



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OF NURSING
at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center
Syracuse, NY

SJCON: Basic Math and Medication Math Competency Testing Policy

PURPOSE:

The ability to calculate medication dosages correctly is an essential skill for Registered Nurses. Many medication errors are directly related to the administration of an incorrect dose or incorrect infusion rate caused by calculation errors; therefore, medication calculation competency is required throughout the curriculum.

USE OF CALCULATORS IN THE CURRICULUM

Students must use the online calculator provided in designated testing software for all quizzes and tests.

BASIC MATH COMPETENCY

Students must achieve 100% on the basic math competency during orientation prior to beginning Nursing 110/111. If 100% is not achieved on the test, the student will be required to:

- complete remediation
- retest

Students who remain unsuccessful in retesting will be referred for administrative action up to and including possible postponement with starting the program.

MEDICATION MATH COMPETENCY

Students who do not achieve 100% on the medication mathematics calculation test in all Nursing Assessment and Skills courses (I, II, III, IV) will have mandatory remediation and be required to re-test. Each student will receive three opportunities to meet the math requirement. Failure to score 100% after the third attempt will result in a referral to the progression committee.

The following resources are available for medication math in all courses:

- Orientation basic math packet
- Online tools available. Refer to course syllabus.
- Math calculation books located in library

DOCUMENT CONTROL TRACKING FILE

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Curriculum Committee	Date: 9/17 6/19 1/21
Faculty Staff Organization	Date: 1/21
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	Date:
Administrative Approvals:	
Marianne Markowitz, Ed.D., RN, CNE Vice President/Dean	AnneMarie Walker-Czyz, RN, Ed.D Chief Nursing Officer
Additional Approvals:	
Education:	
Monthly policy/procedure update: 4/19	
Additional: EPSLO: Integrate scientific knowledge, skills, clinical reasoning, and evidence-based practice for decision-making to provide safe, innovative, quality care.	
Revisions:	
4/19 Policy placed online	
6/19 Editorial changes	
1/21 Changed "one" opportunity to "three" opportunities to re-test. Added EPSLO's to tracking form.	
References:	
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