations. Failure to achieve a satisfactory grade in the following components will result in an unsatisfactory grade (failure) in the course.

To achieve a satisfactory grade in this course:

- attend and participate in all laboratory sessions
- demonstrate safety and competence in practice
- complete all assignments by the due dates
- attain cumulative average of 90% across best 4 out of 5 medication administration quizzes
- complete the 'Medication Information Card' template, as required
- complete and bring weekly clinical worksheet, as required

Title: Medication Quizzes (5 total)

(relates to course learning outcome #1, 2, 3)

Due: In-class during labs 3, 6, 8, 10, & 12

The purposes of the quizzes are for students to:

- demonstrate accuracy with dosage calculations
- demonstrate knowledge of CNO practice standards
- demonstrate clinical judgment related to medication administration.

Full Description

Students write five (5) short medication quizzes. A 90% *cumulative* average across the 4 best quiz scores out of 5 is a condition for passing the course. **There are NO REWRITES permitted.** In keeping with the NCLEX examination, calculators may be used. The 5- question quizzes are designed to be completed in 10 minutes. In keeping with principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and in support of students with accommodations, all students receive 15 minutes to complete each quiz. **No additional time is permitted. There is no ability to provide students with a private space in which to complete the quizzes.**

2026 LAB SCHEDULE **Rotation 1**

Rotation 1: January 5-February 11

Date	Topic	Course Concept	Course Goals
Lab 1 January 5	Introduction to Medication Administration	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control	1, 2, 3
Lab 2 January 7	Oral Medication Administration I <i>Practice questions & answers posted (oral meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control	1, 2, 3
Lab 3 January 12	Oral Medication Administration II <i>Quiz 1-oral dosage calculations</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control	1, 2, 3
Lab 4 January 14	Subcutaneous Medication Administration I <i>Practice questions & answers posted (subcutaneous meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 5 January 19	Subcutaneous Medication Administration II	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 6 January 21	Subcutaneous medication administration III <i>Quiz 2- subcutaneous dosage calculations Practice questions & answers posted (intramuscular meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Lab 7 January 26	Intramuscular medication administration	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 8 January 28	Intravenous medication administration I <i>Quiz 3 - intramuscular dosage calculations Practice questions & answers posted (intravenous meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Lab 9 February 2	Intravenous medication administration II	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 10 February 4	Intravenous medication administration III <i>Quiz 4 – intravenous dosage calculations</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 11 February 9	Intravenous medication administration IV	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Lab 12 February 11	Medication Medley <i>Quiz 5 – blended routes dosage calculations</i>		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
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2026 LAB SCHEDULE **Rotation 2**

Rotation 1: February 23 – April 1

Date	Topic	Course Concept	Course Goals
Lab 1 February 23	Introduction to Medication Administration	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control	1, 2, 3
Lab 2 February 25	Oral Medication Administration I <i>Practice questions & answers posted (oral meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control	1, 2, 3
Lab 3 March 2	Oral Medication Administration II <i>Quiz 1-oral dosage calculations</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control	1, 2, 3
Lab 4 March 4	Subcutaneous Medication Administration I <i>Practice questions & answers posted (subcutaneous meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 5 March 9	Subcutaneous Medication Administration II	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 6 March 11	Subcutaneous medication administration III <i>Quiz 2- subcutaneous dosage calculations Practice questions & answers posted (intramuscular meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Lab 7 March 16	Intramuscular medication administration	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 8 March 18	Intravenous medication administration I <i>Quiz 3 - intramuscular dosage calculations Practice questions & answers posted (intravenous meds)</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice Health assessment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Lab 9 March 23	Intravenous medication administration II	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Lab 10 March 25	Intravenous medication administration III <i>Quiz 4 – intravenous dosage calculations</i>	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 11 March 30	Intravenous medication administration IV	Clinical judgment Infection prevention & control Evidence -informed practice	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Lab 12 April 1	Medication Medley <i>Quiz 5 – blended routes dosage calculations</i>		

Undergraduate Program Site

All students are required to visit the Undergraduate Program Site and be familiar with its contents. The Undergraduate Program Manual and full list of School of Nursing Policies can be accessed:

Requires login with UWO username and password:

<https://uwoca.sharepoint.com/sites/NursingUndergraduateInformation?e=1%3A9bcb11eb675d42f1867e859267a302ae&CT=1690304572539&OR=OWA-NT&CID=d6022dc4-883c-f129-18eb-4f2f5576da36>

Attendance

Please review the absence from clinical learning experiences policy carefully. Students are expected to demonstrate professional responsibility through regular attendance at, and participation in, all course learning activities. Much of the learning that takes place is a result of preparation and engagement with the material, as well as active dialogue with colleagues and faculty. Students are expected to organize their schedules such that weekly preparation for class is completed, and classes are attended, with consistency. Attendance at all clinical learning experiences is mandatory and there are NO MAKE UP OPPORTUNITIES for students who miss lab. Any student who misses a lab is required to contact the teaching assistant (TA) as soon as possible. Students must complete all prep work for the missed lab and may find it useful to practice with a peer who was present for the lab session. The teaching assistant will observe a demonstration of the student's competence with the missed material, and the teaching assistant will communicate that competence to the student's lab instructor. Students are accountable for the learning they miss during an absence.

Please note: there is no make-up time available when labs are missed. Students are accountable for any gaps in their learning resulting from missed lab time and should commit to seeking opportunities to address the gaps in future courses. See the [Undergraduate Program Site](#) for full absence policy.

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner. Students are further expected to attend to announcements presented through Brightspace, and to read emails generated in this

way.

Scholarly Requirements

All scholarly writing will follow the 7th edition of the *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (2020), which includes guidelines for both content and format. In addition, all other writing will follow APA (7th ed.) format when citing or referring to an author's work or ideas. Failure to do so is unethical and is plagiarism.

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following

website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Plagiarism

Student work is expected to be original. Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and could lead to your expulsion from the nursing program. You are plagiarizing if you insert a phrase, sentence or paragraph taken directly from another author without acknowledging and appropriately citing the author to whom the work belongs. You are plagiarizing if you paraphrase or summarize another author's ideas without acknowledging that the ideas belong to someone else. You are plagiarizing if you present your own work, otherwise used for other course(s)/purposes, as original material in current course work. At the discretion of the course instructor, you may be asked to submit your work to a program called **Turnitin.com** to verify originality. For further information, please see the BScN Program Manual for the academic policy on plagiarism.

Re-submission of Previously Graded Material

Without the explicit written permission of the instructor, you may not submit any academic work for which credit has been obtained previously, or for which credit is being sought, in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploration, with students expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments and/or lab reports should reflect the student's own thoughts and independent written work. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and ethical learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and allows them to produce original written contributions.

Use of Electronic Devices

During Exams

Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets, cameras, smart

glass, smart watches, or iPods) during ANY tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations. **These devices MUST either be left at home or with your belongings at the front of the room. They MUST NOT be at your test/exam desk or in your pocket. Any student found with a prohibited device will receive an automatic grade of zero on the test or exam.**

During Lectures and Tutorials

Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class.

Contingency Plan for an In-Person Class Pivoting to 100% Online Learning

In the event of a situation that requires this course to pivot to online content delivery, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on Brightspace for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor

Religious Accommodation

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request (in writing) any necessary academic considerations at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the academic advisors in the School of Nursing. Additional information is provided in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

Academic Consideration

Most forms of academic consideration require documentation, and this documentation is to be submitted to the academic advisor as close to the date of consideration as possible. Academic considerations shall be granted only where the documentation indicates that the onset, duration, and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities.

Under no circumstances are students to submit documentation or rationale for an absence to course instructors. Students are, however, required to follow-up with course instructors, in a timely fashion, to identify the ways in which academic consideration will be implemented.

(Note – it will not be sufficient to provide documentation indicating simply that the student “was seen for a medical reason” or “was ill.”)

