

RxCalculations

# NAPLEX PRACTICE QUESTIONS

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21 calculation questions to  
prepare for the board exams

MICHAEL DANQUAH, MS, PHD

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# CONVERSIONS

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LEARN YOUR CONVERSION FACTORS AND  
PRACTICE HOW TO USE THEM

# QUESTION 1

REVIEW HOW TO CONVERT FROM  
GRAIN TO MILLIGRAM

**How many milligrams  
are equal to 1/150 gr of  
Nitroglycerine?**

# QUESTION 2

REVIEW HOW TO CONVERT FROM  
QUART TO MILLILITERS

**How many grams of  
Heparin are required  
to prepare 1 quart of  
0.45% solution?**

# QUESTION 3

REVIEW HOW TO CONVERT FROM  
GRAIN TO GRAMS AND GALLONS TO  
LITERS

If I want to make a  
gallon of cough  
preparation that will  
contain 1 grain of  
active ingredient per  
teaspoonful. How  
many grams of active  
ingredient will I need?

# QUESTION 4

REVIEW HOW TO SOLVE A DAYS  
SUPPLY TYPE PROBLEM

If a prescription reads  
“Augmentin 875 mg po  
bid x 10 days,” how  
many mL of  
Augmentin 250 mg/5  
mL are required to fill a  
ten-day supply?

# TOTAL PARENTERAL NUTRITION

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PRACTICE USING CONVERSION FACTORS  
AND EQUATIONS FOR TPN CALCULATIONS



# QUESTION 5

REVIEW HOW TO SOLVE A TPN TYPE  
PROBLEM

JM is a patient in the ICU (6'1" and 256 pounds). He is currently receiving 3-in-1 PN at 125 mL/h. The PN is 12.1% w/v dextrose and 4.7%w/v protein. The prescriber wants the patient's protein intake from the PN to be 1.4 g/kg IBW per day. By how many grams will the current protein need to be reduced to achieve this?

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# CONCENTRATION

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REVIEW THE VARIOUS WAYS OF  
EXPRESSING CONVERSION FACTORS  
AND EQUATIONS FOR TPN CALCULATIONS

# QUESTION 6

REVIEW HOW TO SOLVE FOR FINAL  
CONCENTRATION OF A PREPARATION  
GIVEN THE CONCENTRATION AND  
QUANTITIES OF COMPONENTS TO BE  
COMBINED

If 60 g of 1%  
hydrocortisone are  
mixed with 80 g of  
2.5% hydrocortisone,  
what is the  
percent of  
hydrocortisone in the  
final mixture?

# QUESTION 7

REVIEW HOW TO SOLVE FOR FINAL  
CONCENTRATION OF A PREPARATION  
GIVEN THE CONCENTRATION AND  
QUANTITIES OF COMPONENTS TO BE  
COMBINED

**How many mL of 75%  
alcohol should be  
mixed with 10%  
alcohol to prepare 30%  
of 500 mL alcohol  
solution ?**

# QUESTION 8

HOW TO SOLVE A DILUTIONS AND  
CONCENTRATION QUESTION USING  
THE ALLIGATION METHOD

**An ointment contains  
1%w/w calamine. How  
much calamine  
powder would be  
appropriate to add to a  
200g of the ointment  
to produce a 4% w/w  
calamine ointment?**

# QUESTION 9

HOW TO SOLVE A RATIO STRENGTH  
CALCULATIONS PROBLEM

**How much Lidocaine is  
required to prepare 30  
mL of a 1:1000  
Lidocaine solution?**

# PH AND BUFFERS

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PRACTICE KEY CONCEPTS IN PH AND  
BUFFER CALCULATIONS

# QUESTION 10

HOW TO SOLVE A PH AND BUFFER  
CALCULATIONS PROBLEM USING THE  
HENDERSON-HASSELBALCH EQUATION

**What is the ratio of  
ionized to unionized  
species of a weakly  
acidic drug at  $\text{pH} = 7$  if  
the  $\text{pK}_a = 5$ ?**



# MILLIEQUIVALENTS

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PRACTICE USING KEY EQUATIONS  
IN MILLIEQUIVALENTS CALCULATIONS

# QUESTION 11

HOW TO SOLVE FOR  
MILLIEQUIVALENTS OF AN ION GIVEN  
THE MASS AND MOLECULAR WEIGHT

How many mEq of  $K^+$   
are present in 750 mg  
of a KCl capsule? [  $K^+ =$   
39,  $Cl^- = 35.5$  ]

