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Drug Information Query - Renal Function

Practical 5 - Clinical pharmacy case practical

Aim

To answer a focused drug-information query with patient-specific evidence.

Principle

A useful response begins with a precise question, critically assesses current primary and authoritative information and states the relevance and limits for the actual patient.

Materials and Requirements

- Fictional or approved de-identified case, medicine chart and laboratory record
- Current local policy, relevant product information and clinical guidance
- Pharmaceutical-care and communication worksheet
- Approved method or teaching-data pack and a dated record sheet

Procedure

1. Define the preparation or dataset, study question and method version. Record identities, units and the criteria to be used before examining the outcome.
2. Identify the question, patient-specific information and missing data. Use the supplied fictional record; do not create a prescription or administer a preparation.
3. Clarify requester, urgency, indication, age, organ function, complete medicines and the decision needed.
4. Search current product information and the relevant clinical guidance, then examine original evidence where the question remains unresolved.
5. Compare conflicting information by population, endpoint and evidence strength and prepare a concise supported response.
6. Document the assessment, evidence, proposed action, responsible clinician and follow-up. Separate a student recommendation from an authorised treatment decision.
7. Retain the original observations and calculations. State deviations, missing information and the limits of the conclusion; do not replace measured values with expected results.

Observations and Record

Enter actual measurements or the supplied teaching data. Record the method, material identity, conditions and units.

Problem / evidence	Goal / priority	Proposed action / owner	Monitoring / follow-up
Safety or urgent issue	Define	Escalate appropriately	Specify
Effectiveness / adherence	Define	Discuss with team	Specify
Information gap	State	Obtain evidence	Review

Worked Example

Fictional query asks whether a renally cleared medicine can continue after a change in kidney function. Verify the actual drug, formulation, indication, trend and required kidney-function estimate before discussing the product-specific recommendation with the prescriber.

Query focus

• Renal query: confirm kidney trend, acute versus stable state and the drug-specific evidence using eGFR or creatinine clearance as appropriate.

Result and Interpretation

• Deliver the question, search record, evidence appraisal, patient-specific answer and follow-up; do not substitute a generic internet statement.

Precautions

• Protect confidentiality and use actual units and timing.
• Check allergy, indication, organ function, interactions and the complete medicine list.
• Urgent clinical findings need timely clinical assessment; teaching notes do not replace care.

Viva Questions and Answers

Why clarify the question?

The required answer depends on the patient and decision.

Why check product formulation?

Different formulations may have different instructions or evidence.

What if evidence conflicts?

Explain the differences and uncertainty rather than selecting a convenient answer.

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