

CDC 4P051B

Pharmacy Journeyman

Supplementary Material for Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4

Glossary



Extension Course Institute

Air University

Air Education and Training Command

Glossary of Terms

Accreditation	The process by which an agency or organization evaluates and recognizes a program of study or an institution as meeting predetermined qualifications.
Achlorhydia	Absence of hydrochloric acid in the stomach.
Active transport	Movement of drug molecules against a concentration gradient, i.e., from an area of low concentration to an area of higher concentration.
Acute illness	An illness with severe symptoms and of short duration.
Administer	Give a patient medication, once it is checked for accuracy.
Administration (or route of administration)	Refers to how a drug or therapy is introduced into the body. Systemic administration means that the drug goes throughout the body (usually carried in the bloodstream), and includes oral administration (by mouth) and intravenous administration (injection into the vein). Local administration means that the drug is applied or introduced into a specific area affected by disease, e.g., application directly onto the affected skin surface (topical administration). The effects of most therapies depend upon the ability of the drug to reach the affected area, thus the route of administration and consequent distribution of a drug in the body is an important determinant of its effectiveness.
Admixture	Term used to denote one or more active ingredients in a large-volume parenteral solution.
Adverse drug reaction	Any unexpected, obvious change in a patient's condition that the physician suspects may be due to a drug.
Aerosol	Finely nebulized medication for inhalation therapy.
Aerosolization	Producing an aerosol.
Alkaloid	A nitrogenous basic substance found in plants or synthetic substances with structures similar to plant structures, e.g., atropine, caffeine, morphine.
Allergy	A disorder in which the body becomes hypersensitive to a particular antigen (called an allergen).
Allopathy	Treatment of diseases with drugs that cause the opposite effect, e.g., antipyretics to reduce fever.
Ambulatory care	Care provided to persons who do not require either an acute (hospital) or chronic care (skilled nursing facility) setting.

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)	A national organization established in 1942. Includes pharmacists in various institutional health care settings. Presently contains a section for pharmacy technicians.
Aminoglycosides	A chemical compound that is present in a number of antibiotics, some of which are derived from microorganisms while others are produced synthetically.
Ampule	A small glass container that can be sealed and its contents sterilized. This is a French invention for containing hypodermic solutions.
Analgesic	An agent that relieves pain without causing loss of consciousness, e.g., codeine.
Angina pectoris	Severe pain and a sensation of constriction about the heart. The condition is caused by a relative deficiency of oxygen supply to the heart muscle.
Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE)	Helps inhibit the renal mechanism for blood elevation.
Anhydrous	Containing no water.
Anionic	Carrying a negative charge.
Antagonist	A drug that opposes the action of another drug or natural body chemical.
Antianginal	An agent used to treat angina pectoris. During attack, patient inhales amyl nitrate or uses nitroglycerin sublingually. Nitroglycerin may be administered using transdermal patches. Beta blocking drugs, such as propranolol, are effective in treating angina but their side effects may make it necessary to discontinue the drug. Calcium channel blockers such as nifedipine, verapamil, or diltiazem are used in treating angina.
Antiarrhythmic	An agent that restores normal heart rhythm.
Antibiotic	A medication that is derived from living cells or synthetic compounds and is antagonistic to other forms of life, especially bacteria; a soluble substance derived from a mold or bacterium that inhibits the growth of other organisms and is used to combat disease and infection.
Anticholinergic	A drug that blocks the passage of impulses through parasympathetic nerve fibers.
Antidote	A remedy for counteracting a poison.

