



PHARMACEUTICS (BP103T)

UNIT 1

CASE STUDY PUZZLES

Case Study Puzzle 1: Confused Pharmacist

Scenario: A community pharmacist receives a prescription written by a newly graduated doctor. The prescription lacks the patient's age, date, and has two drugs with confusing abbreviations. One abbreviation could mean either 'once daily' or 'every other day'.

Puzzle Question: Identify the possible prescription errors here. What steps should the pharmacist take before dispensing? Relate this to parts of a valid prescription.

Case Study Puzzle 2: Pediatric Dilemma

Scenario: A 6-year-old child weighing 20 kg is prescribed paracetamol 500 mg tablet for fever. The standard adult dose is 500 mg every 6 hours.

Puzzle Question: Using both Young's rule (age-based) and Clark's rule (weight-based), calculate the correct pediatric dose. Is the prescribed dose safe?

Case Study Puzzle 3: Pharmacopoeia Confusion

Scenario: A manufacturing company is exporting cough syrups to the US and UK. During quality check, the product specifications are tested according to the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP). However, the consignment is rejected in the US.

Puzzle Question: Why might this rejection have occurred? Explain the role of IP, BP, and USP in standardization and why different pharmacopoeias matter in the pharmaceutical industry.

Case Study Puzzle 4: Overdose Incident

Scenario: An elderly patient with kidney impairment is prescribed a normal adult dose of an antibiotic. Within 2 days, signs of toxicity appear.

Puzzle Question: Discuss the factors affecting posology in this case. How could the dose have been adjusted? What precautions should prescribers take for geriatric patients?



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Case Study Puzzle 5: Dosage Form Challenge

Scenario: A rural health center must dispense an iron supplement to patients. Some patients are children, some are pregnant women, and some are elderly. The stock includes tablets, syrups, and injectable forms.

Puzzle Question: Which dosage form should be selected for each patient group and why? Relate your answer to advantages and limitations of dosage forms.