THE IDEAL STUDY AID

Lippincott's Review Series

Pharmacology



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Care has been taken to confirm the accuracy of the information presented and to describe generally accepted practices. However, the authors, editors, and publisher are not responsible for errors or omissions or for any consequences from application of the information in this book and make no warranty, express or implied, with respect to the contents of the publication.

The authors, editors and publisher have exerted every effort to ensure that drug selection and dosage set forth in this text are in accordance with current recommendations and practice at the time of publication. However, in view of ongoing research, changes in government regulations, and the constant flow of information relating to drug therapy and drug reactions, the reader is urged to check the package insert for each drug for any change in indications and dosage and for added warnings and precautions. This is particularly important when the recommended agent is a new or infrequently employed drug.

Some drugs and medical devices presented in this publication have Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clearance for limited use in restricted research settings. It is the responsibility of the health care provider to ascertain the FDA status of each drug or device planned for use in their clinical practice.

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Catherine Paradiso

HOW TO USE THIS REVIEW BOOK

Pharmacology is a constantly changing field. Each year in this country, new research and development results in numerous additions to the arsenal of drugs available. Although listing every detail about every drug on the market is beyond the scope of this book, *Lippincott's Review Series: Pharmacology* provides the key information needed for comprehensive content review. It can be used also as a bedside reference.

The first two chapters of this book provide an overview of the field of pharmacology and its pertinence to the nursing process. The remaining chapters describe the most commonly administered drug classifications and, within each classification, the most commonly prescribed drugs. These chapters are organized using the same outline format. Each chapter begins with an overview of a particular drug classification (e.g., diuretics), including a description of the drug class, actions, indications of drugs in the class, and general nursing management. The rest of the chapter provides information about various subclasses within the main classification (for example, in the diuretics chapters, subclasses include carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, thiazide diuretics, loop diuretics, potassium-sparing diuretics, and osmotic diuretics).

Under each subclass, main headings include general information about all drugs in the subclass, pharmacodynamics (the drug's action on the body), pharmacotherapeutics (indications for usage), pharmacokinetics, contraindications and cautions, interactions (drug–drug interactions as well as food–drug interactions and drug–lab test interferences), and side and adverse effects (by body system). Nursing management for each drug subclass contains salient points necessary for proper assessment, planning and implementation, and evaluation.

Following the section on nursing management is a list of commonly administered drugs within the particular subclass. Additional content *specific only to these particular drugs* and required for safe administration is included here. A drug may appear in this section with no additional data if all of the information needed regarding that drug already had been noted within the headings under the subclass.

At the end of each chapter are study questions with answers, rationales, and selection strategies, a new thinking-skills feature in Lippincott's Review Series books. Selection strategies aim to help students learn to choose logically the best responses; in many instances, easy tips for eliminating inappropriate choices also are given. Found also at the end of this book, is a comprehensive test with answers, rationales, and selection strategies.

If additional information about a specific drug or drug class is required consult such resources as a pharmacology textbook and the latest edition of the *Physician's Desk Reference* or comparable reference. If the workplace is a hospital setting, know that the best source of information is the pharmacy.

I hope students will use this review book not only for their study needs, but also as a reference tool in clinical practice.

INTRODUCTION

Lippincott's Review Series is designed to help you in your study of the key subject areas in nursing. The series consists of nine books, one in each core nursing subject area:

Critical Care Medical-Surgical Nursing Pediatric Nursing Maternal-Newborn Nursing Pharmacology Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing Pathophysiology Fluids and Electrolytes Community and Home Health Nursing

Each book contains a comprehensive outline content review, chapter study questions and answer keys with rationales for correct and incorrect responses, and a comprehensive examination and answer key with rationales for correct and incorrect responses.

Lippincott's Review Series was planned and developed in response to your requests for outline review books that address each major subject area and also contain a self-test mechanism. These books meet the need for comprehensive subject review books that will also assist you in identifying your strong and weak areas of knowledge. Each book is a complete source for review and self-assessment of a single core subject—together all nine provide an excellent comprehensive review of entry-level nursing.

Each book is all-inclusive of the content addressed in major textbooks. The content outline review uses a consistent nursing process format throughout and addresses nursing care for well and ill clients. Also included are necessary teaching and other concepts such as growth and development, nutrition, pharmacology, and body structures, functions, and pathophysiology. Special features of each book are Key Concepts and Nursing Alerts, which are identified by distinctive icons. Key Concepts are basic facts the nurse needs to know to perform his or her job with ease and efficiency. Nursing Alerts are fundamental guidelines the nurse can follow to ensure safe and effective care.

You can use the books in this series in several different ways. Overall, you can use them as subject reviews to augment general study throughout your basic nursing program and as a review to prepare for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). How you use each book depends on your individual needs and preferences, and on whether you review each chapter systematically or concentrate only on those chapters whose subject areas are particularly problematic or challenging. You may choose instead to use the comprehensive examination as a self-assessment opportunity to evaluate your knowledge base before you review the content outline.

Likewise, you can use the study questions for pre- or post-testing after study, followed by the comprehensive examination as a means of evaluating your knowledge and competencies of an entire subject area.

Regardless of how you use the books, one of the strengths of the series is the self-assessment opportunity it offers in addition to guidance in studying and reviewing content. The chapter study questions and comprehensive examination questions have been carefully devel-

oped to cover all topics in the outline review. Most important, each question is categorized according to the components of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination (NCLEX).

- ▶ Cognitive Level: Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, or Analysis.
- Client Need: Safe, Effective Care Environment (Safe care); Physiologic Integrity (Physiologic); Psychosocial Integrity (Psychosocial); and Health Promotion and Maintenance (Health promotion).
- Phase of the Nursing Process: Assessment, Analysis (Dx), Planning, Implementation, Evaluation.

For those questions not related to a client need or to a phase of the nursing process, NA (not applicable) will be used, as in questions that test knowledge of a basic science.

Unlike the NCLEX examination that tests the cumulative knowledge needed for safe practice by an entry-level nurse, these practice tests systematically evaluate the knowledge base that serves as the building block for the entire nursing educational process. In this way, you can prepare for the NCLEX examination throughout your course of study. Good study habits throughout your educational program are not only the best way to ensure ongoing success but also will prove the most beneficial way to prepare for the licensing examination.

Keep in mind that these books are not intended to replace formal learning. They cannot substitute for textbook reading, discussion with instructors, or class attendance. Every effort has been made to provide accurate and current information, but class attendance and interaction with an instructor will provide invaluable information not found in books. Used correctly, these books will help you increase understanding, improve comprehension, evaluate strengths and weaknesses in areas of knowledge, increase productive study time, and, as a result, help you improve your grades.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE—Lippincott's Review Series will help you study more effectively during coursework throughout your educational program, and help you prepare for quizzes and tests, including the NCLEX examination. If you buy and use any of the nine volumes in Lippincott's Review Series and fail the NCLEX examination, simply send us verification of your exam results and your copy of the review book to the address below. We will promptly send you a check for our suggested list price.

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