Maine Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Questions

1. Is counseling required when dispensing medications?

A. Yes, it must be conducted orally

B. No, written instructions are sufficient

C. Only for controlled substances

D. Yes, but could be done via email

2. Are pharmacies allowed to advertise the prices of controlled substances?

A. Yes, they can advertise any prices

B. No, it is prohibited by law

C. Yes, if the prices are under a certain limit

D. No, but only in specific states

3. What must the board do if they initiate a criminal investigation?

A. Notify the pharmacy immediately

B. Conduct an internal review first

C. Wait for a public complaint

D. Inform the Department of Attorney General

4. What is a common consequence of a civil violation by a pharmacist concerning prescription compounding?

A. License suspension

B. A fine ranging from $50 to $1,000

C. Criminal charges

D. Mandatory ethics training

5. Who can call for additional meetings of the Board of Pharmacy?

A. Any board member

B. The president or two-thirds of the board members

C. Only the governor

D. Only the secretary of the board

6. What must a pharmacist do if they are more than 90 days late in renewing their license?

A. They will automatically lose their license

B. They must submit late fees and may be treated as a new applicant

C. They must take another licensing exam

D. They can renew without further obligations

7. Who can obtain authority to handle dangerous substances?

A. Only pharmacists

B. Manufacturers and wholesalers only

C. Practitioners and wholesalers

D. Practitioners, drug jobbers, wholesalers, manufacturers, pharmacists, pharmacies, and animal shelters

8. Where can the 'dispense as written' information be found on Maine licenses?

A. At the top left corner of the license

B. On the back of the license

C. In the lower right-hand corner

D. In the main body of the license text

9. What needs to happen to adulterated drugs if someone is convicted for adulteration?

A. They can be sold at a discount

B. They must be forfeited and destroyed

C. They are returned to the seller

D. They must be sent to a special facility

10. What is required for someone to sell poisons?

A. A special permit from the health department

B. A bound book to record transactions

C. Certification from a pharmacist

D. A temperature-controlled storage environment

Answers

1. A
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. D
8. C
9. B
10. B

Explanations

1. Is counseling required when dispensing medications?

A. Yes, it must be conducted orally

B. No, written instructions are sufficient

C. Only for controlled substances

D. Yes, but could be done via email

Counseling is a critical component of the patient-pharmacist relationship and is mandated to ensure that patients understand their medications and how to use them safely and effectively. The correct answer indicates that counseling must be conducted orally, which reflects the standard practice for pharmacist-patient interactions. Oral counseling allows for immediate clarification of the patient's questions and concerns, which can help prevent medication errors and adverse effects. While written instructions can support counseling, they cannot replace the knowledge transfer that occurs during a face-to-face interaction where the pharmacist can assess the patient's understanding and address specific issues in real time. This is particularly important as medication regimens can be complex, and direct communication helps to ensure adherence and effectiveness. The requirement for counseling extends beyond just controlled substances; all prescriptions typically require counseling unless the patient refuses it. While some advancements in technology, like email communication, assist in providing information, they do not fulfill the essential aspects of direct patient interaction necessary for effective counseling. Overall, oral counseling remains a vital practice in pharmacy that enhances patient safety and medication management.

2. Are pharmacies allowed to advertise the prices of controlled substances?

A. Yes, they can advertise any prices

B. No, it is prohibited by law

C. Yes, if the prices are under a certain limit

D. No, but only in specific states

Pharmacies are prohibited by law from advertising the prices of controlled substances, primarily to ensure that the distribution and consumption of such medications are carefully managed and regulated. This prohibition helps prevent potential misuse, abuse, or improper self-medication with controlled substances, which are drugs that have a high potential for addiction or abuse. The advertising of these prices could contribute to a consumer perception that these medications are more accessible than they should be, undermining the safeguards in place intended to protect public health. Moreover, by restricting advertising of controlled substances, the law encourages patients to engage in open and informative dialogues with healthcare providers about their medication needs and alternatives, rather than making decisions based solely on price. This aligns with the overall pharmaceutical goal of promoting responsible prescribing practices and ensuring patient safety.

3. What must the board do if they initiate a criminal investigation?

A. Notify the pharmacy immediately

B. Conduct an internal review first

C. Wait for a public complaint

D. Inform the Department of Attorney General

When the board initiates a criminal investigation, it is required to inform the Department of Attorney General. This action is crucial because the Department of Attorney General is typically the body that prosecutes criminal cases and can provide legal guidance during the investigation process. Collaboration with this department ensures that the investigation follows legal protocols and that any findings can be addressed appropriately within the context of the law. The involvement of the Attorney General's office also helps in navigating any legal complexities that may arise, ensuring that the rights of all parties are protected and that the investigation is conducted fairly and thoroughly. This step typically precedes any further actions that the board may take concerning the pharmacy involved, such as notification or other procedural maneuvers.

4. What is a common consequence of a civil violation by a pharmacist concerning prescription compounding?

A. License suspension

B. A fine ranging from $50 to $1,000

C. Criminal charges

D. Mandatory ethics training

A fine ranging from $50 to $1,000 is often a common consequence for civil violations by a pharmacist, especially in issues concerning prescription compounding. Civil violations typically pertain to breaches of regulations that do not rise to the level of criminal conduct. In the case of a pharmacist, if a violation occurs during the compounding process—such as failing to adhere to proper standards of practice or regulations—regulatory agencies may impose monetary penalties as a way to enforce compliance without the necessity of pursuing criminal charges. Fines serve as a means of deterrence and can help reinforce the importance of adhering to established standards within the profession. In many jurisdictions, civil penalties are designed to address regulatory infractions without invoking harsher punishments associated with criminal actions, which often carry more severe consequences such as license suspension or criminal charges. This approach allows for corrective measures to be taken while still maintaining professional standards in the pharmacy practice setting. Mandatory ethics training could be a consideration for some violations, but fines are a more direct and common immediate consequence.

5. Who can call for additional meetings of the Board of Pharmacy?

A. Any board member

B. The president or two-thirds of the board members

C. Only the governor

D. Only the secretary of the board

The correct answer is that the president or two-thirds of the board members can call for additional meetings of the Board of Pharmacy. This provision ensures that there is a structured process for convening meetings, which is essential for maintaining the board's functionality and responsiveness to relevant issues in pharmacy practice and regulation. By allowing the president or a significant majority of members to initiate additional meetings, the board can ensure that important matters can be addressed without being hindered by a lack of quorum or a single point of failure. This promotes democratic participation and ensures that diverse perspectives are considered when decisions are made. Other options do not provide a mechanism that aligns with the need for collaborative governance. Allowing only any board member or a specific individual like the governor or the secretary to call meetings could limit the board's efficiency and responsiveness in addressing urgent regulatory or public health issues. Thus, the stipulation for the president or a two-thirds majority effectively balances the need for leadership with the inclusion of member input.

6. What must a pharmacist do if they are more than 90 days late in renewing their license?

A. They will automatically lose their license

B. They must submit late fees and may be treated as a new applicant

C. They must take another licensing exam

D. They can renew without further obligations

When a pharmacist is more than 90 days late in renewing their license, they must submit late fees and may be treated as a new applicant. This reflects the regulatory requirement that addresses the status of their licensing. If the renewal process is not completed within the specified time frame, the pharmacist's ability to practice may be jeopardized, necessitating additional measures to re-establish their licensure. By treating the late renewal as a new application process, the licensing board can ensure that the pharmacist meets current standards and requirements for practice. This helps maintain public safety and ensures that all licensed pharmacists are up to date with the latest regulations and practices. In contrast, other options suggest outcomes that do not accurately reflect the typical regulatory process for late renewals. For example, automatic loss of a license or renewal without obligations do not align with the structured approach regulatory boards take to maintain practice standards. Furthermore, the requirement to retake the licensing exam would apply only under specific circumstances not typically associated with late renewals, which is why those alternatives are not applicable here.

7. Who can obtain authority to handle dangerous substances?

A. Only pharmacists

B. Manufacturers and wholesalers only

C. Practitioners and wholesalers

D. Practitioners, drug jobbers, wholesalers, manufacturers, pharmacists, pharmacies, and animal shelters

The correct option indicates that a wide range of entities can obtain authority to handle dangerous substances, which is crucial for ensuring appropriate access and safety in the management of these materials. In this context, dangerous substances typically refer to controlled substances or those that require careful handling due to their potential for abuse or harm. Practitioners, including physicians and veterinarians, are allowed to handle dangerous substances as they need access to prescribe and administer these medications for patient care. Wholesalers and manufacturers are involved in the distribution and production of these substances, and therefore require authority to handle them in bulk. Pharmacists and pharmacies are also essential players, as they dispense medications directly to patients, ensuring that dangerous substances are managed responsibly. Additionally, animal shelters may need access to dangerous substances for the health and welfare of the animals in their care, which reflects an understanding of the broader responsibilities in public health and veterinary care. By including all these entities, the answer acknowledges the complexity of the healthcare system and the various roles that different professionals and organizations play in the handling of dangerous substances. Thus, the broad scope of the correct answer reflects regulatory practices designed to ensure that dangerous substances are managed by qualified individuals or entities, maintaining public safety and compliance with the law.

8. Where can the 'dispense as written' information be found on Maine licenses?

A. At the top left corner of the license

B. On the back of the license

C. In the lower right-hand corner

D. In the main body of the license text

The 'dispense as written' information is typically found in the lower right-hand corner of licenses issued in Maine. This specific placement ensures that important regulatory information is easily accessible and visible, aiding pharmacy professionals in adhering to statutory requirements. Including this notation in a consistent location allows for quick reference, which is crucial when handling prescriptions and ensuring compliance with state laws regarding medication dispensing. This practice helps pharmacists understand their obligations regarding the filling of prescriptions as per the doctor's directives. The clear marking also promotes adherence to patient safety and supports professional standards in pharmacy.

9. What needs to happen to adulterated drugs if someone is convicted for adulteration?

A. They can be sold at a discount

B. They must be forfeited and destroyed

C. They are returned to the seller

D. They must be sent to a special facility

When an individual is convicted of drug adulteration, the appropriate action is that the adulterated drugs must be forfeited and destroyed. Adulteration refers to the contamination or degradation of a drug that renders it unsuitable for its intended use, which poses a significant risk to public health and safety. Therefore, the law mandates that these drugs cannot remain in circulation as they can cause harm to patients. Forfeiture and destruction serve to eliminate any threat posed by these adulterated products, ensuring they do not enter the marketplace or otherwise be used inappropriately. This response is in line with maintaining regulatory standards and safeguarding the integrity of pharmaceuticals that are available to the public. Returning the drugs to the seller, allowing them to be sold at a discount, or sending them to a special facility would not adequately mitigate the risks associated with adulterated drugs and could potentially continue to endanger public health. Hence, the destruction of such drugs is vital in preventing any chance of their misuse.

10. What is required for someone to sell poisons?

A. A special permit from the health department

B. A bound book to record transactions

C. Certification from a pharmacist

D. A temperature-controlled storage environment

To sell poisons legally, the requirement of maintaining a bound book to record transactions is essential. This practice ensures proper documentation of sales, including details such as the names of the purchasers, quantities sold, and the specific poisons sold. Recording transactions is a fundamental regulatory measure to promote accountability and traceability, thereby supporting public safety and regulatory compliance. While permits from health departments or certifications from pharmacists might be relevant in specific contexts, they are not universally mandated for all sellers of poisons. Moreover, requiring a temperature-controlled storage environment, while important for certain chemical substances, is not a standard requirement for the sale of poisons generally. Thus, the obligation to keep a bound book stands out as a critical regulatory measure in the context of selling poisons.