

Cambridge English for Nursing

GLOSSARY

UNIT 6

Medications

Medical term		Definition	Translation
ampoule (amp)		a small glass vial that is used as a container for an injection solution	
cholesterol		substance found in animal tissues and some foods, that is synthesised by the liver and forms an important part of cell membranes	
controlled drug (CD)		a drug e.g. morphine, whose supply is strictly controlled by law	
contraindicated		to advised for use with a particular medicine or treatment because it is or might be harmful	
designated nurse		a nurse who is allocated a task, e.g. medication administration, to ensure maximum concentration on the task	
dose		specified amount of a medication	
to draw up (in a syringe)		withdraw an amount of fluid from a vial into the barrel of a syringe	
drug interaction		a reaction between drugs which may decrease or increase the desired effect of the drugs	
drug register		a book where nurses record and sign for the number of controlled drugs used in each ward or unit	
expiry date		the date after which the medication or IV fluid may not be therapeutic	
identity bracelet		A plastic wristband which records patient information and is worn whilst the patient is in hospital for identification, also called <i>patient armband</i>	
INR		International Normalised Ratio; a system which reports the results of blood clotting tests and is used when patients take anti-coagulant medication	
IM/IMI		Intramuscular injection; an injection which is given into the muscle	
liver disease		a disease which decreases liver function	
mane		in the morning	
metabolism		chemical process in the body which breaks down substances to make energy	
nocte		at night	
orally		by mouth	
over-the-counter (OTC) medication		medication which can be bought at a pharmacy without a prescription	
po		per os; by mouth	
route		the manner which a drug enters the body e.g. oral, rectal, IV	
self-medication		to administer medication to oneself without a doctor's prescription or advice	
side effects		unwanted effects of a medication	
subcutaneous		under the skin	