Nsg 310 – Nursing Elective, Chronic Illness Minor

Helping Persons in Pain

Course Enrollment: 30 Students

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Curriculum Infusion Project

Risks of overdoing Acetaminophen “Tylenol”, the leading cause of acute liver failure in the U.S.; correlated with alcohol consumption.

Context

This on-line (TBL) discussion board project is part of a larger unit within the NSG 310 course which focuses on aspects of Human Pain. The project falls in week 4 of a 6 week on-line course and is linked to a unit exploring pharmaceutical pain relief measures. Current journal articles are referenced to support evidenced based clinical results.

Prelude

Class on-line lectures first consider analgesic pharmaceutical management of pain. Recommended dose, therapeutic actions, common side effects, drug/substance interactions, precautions and antidote are reviewed. Additionally, adjuvant analgesics are discussed.

Focus on concurrent Tylenol and alcohol consumption risks

Considering both Tylenol and alcohol are hepatotoxic, the FDA is considering several recommendations that would tighten up the rules for Tylenol consumption. Current journal literature publications, referenced in course content lectures, make points worthy of consideration.

TBL Project

Working in permanent teams of 4 students, members are asked to review the journal articles posted on Blackboard, then explore and discuss the “Tylenol and alcohol consumption” topic. The group will elect one member to post their conclusion responses to the forum questions.

After reviewing the initial discussion board forum posts, teams are asked to draw conclusions regarding the FDA’s current recommended daily Tylenol dose of 4 grams per 24 hours for individuals who consume more than 3 alcohol drinks daily.
ON-line Discussion Board Teamwork:

*One member will post the group’s insightful discussion board contributions.*

Forum #1  Acetaminophen and alcohol are metabolized in the liver. Byproducts of either metabolism can be harmful to the liver. Which scenario is potentially the most harmful and why?

a. Drinking a lot of alcohol in one session and taking a normal dose of Tylenol.
b. Heavy alcohol consumption (3 or more drinks daily) and a single large dose of Tylenol.
c. Heavy alcohol consumption (3 or more drinks daily) and a lot of Tylenol over several days.

Forum #2  Do you endorse the FDA’s task force recommendation to set a lower daily limit for Tylenol for people who routinely have three or more alcoholic drinks a day? Explain your reasoning.