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**Owner:** Faculty Organization  
**Policy Area:** College of Nursing CNG  
**References:**  
**Applicability:** MVHS

## Dosage and Calculation Across the Curriculum, CNG-100.6

### PURPOSE

The faculty recognizes that skill and accuracy in dosage calculation is critical to the provision of safe client care and has developed the following policy for students enrolled at St. Elizabeth College of Nursing. This policy reflects the commitment of the College to Student Learning Objective #5, which states: "Apply critical thinking skills through the provision of safe competent care for a client with complex health needs." The College of Nursing also supports the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses initiative for developing pre-licensure competencies in patient safety. The purpose of this policy is to define the standards for dosage calculation as the student progresses through the curriculum.

### SCOPE

Students, Faculty

### REFERENCES

Mohawk Valley Health System. (2015). Employee orientation, RN medication test.

### DEFINITIONS / ABBREVIATIONS

QSEN - Quality and Safety Education for Nurses

Critical behaviors are those essential attributes of a professional nurse that ensure safety and professionalism in the clinical setting.

### PROCEDURE / DIRECTIVE

1. First Semester:

- A. Instruction for dosage calculation will be done in the first semester according to the course objectives.
- B. A component of **NUR141** is a series of dosage calculation exams. The grades on the exams will be incorporated into the total course grade.

- C. The scheduling of these exams will appear on the course calendar.
- D. The students will participate in specific remediation activities to be completed before the next scheduled exam (computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual or group tutoring) as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- E. Clinical objectives related to safe medication administration inclusive of the calculation of accurate dosing are included on the **NUR116** clinical evaluation as a critical behavior. A final evaluation of "0" in a critical behavior constitutes a clinical failure of **NUR116**.
- F. Remediation will be documented on the Faculty Tutoring Log.

## 2. Second Semester:

- A. Review of dosage calculation will be done as needed in the second semester according to the course objectives. This content is applicable to all subsequent nursing courses.
- B. A component of **NUR142** is a series of dosage calculation exams. The grades on the exams will be incorporated into the total course grade.
- C. The scheduling of these exams will appear on the course calendar.
- D. The students are given specific remediation activities to be completed before the next scheduled exam (computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual tutoring) as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- E. Clinical objectives related to safe medication administration inclusive of the calculation of accurate dosing are included on the **NUR118** clinical evaluation as a critical behavior. A final evaluation of "0" in a critical behavior constitutes a clinical failure of **NUR118**.
- F. Remediation will be documented on the Faculty Tutoring Log.

## 3. Summer Practicum

- A. Dosage calculation exams will be incorporated into the seminar component of **NUR122**. The grades on the exams will be incorporated into the total course grade.
- B. The scheduling of these exams will appear on the course calendar.
- C. The students are given specific remediation activities to be completed before the next scheduled exam (computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual or group tutoring) as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- D. The students will participate in specific remediation activities to be completed before the next scheduled exam (computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual or group tutoring) as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- E. Clinical objectives related to safe medication administration inclusive of the calculation of accurate dosing are included on the **NUR122** clinical evaluation as a critical behavior. A final evaluation of "0" in a critical behavior constitutes a clinical failure of **NUR122**.
- F. Remediation will be documented on the Faculty Tutoring Log.

## 4. Third Semester:

- A. A component of **NUR232 & NUR233** is a series of dosage calculation exams in each course. The grades on the exams will be incorporated into the total course grade.
- B. The scheduling of these exams will appear on the course calendar.
- C. The students are given specific remediation activities to be completed before the next scheduled exam (computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual tutoring) as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- D. The students will participate in specific remediation activities to be completed before the next scheduled exam (computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual or group tutoring) as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- E. Clinical objectives related to safe medication administration inclusive of the calculation of accurate dosing are included on the **NUR232 & NUR233** clinical evaluation as a critical behavior. A final evaluation of “0” in a critical behavior constitutes a clinical failure of **NUR232 and/or NUR233**.
- F. Remediation will be documented on the Faculty Tutoring Log.

5. Fourth Semester:

- A. A component of **NUR240** is a series of dosage calculation exams.
- B. The scheduling of these exams will appear on the course calendar.
- C. Students who do not score 100% on the first exam will be assigned remediation exercises to complete (i.e. - computer modules, practice in the nursing resource center, and/or individual or group tutoring). The specific remediation activities are to be completed before the next scheduled exam as necessary dependent upon their exam grade. Remediation activities are reviewed with the student by the faculty.
- D. Any student who does not earn a grade of 100% on one of the dosage calculation exams will NOT be eligible for the precepting experience in **NUR240**.
- E. Clinical objectives related to safe medication administration inclusive of the calculation of accurate dosing are included on the **NUR240** clinical evaluation as a critical behavior. A final evaluation of “0” in a critical behavior constitutes a clinical failure of **NUR240**.
- F. Remediation will be documented on the Faculty Tutoring Log.

**Faculty may add up to (5) five dosage and calculation questions to unit exams in any nursing course.**

**CONTENT EXPERT(S) / RESEARCHER(S) / CONTRIBUTOR(S):**

**This Document Replaces:**

NSG-CNG-100.6

## Attachments

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No Attachments

## Approval Signatures

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Step Description	Approver	Date
Owner	Faculty Organization	6/17/2020

## Applicability

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MVHS

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