Antiemetics	An agent that prevents or relieves nausea and vomiting.
Antifungal	An agent that destroys or inhibits the growth of fungi.
Antihypertensive	An agent that reduces blood pressure.
Antimicrobial	An agent that destroys or prevents the development of microorganisms.
Antineoplastic agent	An agent that prevents the development, growth, or proliferation of malignant cells. Chemotherapy agent or cancer drug.
Antiseptic	A substance used to destroy pathogenic organisms.
Antitussive	An agent that prevents or relieves coughing. Central acting antitussives are agents that depress the medullary centers, thus suppressing the cough reflex.
Antiviral	Opposing the action of a virus.
Apothecary	Early American or European term for a pharmacist.
Apparent volume of distribution	The apparent volume of plasma that would be required to account for all the drug(s) in the body; rarely corresponds to a real volume space in the body.
Arrhythmia	Any deviation from normal heartbeat.
Arteriosclerosis	Disorder characterized by thickening, loss of elasticity, and calcification of the walls of the arteries.
Arthroscope	An endoscope for examining the interior of a joint.
Aseptic	A condition in which there are no living microorganisms; free from infection.
Bacteriostatic	Inhibiting the growth of bacteria.
Backup systems	Alternate procedures in the event a computer system should fail.
Bar coding	A series of vertical bars and spaces of varying thickness and heights to represent information.
Basicity	The power of an acid to react with bases, dependent on the number of replaceable hydrogen atoms of the acid.
Beta blocker	A drug that selectively blocks beta receptors in the autonomic nervous system.
Bile	A fluid secreted by the liver.
Bile salts	Naturally occurring surface active agents secreted by the gall bladder into the small intestine.

Bioavailability	The rate and extent to which an active drug or metabolite enters the general circulation, thereby permitting access to the site of action. Bioavailability is determined either by measuring the concentration of a drug in body fluids or by the magnitude of the pharmaceutical response.
Biodegradable	Can be broken down by living organisms.
Bioengineered therapies	The process used in the manufacture of therapeutic agents through recombinant DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) technology.
Bioequivalent	The property of having the same biological effects of that to which a medicine was compared.
Biological equivalents	Those chemical equivalents that, when administered in the same amounts, provide the same biological or physiological availability.
Biological fluids	Includes blood, serum, plasma, lymph, etc.
Biologicals	General term applied to medicinal compounds that are prepared from living organisms and their products. Includes serums, vaccines, antigens, and antitoxins.
Biopharmaceutics	The branch of pharmaceutics that concerns itself with the relationship between physiochemical properties of a drug in a dosage form, and the pharmacologic, toxicologic, or clinical responses observed after drug administration.
Biotechnology	The application of biological systems and organisms to technical and industrial processes.
Biotransformation	The chemical alterations that a substance undergoes in the body.
Blending	Mixing.
Blister packages	Cardboard and plastic material that is heat-sealed to individually package medication.
Botany	The science of plants, including structure, functions of parts, and classification.
Brand name drugs	Drugs that are research-developed, patented, manufactured, and distributed by a drug firm.
Buccal	Relating to the cheek. A buccal medicine is taken by placing it in the cheek pocket and letting it slowly dissolve.
Budget	The projected costs allocated on a yearly basis for personnel, supplies, construction, and operating expenses.
Buffer	Offers a resistance to pH change.

Candida	A yeast organism that normally lives in the intestines but can flourish in other parts of the body at times of immune suppression.
Caplet	A tablet shaped like a capsule.
Capsule	A soluble container enclosing medicine.
Cardiotonic	An agent that has the effect of producing or restoring normal heart activity.
Carminative	A medicine that relieves stomach/intestinal gas.
Cataract	Loss of transparency of the lens of the eye.
Cathartic	An agent that causes bowel evacuation.
Catheter	A tubular device used for the drainage or injection of fluids through a body passage. Catheters are made of silicone, rubber, plastic, or other materials.
Cationic	Carrying a positive charge.
Central processing unit (CPU)	The unit of a computer that accomplishes the processing or execution of given calculations or instructions.
Centralized system	A system of distribution in which all functions, processing, preparation, and distribution occur in a main area, e.g., the main pharmacy.
Chemical equivalents	Those multiple-source drug products that contain identical amounts of the identical active ingredient in identical dosage forms.
Chemotherapy	The treatment of an illness with chemicals; commonly refers to the treatment of malignancy with agents that are cytotoxic, i.e., a medication that kills cells; more specifically, use of chemicals to treat cancer.
Cholinergic	A drug that is stimulated, activated, or transmitted by acetylcholine.
Chronic illness	A disturbance in health that persists for a long time, usually one showing little change or slow progression over time.
Clinical	Involving direct observation of the patient.
Clinical pharmacokinetics	That branch of pharmaceuticals that deals with the application of pharmacokinetics to the safe and effective therapeutic management of a patient.
Clinical pharmacy	Patient-oriented pharmacy practice that is concerned with health care through rational drug use.

