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PHARMACEUTICS – I

UNIT 1

TOPIC :

- **Prescription** : Definition, Parts of prescription, handling of Prescription and Errors in prescription.



Prescription & Prescription Handling

PRESCRIPTION

- A medical prescription is a written order from a doctor to a chemist that includes instructions for preparing and dispensing medicines to a patient
- A prescription order may be written and issued by a physician, dentist, veterinarian, or other properly licensed medical practitioner.
- The prescription for each patient is a unique entity, designating a specific medication for a specific patient at a specific time.

Types of Prescription

There are mainly two types of prescriptions:

1) Compounded Prescription:

- These prescriptions are also known as formula magistralis, a Latin word meaning extemporaneous prescription or teacher.
- In these prescriptions one or more active ingredients are mixed with one or more pharmaceutical additives (vehicle, suspending agent, preservatives, etc.).
- Drug, doses, and pharmaceutical forms required by the patient are selected by the physician and thereafter the medication is prepared accordingly by the pharmacist.
- Each drug in the prescription is written on a separate line in a sequence.

2) Non-Compounded Prescription:

- These prescriptions are also called formula officinalis, a Latin word meaning workshop. In order to obtain a finished product, two or more ingredients are not required to be mixed in these prescriptions.
- It is a pre-compounded order comprising of either a single drug or a mixture of drugs provided by a pharmaceutical company.

Parts of Prescription

A proper prescription has following information.

- 1) **Date** : The prescriber must mention the date on prescription.
- 2) **Name , Age , Sex , and address of the patient** : Name , Age , Sex , and address of the patient must be mentioned on the prescription.
- 3) **Superscription** : Rx is used to denote superscription , it is mentioned at beginning of the prescription . (it was used to prayer Jupiter the (God of healing) for the recovery of patient).
- 4) **Inscription** : It is the most important part of prescription , it contains the name and quantity and other information of prescribed drugs .(active constituent , adjuvant , vehicle).
- 5) **Subscription** : In this part prescriber provide directions for Pharmacist such as drug administer timing , like bd (twice a day).
- 6) **Sign. address , and registration no. of prescriber** : The name and the signature should be hand -written . All other parts of prescription may be hand written , printed or typed.

Health Line Nursing Home, Gomati Nagar, Lucknow

Ph: 2543654

Date: 18-8-2018

Name: Mr. Amit Singh Age: 38 yrs. Sex: Male

Address: Sec-16, Indira Nagar.

R_x (Superscription)

Sodium bicarbonate	3 gm
(Inscription) Compound tincture of cardamom	2 ml
Simple syrup	6 ml
Water q.s.	90 ml

Fiat mistura (Subscription)

Cochleare magnum ter in die post cibos sumenda.(Signatura)

Refill: _____

Dr. Pradeep Singh
M.B.B.S., M.D. -Mh-
Regd. No. 17553

Legality of Prescriptions

The minimum requirements for a legal prescription are as follows:

- ❖ Written or printed clearly with a permanent ink.
- ❖ Contains correct date.
- ❖ Contains inked signature of the prescriber.
- ❖ Bears address and qualification of the prescriber.
- ❖ Contains name and address of the patient.
- ❖ Contains age of children below 12 years.

Prescription Handling

Prescription handling is a part of Good Pharmacy practices , following steps should be followed during prescription handling.

1. **Receiving** : It is the duty of pharmacist to receive the prescription from the patient with a good facial expression.
2. **Reading And Checking carefully** : it is duty of pharmacist to check prescriber's signature , date , and prescribed drugs.
3. **Collecting the Materials** : Now the pharmacist gather all the prescribed materials at a clean place.
4. **labeling And packaging** : After collecting all the material are to be dispensed , should be labeled and packed.

Sources of Errors in Prescriptions

- **Abbreviation** : Some drugs abbreviation also have same means, After reading the Prescription if any doubt then consult with doctor or another Pharmacist
 - Eg : "Achro means (Achromycin] or [Achrostanin]
- **Name of the drugs** : It is due to some drugs have same name and looks or also same sound which leads to major danger to the patient
 - Eg : Digitoxin or Digoxin
- **Strength of preparation** : Drugs are available in various strength so a drug must not be dispensed if the strength is not written in the prescription.
- **Dosage form of the drug prescribed** : Many medicines are available in more than one dosage form
 - Eg : liquid, tablet Capsule and suppository. So it is reduced by written pharmaceutical dose (form) of the medicine in prescription.
- **Instruction for the patient** : some time, the instruction for the patient is incomplete like the quantity of the drug to be Taken, the route of administration, time, frequency etc... It should be clearly given in the prescription for avoid errors.
- **Incompatibilities** : Check all type of incompatibility for prevent patient from any harmful effect