

PTCB PTCE

Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam (PTCE)

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Question: 1

The ingredients of 1 kg of a bulk laxative are:

Psyllium:500 g

Dextrose:497.5 g

Citric acid:1 g

Sodium bicarbonate:1 g

Flavoring:0.5 g

What is the percentage of psyllium in the final preparation?

- A. 2.5%
- B. 5%
- C. 25%
- D. 50%

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Step-by-Step Explanation:

To calculate the percentage of psyllium in the final preparation:

Formula:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Percentage} &= \left(\frac{\text{Amount of Psyllium}}{\text{Total weight}} \right) \times 100 \\ &= \left(\frac{500g}{1000g} \right) \times 100 = 50\%\end{aligned}$$

A math equations with numbers and symbols Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Since psyllium makes up 500 g out of 1000 g (1 kg) of the bulk laxative, it accounts for 50% of the total formulation.

Reference:

USP <795> Compounding Standards

PTCE Exam Pharmaceutical Calculations

Question: 2

Levetiracetam is a(n):

- A. Antibiotic
- B. Antihyperglycemic
- C. Anticonvulsant
- D. Antihypertensive

Answer: C

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Step-by-Step Explanation:

Levetiracetam (Keppra) is classified as an anticonvulsant used to treat seizures (epilepsy). It works by stabilizing electrical activity in the brain.

Explanation of Answer Choices: C. Anticonvulsant → Correct. Levetiracetam is indicated for partial onset, myoclonic, and tonic-clonic seizures. A. Antibiotic → Incorrect. Levetiracetam does not treat bacterial infections. B. Antihyperglycemic → Incorrect. Antihyperglycemics lower blood sugar (e.g., metformin, glipizide). D. Antihypertensive → Incorrect. Antihypertensives lower blood pressure (e.g., amlodipine, lisinopril).

Reference:

PTCB Exam: Pharmacology for Technicians

FDA Approved Drug Database (Levetiracetam)

Question: 3

Behind-the-counter decongestant products containing pseudoephedrine must be used with caution in patients with:

- A. Asthma
- B. Hypertension
- C. Hypokalemia
- D. Eczema

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Step-by-Step Explanation:

Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed) is a sympathomimetic decongestant that causes vasoconstriction and can increase blood pressure.

Explanation of Answer Choices: B. Hypertension → Correct. Pseudoephedrine can cause an increase in blood pressure, so it should be used cautiously in patients with hypertension. A. Asthma → Incorrect. Pseudoephedrine does not directly worsen asthma, but it may cause mild bronchodilation. C. Hypokalemia → Incorrect. Pseudoephedrine does not affect potassium levels. D. Eczema → Incorrect. Eczema is unrelated to pseudoephedrine use.

Reference:

Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act (CMEA) Regulations

American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines on Hypertension

Question: 4

Due to an increased risk of hepatotoxicity, patients on acetaminophen should use caution when consuming:

- A. Citrus fruits
- B. Leafy greens
- C. Dairy products
- D. Alcoholic beverages

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Step-by-Step Explanation:

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) is metabolized by the liver. Excessive doses or concurrent alcohol use increases the risk of liver damage (hepatotoxicity).

Explanation of Answer Choices: D. Alcoholic beverages → Correct. Alcohol and acetaminophen together can cause severe liver damage. A. Citrus fruits → Incorrect. Citrus does not interfere with acetaminophen metabolism. B. Leafy greens → Incorrect. Leafy greens affect warfarin, not acetaminophen. C. Dairy products → Incorrect. Dairy does not interact with acetaminophen.

Reference:

FDA Acetaminophen Warnings

PTCB Medication Safety Guidelines

Question: 5

A prescription reads:

Famotidine 40 mg/5 mL

Quantity: 50 mL

Sig: 0.4 mL PO t.i.d.

What amount of medication, in mg, is given each day?

- A. 1.2 mg
- B. 3.2 mg
- C. 6.4 mg
- D. 9.6 mg

Answer: C

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Step-by-Step Explanation:

Step 1: Determine mg per mL

$$40 \text{ mg}/5 \text{ mL} = 8 \text{ mg/mL}$$

Step 2: Calculate mg per dose

$$0.4 \text{ mL} \times 8 \text{ mg/mL} = 3.2 \text{ mg}$$

Step 3: Multiply by 3 doses per day

$$3.2 \text{ mg} \times 3 = 9.6 \text{ mg/day}$$

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Reference:

PTCB Exam: Pharmaceutical Calculations

USP <795> Dosing Conversions

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