Clinical pharmacy practice	The application of knowledge about drugs and drug therapy to the care and treatment of patients.
Commission on credentialing	The body appointed to formulate and recommend standards and administer programs for accreditation of pharmacy personnel training programs.
Computer	A programmable electronic device used to store, process, or communicate information.
Computer system	A combination of hardware and software working together to perform specific functions.
Conjunctiva	Delicate mucous membrane covering the front of the eye and the inside of the eyelid.
Contaminated	Unclean; microorganisms introduced into an area where they had not previously been present.
Contraindicate	To indicate against; to indicate the inappropriateness of a form of treatment or a drug for a specific disease.
Control	Any method used to eliminate or reduce the potential harm of the medication distributed.
Control documents	Forms, such as records, sheets, logs, or checklists, that track conformance with established standards in order to reduce the likelihood of an error or negative outcome.
Controlled substances	Drugs controlled by the federal and/or state Drug Enforcement Administration which can produce dependence or be abused, e.g., narcotics, select psychotropics, steroids, etc.
Controlled Substances Act	Federal law regulating the manufacture, distribution, and sale of drugs that have the potential for abuse.
Counter balance	A double-pan balance capable of weighing relatively large quantities.
Counterirritant	An agent, such as mustard plaster, that is applied locally to produce an inflammatory reaction for the purpose of affecting some other part of the body, usually adjacent to or underlying the surface irritated.
Cream	Water-based semisolid external dosage form.
Criteria	A set of statements that define quality.
Cytotoxics	Chemical agents that kill cells or stop cell division.
Data entry	The input function that involves recording, coding, or converting data to a form that a computer can recognize.

Decentralized system	A system of distribution where all functions (processing, preparation, and distribution) occur on or near the nursing unit, e.g., satellite pharmacy.
Deionized	Ions have been removed from a substance, thus producing a substance free of minerals.
Density	Weight per unit volume.
Dermatological	Referring to the skin and its diseases.
Dextran	A polysaccharide. It is available in various molecular weights and is used as a plasma volume expander.
Diabetes mellitus	A metabolic disorder in which fault pancreatic activity decreases the oxidation of carbohydrates.
Diagnosis	The determination of the nature of a disease or symptom through physical examination and clinical testing.
Diagnostic equipment	Articles or implements used to detect physical conditions that may be related to disease or biological changes; usually used at home by one patient.
Didactic instruction	Formalized, structured, lecture-type education program.
Diluent	An agent that dilutes the substance or solution to which it is added.
Disinfectant	A substance used to destroy pathogens; generally used on objects rather than on humans.
Dispensing	The process of preparing, checking, and delivering prescribed medication and associated information. This process must be under the supervision of a pharmacist.
Dissolution	The act of dissolving.
Diuresis	Increased excretion of urine.
Diuretic	An agent that causes an increase in the excretion of urine.
Dosage	The determination and regulation of the size, frequency, and number of doses.
Dosage forms	The various pharmaceutical forms whereby drugs are made available, e.g., capsules, patches, injections, etc.
Dosage schedule	The frequency, interval, and length of time a medicine is to be given.
Dosage strength	The quantity of a drug in a given dosage form.
Dose	A quantity of a drug or radiation to be given at one time.
Drug	Any substance to treat or prevent disease.

