



CALIFORNIA  
Board of Pharmacy

## California Board of Pharmacy Detailed Content Outline

### 1. PATIENT MEDICATIONS

20 items

#### A. Collect, Organize, and Evaluate Information

1. Obtain information from the patient/patient's representative for patient profile (e.g., diagnosis or desired therapeutic outcome, allergies, adverse reactions, medical history)
2. Obtain information from prescriber and/or health care professionals for patient profile (e.g., diagnosis or desired therapeutic outcome, allergies, adverse reactions, medical history)
3. Assess prescription/medication order for completeness, correctness, authenticity, and legality
4. Assess prescription/medication order for appropriateness (e.g., drug selection, dosage, drug interactions, dosage form, delivery system)
5. Evaluate the medical record/patient profile for any or all of the following: disease states, clinical condition, medication use, allergies, adverse reactions, disabilities, medical/surgical therapies, laboratory findings, physical assessments and/or diagnostic tests
6. Perform physical assessment (e.g., vital signs/blood pressure measurement, observations of signs/symptoms)
7. Perform health screening (e.g., blood glucose checks, diagnostic tests)
8. Evaluate the pharmaceutical information needs of the patient/patient's representative

#### B. Dispense Medications

1. Select specific product(s) to be dispensed for a prescription/medication order
2. Document preparation of medication in various dosage forms (e.g., compounded, repackaging)
3. Document preparation of controlled substances for dispensing
4. Verify label(s) for prescription containers
5. Select auxiliary label(s) for container(s)
6. Perform the final check for medications, products, preparations, or devices prior to dispensing
7. Use automated dispensing machines
8. Administer medications, biologicals, and immunizations as ordered by a prescriber, protocol, or scope of practice
9. Participate in compounding (sterile and non-sterile)

**2. PATIENT OUTCOMES**

**33 items**

**A. Determine a Course of Action**

1. Develop a therapeutic regimen for prescription medications (e.g., recommend alteration of prescribed drug regimen, select drug if necessary, perform medication therapy management)
2. Collaborate with health care team/prescriber to determine goals of therapy and course of action
3. Assess changes in health status (e.g., onset of new disease states, changes in clinical condition)
4. Perform pharmacokinetic calculations
5. Perform monitoring and therapeutic management activities
6. Manage drug therapy according to protocols or scope of practice
7. Resolve problems that arise with patient's therapy (e.g., ADEs, drug interactions, non-adherence)
8. Apply results of literature in the performance of evidence-based pharmacotherapy
9. Assess patient for immunization needs
10. Resolve problems with insurance coverage of prescription, medication, or device orders
11. Perform medication reconciliation
12. Recommend/order necessary monitoring procedures (e.g., renal/hepatic function, glucose levels, EKG, drug levels)
13. Initiate pharmacist-provider therapies (e.g., hormonal contraceptives, smoking cessation, travel-related medications)

**B. Educate Patients and Health Care Professionals**

1. Assess the patient's understanding of the disease and treatment
2. Counsel patient/patient's representative regarding prescription medication therapy and devices
3. Counsel patient/patient's representative regarding nonprescription medication (OTC)
4. Counsel patient/patient's representative regarding herbal/complementary/alternative therapies
5. Counsel patient/patient's representative regarding non-drug therapy
6. Counsel patient/patient's representative regarding self-monitoring of therapy (e.g., devices, symptoms)
7. Verify the patient's/patient representative's understanding of the information presented
8. Educate health care professionals (e.g., physicians, nurses, medical residents/fellows, other health care providers/students, precepting intern pharmacists)
9. Communicate results of monitoring to patient/patient's representative, prescriber and/or other health care professionals
10. Respond to consumer inquiries (e.g. internet searches, media information, FDA patient safety alerts, radio/television commercials)
11. Provide supplemental information, as indicated (e.g., medication guides, computer-generated information)
12. Participate in emergency preparedness and response

**C. Promote Public Health**

1. Participate in population health screening and/or disease or condition management programs
2. Participate in health-related public awareness/patient education programs
3. Make recommendations regarding health care resources for patients (e.g., Medicare Part D, patient assistance programs)

**3. PHARMACY OPERATIONS**

**22 items**

**A. Pharmaceuticals, Devices and Supplies, and Inventory Control**

1. Ensure quality specifications for pharmaceuticals, durable medical equipment, devices, and supplies (e.g., sourcing, pedigree)
2. Place orders for pharmaceuticals, durable medical equipment, devices, and supplies, including expediting of emergency orders
3. Maintain a record-keeping system of items purchased/received/returned in compliance with legal requirements (e.g., dangerous drugs, devices, supplies)
4. Maintain a record of controlled substances ordered, received, stored, and removed from inventory
5. Dispose of expired, returned, or recalled pharmaceuticals, durable medical equipment, devices, supplies, and document actions taken
6. Respond to changes in product availability (e.g., drug shortages, recalls)
7. Design and implement policies to prevent theft and/or drug diversion
8. Comply with policies and procedures to prevent theft and/or drug diversion

**B. Perform Quality Assurance/Improvement**

1. Assess pharmacist and/or pharmacy technician competence
2. Ensure the accuracy of medication administration
3. Participate in a system to monitor/improve medication use including quality assurance programs (e.g., antimicrobial stewardship, standard order sets, peer review, self-evaluation)
4. Participate in a system for medication error prevention, assessment, and reporting (e.g., root cause analysis, National Patient Safety Goals, medication error reduction program)
5. Participate in systems by which adverse drug effects and interactions are prevented, documented, evaluated, and reported

**C. Manage Operations, Human Resources and Information Systems**

1. Monitor the practice site and/or service area for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and professional standards/guidelines
2. Supervise the work of pharmacy personnel
3. Ensure the availability, control, and confidentiality of patient and prescription information (e.g., patient profiles, medication administration records)
4. Participate in the development of pharmacy policies and procedures, protocols, order sets, and/or therapeutic guidelines
5. Participate in the use of pharmacy information systems and technology (e.g., electronic health record, e-prescribing, CURES)
6. Manage the use of pharmacy information systems and technology (e.g., electronic health record, e-prescribing, CURES)

**D. Manage Formulary and Medication Use Systems**

1. Use a formulary system (e.g., therapeutic conversion, advising patients and prescribers)
2. Manage an existing formulary system (e.g., formulary guidelines, criteria for use, tier placement, evaluation of products for inclusion)
3. Apply therapeutic interchanges
4. Design medication use evaluations (e.g., set criteria, establish data collection process)
5. Analyze medication use evaluation data
6. Apply results of medication use evaluations to revise practice procedures to improve patient outcomes

**Total 75 items**

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Fifteen pretest items will be included on each test form.