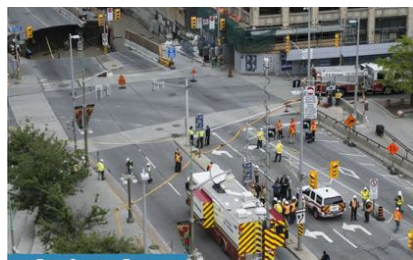


Emergency Medical Responder: A Skills Approach

Fifth Canadian Edition



FIFTH CANADIAN EDITION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER

A SKILLS APPROACH

MEETS PARAMEDIC ASSOCIATION OF CANADA'S
NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCY PROFILE



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5 - 1

Chapter 5

Pharmaceuticals

Objectives

- List the four different ways to name a drug.
- Differentiate among the different classes of medication.
- Describe at least four routes of drug administration.
- Explain how basic knowledge of pharmaceuticals can help you perform your duties as an EMR, and explain how you can identify a drug.



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5 - 2

Overview

- Common classes of medications
- What medications are used for
- How they are administered

Drug Names

- **Chemical name** describes the chemical and molecular structure of a drug
- **Official Name** is found in the CPS Manual
- **Generic Name** is the non-proprietary name
- **Brand Name** is given by the manufacturer and is most readily identified by consumers

Table 5–1: The Four Names for Valium

Chemical name	7-chloro-1, 3-dihydro-1-methyl-5-phenyl-2H-1, 4-benzodiazepin-2-one
Official name	Diazepam, USP
Generic name	Diazepam
Brand name	Valium

Drug Classifications

The broad group to which a drug belongs is its classification.

Why Understand Drug Classifications?

- Assists in gaining a clearer picture of the patient's condition
- Helps determine medical history when a patient can not give a clear picture
- Helps you understand whether desirable or undesirable side effects have occurred

Five Rights of Drug Administration

Consider the five rights of drug administration as you inspect your patient's medications:

- **Right patient**: Drug prescription is for this patient
- **Right drug**: Drug is in its original bottle
- **Right date/time**: Drug has not expired
- **Right dosage**: Drug's dosing instructions have been followed
- **Right route**: Drug was administered properly

Enteral Routes

- Oral (PO)
- Nasogastric/orogastric (NG/OG)
- Sublingual (below the tongue) (SL)
- Buccal (between the cheek and the gums)
- Rectal (PR)

Parenteral Routes (1 of 2)

- Intravenous (IV)
- Endotracheal (ET)
- Intraosseous (IO)
- Umbilical
- Intramuscular (IM)
- Subcutaneous (SC)

Parenteral Routes (2 of 2)

- Inhalation/nebulization
- Topical
- Transdermal
- Nasal
- Instillation

Drug Forms (1 of 2)

Solids

- Pills
- Powders
- Tablets
- Suppositories
- Capsules

Drug Forms (2 of 2)

Liquids

- Tinctures
- Suspensions
- Emulsions
- Spirits
- Elixirs
- Syrups