NZMA Pharmacy Level 5

**Week 25 – Introduction to Dispensing: Challenge Activity**

1. In the dispensing process of selecting a medicine from stock, what specific information will you verify on the stock bottle to ensure it matches the prescription?
2. Generic medicines must be ‘bioequivalent’ to be trade-named medicines. Explain what this means.
3. Where can you locate the guidelines outlining the location, structure, and organisation of the workspace for assembling medications for dispensing?
4. What should you do when you have finished using equipment for assembling and dispensing medications?
5. You have dispensed medicine to a patient in a child restraint container. What advice do you give the patient about where they should store this medicine?
6. The pharmacist receives a call from a parent who just found his toddler had opened a packet of paracetamol tablets. It appears the toddler has eaten several tablets. The pharmacist advises the parent to call the National Poisons Centre. What is the National Poisons Centre's phone number, and what hours are they open for calls?
7. What is the name of the process of combining a powdered medication with a liquid in order to make a suspension?

1. Describe what a solute is in the context of reconstituting medication for dispensing.
2. How does a solution differ from a suspension?

1. Talia comes into the pharmacy and asks you for a box of Ural® sachets. What health issue is Talia likely to be experiencing?
   1. Does Talia need a prescription for Ural® ?
   2. If she had a prescription for Ural® would it be fully funded, partly funded or not funded?
   3. What are the active ingredients in Ural® ?
   4. When reconstituted as directed, is Ural® a solution or suspension?
   5. According to the NZF, why is Ural® not recommended during the acute phase of treatment for a urinary tract infection?
   6. Explain to Talia how to reconstitute Ural® , the dose and frequency instructions.
2. Describe the work surface you should use when reconstituting a medicine for dispensing.

1. At what points in the reconstitution process should a pharmacist check your work?
2. You are reconstituting an antibiotic. You have accurately measured and added the dilutant to the powder in the bottle. You have replaced the cap on the bottle securely. How long should you shake the bottle to prepare the antibiotic for dispensing?
   1. Once you have reconstituted the antibiotic as per the instructions, is the mixture a solution or a suspension?
3. How long is it before reconstituted medicines expire?
4. Describe what unintentional non-compliance means and what factors contribute to a patient's unintentional non-compliance with their prescribed medicines.
5. A hard pack is a type of compliance packaging that assists patients in adhering to their prescribed medicine regimes. What are the benefits and limitations of hard packs?

1. TJ tells you that he is having trouble managing his prescribed medications and asks you if you can dispense them in a Medico Pak. Does a Medico Pak need to be prescribed by his doctor?
   1. You are preparing TJ’s Medico Pak; describe the hygiene considerations for carrying out the packaging process.
   2. At what point in the process of making up a Medico Pak does the pharmacist carry out the final check?
   3. TJ has arthritis in his hands, which may make it difficult to open the blister packs. What advice can you give TJ that will help him to access his medicines?
   4. TJ asks you if he should store his Medico Pak in the refrigerator at home. None of the tablets in his pack require refrigeration. What advice do you give him about storage?