Review Calculations related to medications and IV drips, Basic Safety and Infection Control, Core Measures, National Patient Safety Goals, Pain Management, and Blood Administration.

Review assessment, interventions, monitoring, and care for conditions commonly encountered including:

- Acute coronary syndrome (ACS), symptoms and management
- Blood transfusion reaction, assessment and management
- Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA), symptoms; dysphagia post-stroke
- Cholecystectomy, bile-colored incisional drainage post-cholecystectomy
- Congestive heart failure (CHF), lung sounds indicate worsening
- Diabetes
- Hypoglycemia, symptoms
- Incentive spirometer, correct use
- Morphine toxicity, naloxone (Narcan®)
- Nephrectomy, post-nephrectomy, symptoms of hemorrhage
- Pain assessment
- Pre-op aspirin intake
- Pneumonia, indications of post-op
- Septic shock, symptoms
- Skin assessment, staging of pressure ulcer
- Suicide risk, warning signs
- Tracheostomy, newly created, positioning

Review action, preparation, monitoring, and precautions related to medications commonly used, such as

- Aspirin, discontinue pre-op
- Benzodiazepines, risk for falling
- Diltiazem SR (Cardizem®), toxicity
- Digoxin, electrolyte imbalance which creates risk of toxicity (hypokalemia)
- Gentamicin, assess serum creatinine
- Heparin protocol
- Insulin sliding scale; Hold insulin for blood glucose of 50 mg/dL
- IV drops/minute calculation
- Levothyroxine (Synthroid®), tablet calculation
Medical-Surgical RN Knowledge Assessment Exam: Study Guide

- Lispro (Humalog®), peak
- Morphine, per PCA pump; troubleshoot PCA pump
- Naloxone (Narcan®)
- Nitroglycerin
- Oxygen
- Warfarin (Coumadin®), laboratory monitoring
- Medications per enteral feeding tube
- Medication sensitivity, elderly

Review **cardiac rhythm strip interpretation and appropriate action**, including
  - Ventricular fibrillation

A great source for ACLS protocol review is [www.acls.net](http://www.acls.net)

A great source for rhythm review is the RN.com course [Telemetry Interpretation](http://www.rn.com)

Also recommended:
  - ECG Library (Jenkins, J & Gerrend, S., 2009)

Review **Laboratory Results** commonly encountered, such as
  - aPTT
  - Serum creatinine
  - Serum glucose
  - PT/INR

Review principles and practices related to **safety and infection prevention**, including
  - CAUTI-prevention bundle
  - Fall risk, elderly/benzodiazepines
  - Handwashing w/ C. Diff
  - Patient identifiers

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• TB, respiratory protection for visitors

Review principles and practices of **communication with patients and family**, including

• Patient satisfaction
• Post-op instructions, hip arthroplasty– keep knee on affected side lower than hip
• Purpose of SCD
• Alternative to restraint – explain NG tube purpose

Review measures to prevent **CMS Hospital Acquired Conditions**, including

• Blood transfusion reaction
• CAUTI prevention
• DVT prevention
• Glycemic control
• Skin assessment, pressure ulcer staging
• Risk for falling

Review **calculations**, including

• Medication protocols
• Sliding scale
• IV drip rate, calculating drops per minute

**To calculate the infusion rate: IV drip rate in drops per minute =**

**Volume to be infused (mL) over 1 hour/ Drop factor constant**

**Common drop factors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drop factor constant</th>
<th>Common drop factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60 gtt/mL - minidrip set</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 gtt/mL – regular drip set</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 gtt/mL – regular drip set</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Common drop factors are also known as the clock method – drop factors are obtained by dividing 60 minutes by the number of gtts per mL that the IV set delivers.