Drug disposition	All processes that occur to a drug after absorption and that can be subdivided into distribution and elimination.
Drug distribution	The process of reversible transfer of a drug to and from the site of measurement, usually the blood.
Drug elimination	The irreversible loss of a drug from the site of measurement, usually subdivided into metabolism and/or excretion.
Drug formulary	A list of medicinal agents, selected by the medical staff, considered to be the most useful in patient care.
Drug information	Information about drugs and the effects of drugs on people, the provision of which is a part of each pharmacy's practice.
Drug label	Information placed on a drug container that includes data required by drug regulations.
Drug misadventures	What can go wrong in the "therapeutic adventure" of using a medication. Drug misadventures encompass errors in prescribing judgment, system errors in the process of bringing drug products to the ultimate users, and idiosyncratic (individual and unusual sensitivity that is not dose-related) responses to medication.
Drug order	A course of medication therapy ordered by the prescriber in an organized health care setting.
Drug recalls	Voluntary recall of a drug because of a health hazard potential.
Drug regimen review	Process to provide appropriate drug therapy for patients as part of the health care team.
Drugs of choice	The preferred or best drug therapy that can be prescribed for a specific disease state, based upon majority medical opinion.
Drug-use control	The system of knowledge, understanding, judgments, procedures, skills, controls, and ethics that assures optimal safety in the distribution and use of medication.
Drug-use process	The series of steps necessary to move a drug product from purchase to patient use.
Duodenum	That area of the small intestine that is the first 25 cm after the stomach; responsible for significant drug absorption.
Dyscrasias	Diseases.
Elastomer	An elastic-type substance.
Electrolytes	Naturally occurring ions in the body that play an essential role in cellular function, in maintaining fluid balance, and in establishing acid-base balance; an ionizable substance in solution, e.g., sodium, potassium chloride.

Electronic mail	A form of transmitting, storing, and distributing text in electronic form via a communications network.
Emesis	Clinical term for vomiting.
Emetic	An agent that causes vomiting.
Emulsifying agent	A substance used in preparing an emulsion.
Endogenously	Originating within the organism.
Endophthalmitis	Inflammation of the inside of the eye that may or may not be limited to a particular chamber.
Enteral	Within or by way of the intestine.
Enteric coated tablet	A special tablet coating that prevents the release of a drug until it enters the intestine.
Enterohepatic cycling	Drug taken up by the bile, secreted into the small intestine, and may be reabsorbed back to the blood.
Epidemic	A disease that attacks many people in the same region at the same time.
Etiology	The study of all the factors that may be involved in the development of disease.
Excipients	Pharmacologically inert, adhesive substances such as honey, syrup, or gum arabic used to bind the contents of a pill or tablet.
Excretion	The process whereby the undigested residue of food and the waste products of metabolism are eliminated.
Expectorant	A substance that promotes the ejection of mucus or an exudate from the lungs, bronchi, and trachea.
Extemporaneous	Prepared at the time it is required, with materials on hand.
Extended release capsules/tablets	Capsules or tablets that are formulated in such a way as to gradually release a drug over a predetermined time period.
Extraocular	Outside the eye.
Extravasation	The escape of fluids into the surrounding tissue.
Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act	The federal statute through which the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) promulgates its rules and regulations.
First pass effect	Metabolism of a drug by the gut or liver after oral absorption but before the drug has made one pass through the systemic circulation.
Fluid extract	A liquid preparation of a herb containing alcohol as a solvent or preservative.