# QUESTION 12

HOW TO SOLVE FOR THE QUANTITY OF  
A SALT NEEDED TO SUPPLY A GIVEN  
MILLIEQUIVALENT OF AN ION

How many grams of  
 $\text{CaCl}_2$  are required to  
prepare a 1 gallon  
solution that contains  
20 mEq of calcium  
ions? [mw  $\text{CaCl}_2$  =  
111g/mol]

# QUESTION 13

HOW TO SOLVE FOR THE QUANTITY OF  
A SALT NEEDED TO SUPPLY A GIVEN  
MILLIEQUIVALENT OF AN ION

If a prescription calls to dispense 8 fl oz of KCl in such a way that 1 teaspoonful of solution contains 0.5 mEq of drug, how many grams of KCl are required to prepare the above prescription? [mw of KCl = 74.5g/mol]

# QUESTION 14

HOW TO SOLVE FOR THE QUANTITY OF  
A SALT NEEDED TO SUPPLY A GIVEN  
MILLIEQUIVALENT OF AN ION GIVEN  
THE CONCENTRATION OF THE  
SOLUTION

**You receive a prescription for 240 mL of a potassium citrate solution with a concentration of 15 mEq/15mL. How much potassium citrate must you weigh out to compound this prescription? (MW of  $C_6H_5K_3O_7 = 306$ )**

# OSMOLARITY

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PRACTICE USING KEY EQUATIONS  
IN OSMOLARITY CALCULATIONS

# QUESTION 15

HOW TO CALCULATE OSMOLARITY  
GIVEN THE CONCENTRATION OF THE  
SOLUTION

How many mOsmols/L  
are represented by  
1000 mL 0.9% sodium  
chloride solution?

# QUESTION 16

HOW TO CALCULATE OSMOLARITY  
GIVEN THE CONCENTRATION OF THE  
SOLUTION

How many mOsmols/L  
are represented by a  
50 mL 8.4% sodium  
bicarbonate solution?  
[mw = 84 g/mol]



# RECONSTITUTION

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PRACTICE KEY CONCEPTS IN  
RECONSTITUTION CALCULATIONS

# QUESTION 17

HOW TO CALCULATE THE VOLUME OF A RECONSTITUTED SOLUTION NEEDED TO FILL A PATIENTS ORDER

A patient is ordered a 130 mg dose of a drug in 50 mL of D5W. A vial contains 1 gram of the powdered drug. The drug has a powder volume of 0.4 mL. How many milliliters will be needed to fill the patient order if the concentration after reconstitutions is 250 mg/mL?

# QUESTION 18

HOW TO CALCULATE POWDER VOLUME

Your bottle of Amoxil (amoxicillin) says to add 39 mL to the bottle to get a solution of 150 mg/tsp. The total amount in the bottle is 2 g. What is the powder volume?

# **FLOW RATES**

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**PRACTICE KEY CONCEPTS IN FLOW  
RATE CALCULATIONS**

# QUESTION 19

HOW TO DETERMINE FLOW RATE IN  
DROPS PER MINUTE

Four grams of Levofloxacin (mixed with 500 mL 0.9% NaCl) is administered via slow I.V. infusion over 24 hours. If the I.V. set delivers 10 drops/ml, what would be the rate of flow in drops/ min?

# QUESTION 20

HOW TO DETERMINE FLOW RATE OF AN  
INFUSION PUMP IN MILLILITERS PER  
HOUR

A 60-kg patient is to receive a constant infusion of dobutamine at a rate of 5 mcg/kg/min. The available solution has a concentration of 0.5 mg/mL. For what rate should the infusion pump be set?

# QUESTION 21

HOW TO DETERMINE FLOW RATE IN  
DROPS PER MINUTE

A patient is receiving an IV 1000 cc per 8 hour. When 600 mL have been run in from the 1-L bag, the physician ordered the remainder to be infused over the next 6 hours. The IV set is calibrated at 10 gtt/mL. What is the new flow rate in drops per minute?

# ANSWERS

1. 0.432 mg
2. 4.26 g
3. 49 g
4. 350 mL
5. 29.14 g
6. 3.5 drops/min
7. 153.85 mL
8. 6.25 g
9. 30 mg
10. 100:1
11. 10 mEq
12. 1.11 g
13. 1.788 g
14. 24.48 g
15. 307.7 mOsm/L
16. 2000 mOsm/L
17. 0.52 mL
18. 27.67 mL
19. 3.5 drops/min
20. 36 mL/h
21. 11.1 drops/min



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