

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: HIM 260

Credits: 2

Course Title: Pharmacology for Health Information Technology

Course Description: Emphasizes general pharmacology for health information professionals; covers general principles of drug actions/reactions, major drug classes, specific agents within each class, and routine mathematical calculation needed to determine desired dosages.

Prerequisites: HLT 143 and BIO 100 (or BIO 141 and 142), or permission of the instructor.

Prerequisites or Co-requisites: HIM 110 and HIM 250. Lecture 2 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: A requirement for the Medical Records Coder Career Studies Certificate, the purpose of this course is to educate students about the basics of pharmacology. Emphasis is placed on knowledge of the major drug groups, which includes use of the drug, dose, adverse drug reactions, and side effects that are pertinent to physiological and biochemical changes occurring during the disease and recovery state.

Prerequisites/Co-Requisites:

Prerequisites: HLT 143 and BIO 100 (or BIO 141 and 142), or permission of the instructor

Prerequisites or Co-requisites: HIM 110 and HIM 250

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Identify sources and origins of drug names.
- b. Differentiate between various pharmaceutical dispensing forms.
- c. Perform the drug dose calculations.
- d. Discuss the effects of the major drug classes.
- e. Summarize the influence of specific medications on pathophysiologic and biochemical disease states.

Major Topics to be Included:

- a. History of pharmacology and the current trends in pharmacology
- b. Legal aspects of drug dispensing and administering of drugs by licensed personnel; prescription laws and hospital drug orders written
- c. Pharmacology of the cardiovascular system
- d. Pharmacology of the respiratory system
- e. Pharmacology of the central nervous system, including sedative and stimulant medicines
- f. Pharmacology of the gastrointestinal system, including sedatives, antidiarrheals, antinauseants, etc.
- g. Pharmacology of the genitourinary systems
- h. Pharmacology of the kidney and its specific effects on the homeostasis of extracellular fluid
- i. Discussion of antimicrobial drugs and chemotherapeutic drugs
- j. Discussion of diabetes mellitus and drugs dealing with this disease and a discussion of the new insulins

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: March 19, 2014