Floor stock	Medications provided to the nursing unit for administration to the patient by the nurse. The nurse is responsible for preparation and administration.
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Promulgates rules and regulations to ensure public safety regarding drug products.
Galenical	A standard preparation containing one or several organic ingredients, e.g., elixir.
Gargle	A substance used to rinse or medicate the mucous membrane of the throat and mouth.
Generic drugs	Drugs labeled by their "official" name and manufactured by a drug firm after the original patent expires.
Genotoxic	Toxic to the genetic material in cells.
Glycoside	Compound containing a sugar molecule, e.g., digitalis.
Gluteal	Pertaining to the buttocks.
Habituation	Acquired tolerance for a drug.
Health care delivery	Organized programs developed to provide physical, mental, and emotional health care in institutions for home-bound and ambulatory patients.
Health maintenance organization (HMO)	A prepaid health insurance plan that provides comprehensive health care for subscribers, with emphasis on the prevention and early detection of disease and continuity of care. HMOs are either not-for-profit or for-profit, are designated as either an independent practice association (IPA) or a staff model, and are often owned and operated by insurance carriers. HMOs were developed as a means to control health care delivery, access, and cost.
Hemodialysis	Procedure by which impurities or wastes are removed from the blood.
Hemolysis	The destruction of red blood cells with the liberation of hemoglobin, which diffuses into the surrounding fluid.
Herb	A leafy plant used as a healing remedy or a flavoring agent.
Heterogeneous	Of unlike natures; composed of unlike substances. Opposite of homogeneous.
High efficiency particulate air (HEPA)	Used in laminar flow hoods.

Homeostasis	A tendency toward stability in the internal body environment; a state of equilibrium.
Homogeneous	Uniform in structure, composition, or nature. Opposite of heterogeneous.
Hormone	A chemical substance, produced by cells or an organ, that has a specific regulatory effect in the body.
Hospital	A network of health care services for treatment, care of the sick, study of disease, therapy, and the training of health care professionals.
Hospital information systems (HIS)	Systems that integrate information from many parts of the hospital.
Humor	A fluid or semifluid substance in the body; originally phlegm, blood, or bile, for example, aqueous humor is the fluid produced in the eye (not tears).
Hydroalcoholic	Mixture of water and alcohol.
Hydrolysis	Any reaction in which water is one of the reactants.
Hydrophilic	Water-loving.
Hydrophilic drug molecules	Drug molecules that are polar and water-loving.
Hydrophobic drugs	Drugs whose molecules are nonpolar and lipid-loving or water-hating.
Hygroscopic	Absorbing moisture readily.
Hyperalimentation	The enteral and parenteral infusion of a solution that contains sufficient amino acids, glucose (dextrose), fatty acids, electrolytes, vitamins, and minerals to sustain life, maintain normal growth and development, and provide for needed tissue repair. Also known as TPN (total parenteral nutrition).
Hypersensitivity	Excessive response of the immune system to a sensitizing antigen.
Hypertension	Also called “high blood pressure.” Blood pressure (in the arteries/ blood vessels) that is higher than normal for the patient’s age group. Hypertension often shows no outward signs or symptoms but may lead to a number of serious health problems.
Hypertonic	Having a higher osmotic pressure than a compared solution. Pertaining to a solution of higher osmotic pressure than another.

