



Course Description

ATE1630 | Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians | 2.00 credits

This introductory course reviews drug classifications and office procedures/ management. Students will learn methods of calculating appropriate drug dosage, routes of administration, and evaluation of drug efficacy as well as office procedures used in veterinary hospital management.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will learn the basic knowledge associated with pharmacology by:

1. Articulating terminology associated with pharmacology
2. Using terminology associated with pharmacological responses in a clinical situation

Competency 2: The student will recall and apply concepts learned in anatomy and physiology by:

1. Identifying and associating anatomy and physiology concepts used when discussing the various drug classes
2. Identifying physiological responses associated with the various drugs and their effects on the body's systems

Competency 3: The student will be able to read and understand prescriptions and prescription drug labels by:

1. Reading prescriptions and determining patient's drug dose and dosage for Rx
2. Writing a drug prescription using proper abbreviations and terminology
3. Reading, analyzing, and using standard prescription abbreviations
4. Reading a drug label and discerning brand and generic name, concentration of the drug, and storage requirements Identifying the label if a drug is a controlled substance
5. Learning how to stay informed on current information regarding various drugs used in veterinary medicine

Competency 4: The student will be able to identify and manage controlled substances by:

1. Identifying schedules of controlled substances
2. Discussing the differences in schedules
3. Demonstrating management of the inventory of controlled substances
4. Demonstrating how to use a controlled substance log

Competency 5: The student will review methods of administering drugs by:

1. Discussing advantages and disadvantages of the various methods of giving medication
2. Reading syringe volumes and the amount of drug pulled up into the syringe

Competency 6 The student will recognize the various drug classifications and drug names associated with classifications by:

1. Identifying drug indications and contraindications
2. Identifying the adverse side effects of each drug and clinical signs associated with them
3. Identifying drugs associated with the treatment of various disease processes seen in veterinary medicine
4. Identifying the physiologic parameters used to monitor the patient receiving various drugs

Competency 7: The student will be able to perform basic nursing math skills used in a clinical setting by:

1. Applying conversions from apothecary to the metric systems moving freely between both
2. Converting pounds to kilograms or kilograms to pounds
3. Calculating drug dose as written in a prescription Calculating dilution concentrations

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data
- Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment