

Reflect on your learning experience in this course. Which concepts stood out to you and made an impact? How do you envision using these concepts in your future nursing practice as a master's prepared nurse?

I am so happy to have reached the end of this course and eager to apply my knowledge while learning more. This course is full of very important topics and concepts, and they have all contributed to giving me an outstanding experience and getting me prepared for the tasks ahead both in my professional and personal life. Many concepts stood out to me throughout this course and cemented my understanding of pharmacology. One such concept is the therapeutic index. This concept compares the amount of a therapeutic agent that causes the therapeutic effect to the amount that causes toxicity. This concept is important because it influences dosage and helps the professional understand the need to be careful and know necessary details about the patient through symptoms discussion, physical examinations, and lab tests and also ensures that follow-ups are carried out to ensure that the drug does not cause irreparable damages and that the desired therapeutic effect is achieved. Another concept is pharmacodynamics especially as it pertains to receptor binding and dose-response relationship. These are important concepts that laid the foundation for monitoring and the need to be careful in prescribing medications. The concepts of adverse effects and drug interactions also resonate deeply with me. I often wonder about the kind of damage that could occur if the NP failed to get accurate information on the past medical history of the client and on the current medications the client is taking. This could lead to prescribing drugs that could adversely interact with the current medication the client is taking and could in turn lead to grave consequences and probably legal issues. These concepts will be a part of me going forward. I will be sure to document appropriately, understand the past medical history and medications of the client, and make informed judgments. Also, I will constantly learn to keep myself abreast of recent developments. Continuous learning even in terms of drug class prescription and their adverse effects is very important. For instance, in week 5 during the opioid discussion, the recent FDA statement on their research regarding the possible link between GLP-1RA drugs and suicidal thoughts and actions was brought to the attention of the class by the instructor (Food and Drug Administration, 2024). This communication was from the first week of November this year and showcases the importance of continuously reading, researching, and learning to apply it to one's nursing practice.