

PHARMACEUTICS-I- BP103T

UNIT: 1 (Historical background and development of profession of pharmacy, Dosage forms, Prescription, Posology)

CLASS:6

TOPIC: Prescription

Definition

Prescription is an order written by a physician, dentist or any other medical practitioner to the pharmacist to compound & dispense a specific medication for individual patient. ∞ Prescription is accompanied by direction for pharmacist and for patient. The word “prescription” is derived from the Latin term praescriptus which made up of two Latin words prae a prefix meaning ‘before’ and scribere meaning ‘to write’

Types of Prescription

Pre compounding prescription: Prescription for already prepared drug (by pharmaceutical companies) e.g. Cap. Ciprofloxacin (500 mg) etc.

Extemporaneous prescription: The pharmacists prepare the medication according to the drugs and dosages directed by the physician (nowadays not in practice)

Parts of prescription

1) Date 2) Name, Age, Sex 3) Superscription 4) Inscription 5) Subscription 6) Signature 7) Address of patient 8) Prescriber Signature, Address, Registration no.

Date: Written on the prescription by prescriber. To know when the medicines were last dispensed. To prevent the misuse of the drug by the patients. The prescription which prescribe narcotic or other habit forming drug, must bear the date, so as to avoid the misuse of prescription if it is presented by the patient, a number of times for dispensing.

Name, Age, Sex & Address of the patient: It helps to identify the prescription. Especially in case of children, Age & sex of the patient helps the pharmacist to check the prescriber dose of medication. In case, if any of this information is missing in the prescription, the same may be included by the pharmacist after proper enquiry from the patient.

Superscription: It is represented by symbol Rx. Rx is the abbreviation of Latin word recipe, meaning 'take thou' or 'You Take'. In older days, the symbol was considered to be originated from the sign of Jupiter, god of healing. This symbol was employed by the ancient in requesting god for the quick recovery of the patient.

Nowadays, the majority of the drugs are prescribed which are already in a suitable formulation. — The pharmacist is required to dispense the readymade form of drugs. So, compounding of prescription is almost eliminated.

Subscription: This part contains the prescriber's directions to the pharmacist. It includes Type dosage form to be prepared. No of doses to be dispensed

Signatura: It is usually written as 'Sig' on the prescription. It consists of the direction to be given to the patient regarding the administration of the drug. Usually the quantity of medicament or number or dosage unit to be taken, how many times in a day or at what time it should be taken. Instruction must be written on the label of container.

Signature, address & registration number of the prescriber : Information about physician is essential so that the doctor could be contacted in emergency. Prescription must be signed with Prescriber's own hand. Address and Registration No should be written in case of narcotic or other habit forming drugs to prevent its misuse.

Renewal instruction : the prescriber indicate on every prescription order, whether it may be renewed and if so, how many times. It is very important particularly in the prescription containing the narcotic and habit forming drugs to prevent its misuse.

TYPED PRESCRIPTION Vs HAND WRITTEN PRESCRIPTION

A Prescription should be : Kept simple. Abbreviations free (if necessary Latin abbreviations should be used). Trailing zeros should be avoided, Leading zeros must be added. It should provide clear and specific directions.