

**DISPENSING OF DRUGS BY PUBLIC**  
**HEALTH REGISTERED NURSES**

**POST TRAINING TEST**

**July 2024**

## Introduction

This is part three of a three-step educational program approved by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy. Part one, entitled “Dispensing of Drugs by Public Health Registered Nurses- Background Information”, serves as an initial reference for review. The second part consists of approximately two hours of classroom training in accordance with the rules of the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy. “Dispensing of Drugs by Public Health Registered Nurses- The Post Training Assessment, is to be completed post training by the RN’s and evaluated by the pharmacist.

Together, the components are designed to instruct participants in the various aspects of the requirements for the dispensing of drugs by registered nurses in local health departments. The manual and the class work are to be completed by registered nurses who will be dispensing in the local health department. The manual may also serve as a reference for pharmacist-managers who work with the local health department. All classroom training must be provided by a registered pharmacist in good standing with the NC Board of Pharmacy and must be documented. RN Dispensing Training records must be maintained in the pharmacy, as well as in the RN’s training record. A copy of the answer key to this test may be obtained by the local health department pharmacist providing the training by emailing Amanda Fuller Moore at [amanda.fullermoore@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:amanda.fullermoore@dhhs.nc.gov).

## Objectives

Upon completion of all three components of the program, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the components of the laws and rules pertaining to the dispensing of drugs and devices by registered nurses in public health departments.
- Understand the legal differences between prescription and non-prescription drugs and devices.
- State the legal requirements for a prescription order.
- State the legal requirements for the packaging and labeling of drugs and devices.
- State the legal requirements for records of drug and device dispensing.
- Discuss the implications of failure to adhere to legal requirements for dispensing.
- List the requirements for obtaining a pharmacy permit.
- Discuss the relationship between the pharmacist-manager, the health department nurses, health department administration, and the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy.
- Demonstrate proper packaging, labeling, and dispensing techniques.
- Describe the legal requirements and the documentation required for the training of registered nurses in local health departments.

**1. A designation of “prn” refills on a prescription order in North Carolina means:**

- A. Refill as needed for a period of one year from the date it is written unless otherwise specified
- B. Refill for an indefinite period of time
- C. Refill until the prescriber instructs otherwise
- D. Refill for six months

**2. Which item(s) is (are) not a required component of a prescription label?**

- A. Patient address
- B. Prescriber name
- C. Drug name and strength
- D. Pharmacy name and address
- E. The discard date of the prescription medication if dispensed in a container other than the manufacturer's original container.

**3. In order to meet the requirements for child-resistance a container must:**

- A. Be easy enough to open that all adults can open
- B. Be difficult enough to open that all children cannot open it
- C. Significantly difficult for children under 5 years old to open or obtain a toxic or harmful amount of the substance contained therein within a reasonable time.
- D. Not be difficult for most adults to use properly
- E. A and C
- F. C and D

**4. Which of the following medications can NOT be dispensed by an appropriately trained RN?**

- A. Prenatal vitamins
- B. Ortho Tri-Cyclen Lo to prevent pregnancy
- C. Metronidazole to treat colitis
- D. Rifampin to treat tuberculosis
- E. All of the above

**5. A dispensed prescription is considered to be a misbranded drug under which of the following circumstances:**

- A. It is not packaged according to the requirements of the Poison Prevention Packaging Act.
- B. The label bears the name of a drug other than that which was dispensed.
- C. The label bears the name of a manufacturer other than the one that was actually dispensed.
- D. It is not labeled and packaged in a manner to prevent deterioration
- E. All of the above

**6. Which requirement(s) do NOT apply to registered nurse dispensing in local health department clinics?**

- A. RN's must complete training approved by the NC Board of Pharmacy
- B. RN's must complete training approved by the NC Medical Board
- C. The local health department must secure the services of a pharmacist manager
- D. The pharmacist manager and local health department must obtain a pharmacy permit
- E. The local health department must provide the required equipment and facilities

**7. Which statements apply to a pharmacy permit?**

- A. A permit will not be issued until the Board of Pharmacy is satisfied that proper facilities and personnel are available
- B. It must be renewed annually
- C. A pharmacist manager must be designated on the permit
- D. The permit must be conspicuously displayed at all times in the facility
- E. All of the above

**8. According to the laws governing registered nurse dispensing in local health departments, the pharmacist manager is responsible for all of the following EXCEPT:**

- A. Auditing records of dispensing activity
- B. Establishing a dispensing control and accountability system
- C. Providing monthly in-service education to the nursing staff
- D. Compliance with statutes and rules governing dispensing and the practice of pharmacy

**9. Regarding prescription and dispensing records, which of the following are true?**

- A. The prescription order must be kept on file for a minimum of five years in health departments
- B. The identification of who dispensed the prescription must be written on the prescription order
- C. Each prescription order must be assigned a serial number
- D. All of the above

**10. Every pharmacist manager's license, every permit, and every current license renewal must be conspicuously posted in the place of business owned by or employing the person to whom it is issued.**

