**Unit 7 Chapter 19 Medicines and Drugs**

**Medicines-** are drugs that are used to treat or prevent diseases or other conditions.

**Drugs-** are substances other than food that change the structure or function of the body or mind.

**Vaccines-**a preparation that prevents a person from contracting a specific disease. These contain weakened or dead pathogens that cause the disease. When injected into the body they produce antibodies that fight those pathogens. Your body will then produce memory cells that recall how to make the antibodies providing you with long lasting protection.

**Antitoxins-** like vaccines these prevent disease. They can help to counteract the effect of a toxin. These fight the bacteria that produce substances toxic to the body.

**Antibiotics-** class of drug that destroys disease-causing microorganisms called bacteria. Antibiotics such as penicillin work by killing harmful bacteria in the body or by preventing bacteria from reproducing.

**Antivirals/ Antifungals-** antibiotics are effective only against bacteria. They do not cure illnesses causes by viruses Antiviral drugs are available to treat some viral illnesses such as the flu. These medicines suppress the virus, but do not kill it. A person may take antiviral medication for cold sores or fever blisters caused by viruses, will still have the virus in their body. As a result, the person will often have symptom free periods followed by flare-ups when symptoms reappear. Like bacteria viruses can develop a resistance to medications. Fungi are another type of pathogen that can infect the body. Antifungals can suppress or fill fungus cells like athlete’s foot and ringworm.

**Analgesics-** pain relievers. Can range from aspirin which is relatively mild to strong narcotics like opium based morphine and codeine. Aspirin is used to relieve pain and reduce fever. Others can fight inflammation, redness, swelling, or pain. Narcotics can be addictive and require a doctor’s prescription. Patients who use these drugs can become physically or psychologically dependent on them.

**Allergy Medicines-** antihistamines reduce allergy symptoms like sneezing, itchy or watery eyes, and a runny nose.

**Oral Medication-** taken by the mouth in the form of capsules, tablets, or liquids.

**Topical medicines-** applied to the skin.

**Inhaled Medication-** like asthma medicines they are delivered in a fine mist or powder.

**Injected Medication-** delivered by a shot and go directly into the bloodstream.

**Additive Interaction-** occurs when medicines work together in a positive way. EX someone with joint pain my receive anti-inflammatory and a muscle relaxer.

**Synergistic effect-** the interaction of two or more medicines that results in a greater effect than when each medicine is taken alone.

**Antagonistic Reaction-** occurs when the effect of one medicine is canceled or reduced when taken by another medicine. EX: anti-rejection medicines may decrease effectiveness of insulin.

**Tolerance-** condition in which the body becomes used to the effect of a medicine.

**Withdrawal-** occurs when a person stops using a medicine in which a person becomes physiologically dependent

**Prescription medicines-** are medicines that are dispensed only with the written approval of a licensed physician or nurse practitioner.

**Over the counter (OTC) medicines-** or medicines you can buy without a doctor’s prescription.

**Medicine Misuse-**involves using a medicine in ways other than intended use.

**Medicine abuse-** intentionally taking medications for nonmedical reasons

**Drug overdose-** a strong sometimes fatal reaction to taking a large amount of a drug.