Hypoglycemic agent	A drug that lowers the level of glucose in the blood; used primarily by diabetics.
Hypolipodemic agent	An agent to reduce lipids (fat) in the blood.
Hypometabolic	Low basic metabolic rate.
Hypotonic	A solution of lower osmotic pressure than that of a reference solution or of an isotonic solution.
Ideal drug therapy	Safe, effective, timely, and cost-conscious medication use.
Immiscible	Pertaining to that which cannot be mixed, as oil and water.
Immunity	The condition of being resistant to a particular disease, e.g., polio.
Immunomodulators	Agents that adjust the immune system to a desired level.
Immunosuppressant	Medicine that reduces the body's natural immunity.
Incompatibility	Lack of compatibility; an undesirable effect when two or more substances are mixed together.
Inert	Not active; sluggish. In chemistry, having little or no tendency or ability to react with other chemicals.
Infection	The state or condition in which the body (or part of it) is invaded by an agent (microorganism or virus) that multiplies and produces an injurious effect (active infection).
Infection control	The use of appropriate procedures and education to minimize the transfer of infections from one to another.
Infusion	The introduction of a solution into a vein by gravity or by an infusion control device or a pump.
Injection	The introduction of a fluid substance into the body by means of a needle and syringe.
Inoculum	Microorganism or other material introduced into a system.
Input devices	Include keyboards, light pens, optical scanners, bar code readers.
Institutional pharmacy	Pharmacy services provided in hospitals, nursing homes, health maintenance organizations, prisons, mental retardation facilities, or other settings wherein groups of patients are provided formal, structured pharmacy programs.
Intoxication	State of being poisoned by a drug or being inebriated with alcohol.
Intraocular	Within the eyeball.
Intravenous (IV)	Within a vein; administering drugs or fluids directly into the vein to obtain a fast or complete effect from the drug.

Intravitreal	Pertaining to the vitreous of the eye.
Inventory	A complete listing of the exact amounts of all the drugs in stock at a particular time.
Investigational drugs	Drugs that have not received approval for marketing by the Food and Drug Administration.
Iontophoresis	Use of an electric current to cause an ionized drug to pass through the skin into the system circulation.
Isotonic	Having the osmotic pressure.
Isotonicity	The state or condition of being isotonic.
Keratitis	Inflammation of the cornea, with is usually associated with decreased visual acuity.
Lacrimal	Pertaining to tears.
Lacrimal fluids	Tears.
Leaching	Effect of removing a soluble substance from a solution.
Levigation	Mixing of particles with a base vehicle, in which they are insoluble, to produce a smooth dispersion of the drug by rubbing with a spatula on a tile.
Lipophil	Absorbing fat or having an affinity for fat.
Lipophilic	Lipid loving.
Liposome	A small membrane that entraps and later releases an active ingredient.
Local area networks (LAN)	Permit different systems (mainframe, minicomputers, and microcomputers), as well as computers made by different manufacturers, to communicate and share data.
Long-term care	Health care provided in an organized medical facility for patients requiring chronic or extended treatment.
Long-term care facility	Facility for individuals who do not need hospital care but are in need of a wide range of medical, nursing, and related health and social services.
Lotions	Liquid preparations intended for external application.
Luer-lok syringe	A syringe made to permit rapid and firm attachment of a needle.
Mainframe	The largest, most powerful type of computer system; is able to service many users at once and process several programs simultaneously; has large primary and secondary storage capacities.

Malaria	An infectious fever-producing disease transmitted by infected mosquitoes.
<i>Materia medica</i>	The branch of pharmacy that deals with drugs and their source, preparation, and use.
Materials management	The division of a hospital pharmacy responsible for the procurement, control, storage, and distribution of drugs and pharmaceutical products.
Matrix management	An organizational concept that emphasizes the interrelationship between departments and the common area of decision making.
Medication administration record (MAR)	The document used by the nursing department to chart the medication administered to a patient.
Medium	Solvent used in dissolution testing.
Meniscus	The outer surface of a liquid having a concave or crescent shape caused by surface tension.
Metabolism	The conversion of one chemical specified to another in the body.
Micronized drug particles	Very small drug particles that have a diameter in the smallest size range.
Microorganism	A microscopic plant or animal.
Milling	Reducing the particle size.
Minicomputer, microcomputer, or personal computer system	System used for well-defined and specialized applications.
Mnemonic codes	Short entries that are easy to remember and represent a longer instruction used to assist in the entry of data.
Moiety	A part of a molecule that exhibits a particular set of chemical and pharmacologic characteristics.
Mucosa	A mucous membrane or the moist tissue layer that lines a hollow organ or body cavity.
Mutagen	An agent that causes genetic mutations. Many medicines, chemicals, and physical agents such as ionizing radiations and ultraviolet light have this ability.
Narcotic antagonists	Agents that oppose or overcome the effects of a narcotic.

