

I. **Application of Course Knowledge:** Answer all questions/criteria with explanations and detail.

1. **Briefly summarize the condition you selected and your rationale for selecting it.**

I chose non-opioid management for pain because of my extensive experience with cancer patients who suffer from cancer-related pain. Managing their pain effectively is crucial to improving their quality of life. Opioid treatments, while effective, come with significant risks such as dependency, tolerance, and side effects, which can further complicate a cancer patient's condition. By focusing on non-opioid approaches, I aim to provide safer, effective pain relief that allows these patients to maintain better functionality and overall well-being during their treatment journey. Pain is one of the most frequently reported symptoms in clinical practice, and understanding its underlying mechanisms is essential for proper diagnosis and treatment. Pain arises from complex interactions between the nervous system and various physiological processes (Chen et al., 2023).

2. **Describe the prescribing recommendations from the CPG and how these could impact pediatric, pregnant, and older adult populations considering pharmacokinetic principles.**

A comprehensive assessment of the patient is essential for managing pain effectively. It helps identify reversible causes of pain and serious underlying conditions that may require immediate intervention. This process allows clinicians to make informed decisions by confirming or establishing an accurate diagnosis. Tailoring pain treatment to the patient's specific condition ensures that appropriate therapies are selected, potentially preventing complications and improving outcomes. Accurate diagnosis can also reveal opportunities for interventions that not only address the pain but enhance long-term function and recovery (CDC, 2022).

Nonpharmacologic treatments for acute pain should generally be the first approach before resorting to medication. Techniques like acupressure, heat application, and massage are effective at alleviating pain in many cases without the need for drugs. These