

Test your medicines knowledge



HEPARIN, INSULIN, WARFARIN AND ORAL METHOTREXATE ARE ALL HIGH-RISK MEDICINES. USED INCORRECTLY, THEY CAN CAUSE SERIOUS HARM TO PATIENTS.

Complete this quick quiz to test your knowledge and go into the draw to win a morning tea for your team worth \$100. There are four up for grabs; one winner from each region – South Island, Central, Midland and Northern. And we'll let you know which region got the most entries (population adjusted).

You can complete this quiz in one of three ways:

- circle the correct answers and post to: Communications, Health Quality & Safety Commission, PO Box 25496, Wellington 6146
- scan and email your entry to: communications@hqsc.govt.nz
- complete the quiz online at: www.open.hqsc.govt.nz/medication/medicines-knowledge-quiz.

Closing date for your entry is 30 April 2015.

Your name:

Your email address:

- 1. Heparin comes in a range of strengths, from 10 units per mL to 25,000 units per mL. True or False?**
True / False
- 2. You should store unusual strengths of heparin with other medicines so they can be easily accessed. True or False?**
True / False
- 3. Insulin doses should be documented as:**
 - a) units
 - b) mL
- 4. Who is usually the expert in managing their insulin?**
 - a) The patient's GP
 - b) Hospital clinicians
 - c) The patient themselves
- 5. How often is oral methotrexate usually taken?**
 - a) Twice a week
 - b) Once a week
 - c) Twice daily
- 6. What are the two methotrexate tablet strengths available?**
 - a) 5mg and 10mg
 - b) 2mg and 8mg
 - c) 2.5mg and 10mg
- 7. What should you do if you see oral methotrexate prescribed, dispensed, administered or taken daily?**
 - a) Have the patient monitored for adverse effects
 - b) Question why the patient is on daily methotrexate
 - c) Change or have the prescription changed
- 8. When using warfarin, which interactions can affect the INR? (you can choose more than one)**
 - a) Some antibiotics and antifungals
 - b) Products with gluten
 - c) Some over-the-counter and alternative medicines
 - d) Alcohol
 - e) Green leafy vegetables
 - f) Products containing egg

ANSWERS OVERLEAF

ANSWERS

1. True

Answer: Make sure you use the right strength of heparin.

2. False

Answer: Choosing the wrong strength of heparin could harm your patient. Store unusual strengths in a secure area.

3. a)

Answer: Always document an insulin dose as units and write units in full – don't use an abbreviation.

4. c)

Answer: Check with the patient when prescribing, administering or dispensing – unless they are new to insulin they are the expert in managing their diabetes

5. b)

Answer: Oral methotrexate is usually taken once a week. If you see it prescribed to be taken more frequently, question the prescriber in case an error has been made.

6. c)

Answer: 2.5mg and 10mg.

7. b)

Answers: Oral methotrexate is usually prescribed to be taken weekly. Question why the patient is on a daily dose. If the clinical indication is for a weekly dose, change or have the prescription changed and monitor for adverse effects.

8. a), c), d) and e)