- A. True
- B. False

- 11. Which of the following medications is not included in the approved formulary for registered nurse dispensing in NC?**
- A. Prenatal vitamins
  - B. OrthoTriCyclen®
  - C. Isoniazid
  - D. Metronidazole
  - E. Permethrin 5% cream
  - F. Valium®
- 12. A prescription label must include a discard date (when dispensed in a container other than the manufacturer's original container) which shall be one year from the date dispensed or the manufacturer's expiration date, whichever is earlier.**
- A. True
  - B. False
- 13. The pharmacy record of every prescription shall include the name of the manufacturer of the product dispensed when a generic medication is dispensed.**
- A. True
  - B. False
- 14. A patient may request that non-safety packaging be used for their medication and give a blanket waiver regarding all of his/her prescriptions.**
- A. True
  - B. False
- 15. Which medication(s) may not be dispensed by an appropriately trained public health nurse?**
- A. Azithromycin
  - B. Doxycycline
  - C. Ortho-TriCyclen Lo®
  - D. Levothyroxine
- 16. The "established" name of a drug is which of the following?**
- A. The official name
  - B. The name listed in a compendium of drugs, e.g. the USP or NF
  - C. The commonly recognized or "generic" name
  - D. A, B, and C
  - E. A and C

**17. Patient counseling should also include which of the following:**

- A. Name, description, and purpose of each medication
- B. Route, dosage, administration, and continuity of therapy
- C. Proper storage
- D. Action to be taken in the event of a missed dose
- E. All of the above.

**18. The health department may apply for and/or obtain a pharmacy permit without the services of a pharmacist.**

- A. True
- B. False.

**19. The pharmacist manager shall assure that all prescription legend drugs are secure within the local health department.**

- A. True
- B. False

**20. Who may legally conduct the Dispensing of Drugs by Public Health Registered Nurses training?**

- A. Previously trained Nursing Supervisor
- B. Previously trained Director of Nursing
- C. Registered Pharmacist manager of local health department or pharmacist designated by the pharmacist manager.
- D. B and C only

**21. In a health department where the medications to be dispensed are pre-packaged and pre-labeled by the pharmacist, what must the dispensing registered nurse write on the label before dispensing?**

- A. The patient's name
- B. The dispensing nurses initials
- C. Discard date when dispensed in a container other than the original manufacturer packaging
- D. A and B
- E. All of the above

**22. Which of the following is NOT required to be added onto a patient's prescription label by the Public Health RN?**

- A. Patient name
- B. Patient address
- C. Dispensing date
- D. RN initials
- E. Discard date

**23. Which of the following is NOT an appropriate auxiliary label that should be applied to the prescription container of doxycycline?**

- A. Take on an empty stomach
- B. Avoid prolonged sun exposure while taking this medication
- C. Finish all of this medication unless otherwise directed by prescriber
- D. Take this medication with plenty of water
- E. Oral antacids should be separated from administration of this medication

**24. What is the "established" or "generic" name for Flagyl®?**

- A. Doxycycline
- B. Ceftriaxone
- C. Metronidazole
- D. Azithromycin

**25. Which of the following medications have an undesirable side effect that may cause an exaggerated response to sunlight and a subsequent sunburn?**

- A. Levothyroxine
- B. Cefaclor
- C. Doxycycline
- D. Diazepam

**26. Which resource(s) would be appropriate to determine an appropriate treatment for a sexually transmitted infection?**

- A. Infectious Disease Society of America
- B. WebMD
- C. CDC STI Guidelines
- D. Google

**24. The following point should be used when counseling a patient who is receiving a prescription for metronidazole:**

- A. May avoid the use of alcoholic beverages or other alcohol-containing preparations while taking this medication
- B. Should be taken with meals or a snack to avoid gastrointestinal irritation.
- C. May cause a dry mouth and/or metallic taste.
- D. May discolor urine
- E. All of the above

**27. Patient counseling for an isoniazid prescription should include which of the following:**

- A. To continue medication for the full course of treatment
- B. To notify clinic if signs or symptoms of peripheral neuritis (numbness, tingling, burning, or pains in hands and feet)
- C. To avoid alcoholic beverages
- D. To avoid antacids while taking this medication, or take medication at least one hour prior to taking antacids, if necessary
- E. All of the above

**28. Proper dispensing techniques include which of the following:**

- A. Checking the prescription order for accuracy and legality
- B. Checking the prescription order for completeness
- C. Checking the patient record for pertinent information and verify that the prescription order is appropriate for the patient.
- D. All of the above

**29. With dispensing privileges registered nurses also assume certain obligations to their patients, such as the evaluation of the medication prescribed for appropriate use and appropriate length of therapy.**

- A. True
- B. False

**30. When reviewing a patient's medication history and currently prescribed therapy for potential drug interactions, it would be best to consult:**

- A. Another nurse
- B. Your pharmacist