

Chapter-3 | Prescription and Prescription Handling | Community Pharmacy and Management

Topic in this Notes:

Prescription and prescription handling

- Definition, parts of prescriptions, legality of prescriptions, prescription handling, labelling of dispensed medications (Main label, ancillary label, pictograms), brief instructions on medication usage
- Dispensing process, Good Dispensing Practices, dispensing errors and strategies to minimize them

PRESCRIPTION

Prescription:-

- A Prescription is an order written by a physician dentist or any other medical practitioner to the pharmacist to compound and dispense a specific medication for individual patient
- Prescription is actually a direct link between physician, Pharmacist and patient.
- It is a silent information regarding the dispensing of prescribed medication.

Part of Prescription:-

1. Heading

- Date
- Personal data of patient

2. Body

- Superscription Inscription Subscription

3. Closing:

- Signature of Patient
- Signature of Physician

1. Heading

- **Date:-** It help a pharmacist to find out the date of prescribing and date of Prescription for filling the Prescription.
- **Personal data of patient:-** It included the Name, Sex, Age and Address of Patient.
- **NAME :-** Name and Address of the patient written in the Prescription because it serve to identify the Prescription in case.
- **SEX and AGE:-** Sex and Age of patient specially use in the case children for help the Pharmacist to check the Prescribed dose of medication.

2. Body

a) Superscription:-

- It is represent by Rx.
- Rx is addreviation for the Latin word “recipere” or “Recipe” which means “Take You”
- The symbol is said to designate or sign of Jupiter. “The God of Healing”
- The symbol was imployed by the requesting “god for healing”
- The symbol was imployed by the requesting god for the quick recovery of the patient.

b) Inscription:-

- It is main part of Prescription order contain the name and and quantity of ingredient.
- It also contain manner in which medicine should be taken.

c) Subscription :-

- This part contains the prescribers direction to the pharmacist for preparing the Prescription number of dose to be dispense.

3. Closing


a) Signature of Physician:-

- Prescription must be signed with prescribers own hand
- Address and Registration no should be written in case of dangerous drugs.

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Prescription format:-

	<h1>Hospital Name</h1>
Patient name	Date
Address	Sex
Rx	
Dr. Signature	
Dr. name	

Handling of Prescription | Dispensing process :-

- The following steps are to be followed during handling of Prescription.

1. Receiving
2. Reading and Checking
3. Collecting and Weighing the material
4. Compounding, Labeling and Packing

1. Receiving :-

- Pharmacist should himself receive the prescription and reading checking the prescription.

2. Reading the prescription:-

- Prescription should be completely and carefully read from top to bottom.

• Checking of Prescription:-

- Prescription should be checking for any incompatibility.

3. Collecting and Weighing the material

- Before the compounding the prescription all the material required for it should be collected on the left hand side of the balance After weighting the material it should be shifter to RHS of the balance.
- This give a check of ingredient which have been weight while compounding the label of every stock should be read at least 3 time in order to avoid any error.
- When taken from the self or drawer.
- When the content are remove from weighing and measuring.
- When the content are return back to their proper place.

4. Compounding, Labeling and Packing

- Compounding should be carried out in a neat place. All the equipment required are cleaned and dried thoroughly.
- Only one prescription should be compounding at a time
- The size of the label should be proportional to the size of the container.
- Label should contain the required suggestions the patient.

5. Make a final check record the action taken issue medicines to the patient with clear instruction and advice.

Good Dispensing Practice

Good Dispensing Practice ensures that the right medicines of desired quality are delivered correctly to the right patient with the right dose, strength, frequency, dosage form and quantity,

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together with clear instructions, both written and verbal and with appropriate packaging suitable for maintaining the quality and efficacy of the medicine.

A safe, clean and organised working environment provides the basis for good dispensing practice. The dispensing environment includes:

- Qualified / trained staff
- Appropriate physical surroundings
- Adequate shelving and storage areas
- Proper work surfaces
- Suitable equipment
- Necessary packaging materials

Dispensing Errors and Strategies to Minimize Them

There are so many sources of medication error or prescription errors.

Legibility:

- **Checking:**
No one persons are available to recheck the full medications.
- **Too many customers:**
Due to too many customers, the dispenser needs more time to properly handle. But customers have no time to wait that's why errors occur.
- **Lack of concentrations:**
Every dispenser should properly concentrate on prescription if they not. Error occurs.
- **Too many phone calls and social media:**
This is also very important to stay out of mobiles or keep it switched off at the time of working.
- **Lack of experience:**
Experience is very important in this field.

The following is a list of strategies for minimizing dispensing errors:

- **Ensure correct entry of the prescription.**
- **Confirm that the prescription is correct and complete.**
- **Reduce distraction when possible.**
- **Beware of look-alike, soundalike drugs.**
- **Be careful with zeros and abbreviations.**
- **Organize the workplace.**