

## Tips for Getting Your Best Score:

1. Review Conversions!
2. Review the practice problems provided!
3. Choose one way to work your dosage calculation problems and **STICK** with it! It doesn't matter what method works for you: formula (D/H x Q); ratio and proportion; or dimensional analysis. They all arrive at a correct answer.
4. Look for rounding instructions **IN** the problem. (for example: "Round to tenths place" or "Round to hundredths place").
5. Do not round any dosage numbers (mL, mg) until the **END** of the problem.
6. Weight conversions (Pounds to Kilograms) should be rounded immediately, before proceeding with the problem.
7. Round any number:
  - a. If greater than 1, round to the tenth.  $1.234 = 1.2$
  - b. If less than 1, round to the hundredth.  $0.567 = 0.57$
  - c. Incorrect rounding is an incorrect answer. For example 3.25 mL rounded is correctly rounded to 3.3 mL. An answer of 3.2 mL is incorrect.
8. IV flow rates in gtts/min are rounded to the nearest whole drop. For example 25.5 drops is rounded to 26 drops. (You can't count a fraction of a drop!!)
9. IV flow rates in mL/Hr can be rounded to tenths.  $35.65 = 35.7$  mL/hr
10. Leading and Trailing zeroes in your answer: [THIS IS A PATIENT SAFETY ISSUE!!]
  - a. ALWAYS place a leading 0 if the answer is a decimal without a whole number. For example .7 mL is written as 0.7 mL. Answers without a leading 0 are considered incorrect
  - b. NEVER include trailing 0. For example if the answer is 4.502 and you round to the nearest tenth, the correct answer is 4.5; NOT 4.50
11. Capsules: must be rounded to a whole number
12. Tablets: assume they are scored and round to the nearest HALF tablet.