Midterm Examination Make-Up

A single make-up midterm examination will be offered only to students with documented extenuating circumstances, as approved by both the academic advisor and the course instructor. Students who are unable to attend the scheduled make-up examination will not be granted an additional sitting. In such cases, the midterm examination may be reweighted to the final examination, or the assessment may be completed during the next offering of the course, at the discretion of the course instructor.

Electronic devices

Electronic devices are useful in assisting with the teaching/learning process in both classroom and professional practice settings. In the classroom or praxis setting, devices should be used in a manner that is not distracting to others or oneself. In professional practice placement settings, please abide by the policies set by the agency about use of social media, internet, and handheld devices. Additionally, technology use in the presence of patients or agency staff may require explanation as to its use as part of professional practice (e.g., a drug guide on a smart phone).

Mental Health

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Review of Graded Assignments

After a graded assignment is returned, a student's first step is to take time to reflect on the assignment description in the syllabus, on the feedback provided by the original marker within the assignment, and on the marking rubric. If a student cannot understand the meaning or intent behind the feedback received, they may submit a written request to the original marker for an informal consultation to review the assignment grade. The request must include documentation of grounds, based on the marker's feedback, to support the assignment review. An assignment will not be reviewed simply because a student is unhappy with the grade received, or they believe the mark does not reflect the effort they put into completing the assignment.

Students who need assistance with their writing skills should contact on-campus resources for support.

<http://writing.uwo.ca/>

If, after the assignment review, a student still believes they have grounds with supporting documentation their grade was unfairly calculated, they may request a formal appeal of the grade in accordance with the policy for academic appeals.

<https://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR ALL NURSING STUDENTS

Professional Standards and Ethical Conduct

All nursing students are expected to uphold the following principles from the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) Code of Conduct, Regulated Health Profession Act, or Nursing Act:

- **Respect for Dignity:** Treat patients and colleagues as individuals with inherent worth.
- **Safe and Competent Care:** Deliver care that meets professional standards.
- **Integrity and Trust:** Act honestly and ethically to maintain public confidence.
- **Collaboration:** Work respectfully and effectively with others.
- **Accountability:** Take responsibility for actions and decisions.
- **Public Confidence:** Conduct oneself in a manner that reflects positively on the profession.

Unprofessional Conduct

The following behaviors are considered unprofessional and may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion:

- **Breach of Privacy and Confidentiality**
 - Unauthorized access, use, or disclosure of personal health information.
 - Failure to follow the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA).

- Sharing patient information on social media or in public forums.
- Taking audio/video/photographic images in any setting including but not limited to: clinical settings, including lab and simulation, for any reason.
- Recording theory classes without expressed permission from the class professor/instructor.
- Posting class content or communications from course professors/instructors online.
- **Forgery or Falsification of Documents**
 - Altering, fabricating, or misrepresenting documents including but not limited to: clinical records, academic documents, pre-placement documents, or official forms in the clinical or academic setting.
 - Misrepresentation of clinical hours, assessments, or evaluations.
- **Discriminatory Behaviour**
 - Use of racist, misogynistic, homophobic, or other discriminatory language or actions.
 - Harassment or bullying
 - Violations of the Harassment and Violence Prevention Policy and Human Rights Policy.
- **Unsafe or Inappropriate Clinical Practice (lab, simulation and clinical settings)**
 - Demonstrating lack of knowledge, skill, judgment, professionalism or fitness to practice.
 - Engaging in behavior that jeopardizes patient safety or violates ethical standards.
 - Engaging in clinical practice while impaired by any substance.
- **Abuse or Misconduct**
 - Physical, emotional, verbal, or sexual abuse.
 - Breaches of the therapeutic nurse-client relationship.
 - Any behaviour that would be deemed professional misconduct by the CNO

Sanctions

Unprofessional conduct may lead to:

- **Oral or Written Reprimand**
- **Suspension** from clinical or academic activities
- **Expulsion** from the nursing program
- **Mandatory Remedial Education**
- **Revocation of Clinical Privileges**

Determination as to whether misconduct is sufficiently egregious as to warrant sanction rests with the Director (or designate) of the School of Nursing.

Review of Graded Assignments

Further details about this process provided in 'expanded description'