Nasogastric tube	A tube that is inserted through the nose, down the throat, and into the stomach so that medicine, food, or nutrients may be administered to patients who cannot swallow.
Nasolacrimal	Pertaining to the nose and lacrimal apparatus.
Nebulizer	Instrument that applies liquid in the form of a fine spray.
Negligence	Breach of an ordinary duty of care that is owed by one person to another.
Nomogram	Representation, by graphs, diagrams, or charts, of the relationship between numerical variables.
Nosocomial	A disease or infection originating in the hospital.
Objective	The purpose or goal toward which effort is directed.
Ointment	Oil-based, semisolid, external dosage form, usually containing a medicine substance.
Oleaginous	Resembling or having the properties of oil.
Oncogenic	Giving rise to tumors, especially malignant tumors.
Oncology	The study or knowledge of tumors; commonly refers to the study of cancer and related diseases.
One-compartment model	The simplest case in pharmacokinetics in which the body is thought to behave as a single homogeneous compartment.
Operation manual	Lists only those policies and procedures that affect the internal working of the pharmacy department.
Osteoporosis	Disorder characterized by abnormal porosity of bone, usually in older women.
Outcome competency	The measurable, desired ability, knowledge, and skill achieved upon completion of a program.
Output devices	Include video display terminals (CDT), cathode ray tubes (CRT), printers, and plotters.
Otic	Relating to the ear.
Pandemic	A global epidemic disease.
Parenteral	(1) Denoting any medication route other than the alimentary canal, such as intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, or mucosal. (2) A sterile, injectable medication; introduction of a drug or nutrient into a vein, a muscle, subcutaneous tissue, an artery, or the spinal column; often refers to intravenous infusions of nutritional solutions.

Passive diffusion	Movement of drug molecules from an area of high concentration to one of a lower concentration.
Pathology	Study of characteristics, causes, and effects of disease.
Patient package insert	An informational leaflet written for the lay public describing the benefits and risks of medications.
Patient profile	A document that is used to incorporate patient information, allergies, sensitivities, and all medications the patient is receiving, both active and discontinued.
Patient's Bill of Rights	A declaration ensuring that all patients (inpatients, outpatients, and emergency service patients) are afforded their rights in a health care institution.
Peptides	A compound of two or more amino acids.
Percutaneous	Through the skin.
Periocular	Located around the eye.
Peripheral devices	Send information to a computer for processing and receive information from the CPU once the data has been processed.
Pharmaceutical alternatives	Drug products that contain the same therapeutic moiety and strength but differ in the salt, ester, or dosage form.
Pharmaceutical care	The responsible provision of drug therapy to achieve definite outcomes that improve a patient's quality of life.
Pharmaceutical services	Focus on rational drug therapy; includes the essential administrative, clinical, and technical functions to meet this goal.
Pharmaceutics	That part of the pharmaceutical sciences that deals with the chemical, physical, and physiological properties of drugs, dosage forms, and drug-delivery systems.
Pharmacist	A person who has (1) completed five, six, or seven years of formal education in a pharmacy school, and (2) is licensed to prepare and distribute drugs and counsel on the use of medication in the state in which he or she practices.
Pharmacognosy	The study of the biologic and biochemical features of natural drugs.
Pharmacokinetics	Study of the metabolism and action of drugs with particular emphasis on the time required for absorption, duration of action, distribution in the body, and method of excretion.
Pharmacology	The science that deals with the origin, nature, chemistry, effects, and uses of drugs.

Pharmacopoeia	An authoritative treatise on drugs and their purity, preparation, and standards.
Pharmacotherapy	Use of medicine in treatment of disease.
Pharmacy	The professional practice of discovering, preparing, dispensing, monitoring, and educating about drugs.
Pharmacy mission	To help people make the best use of medication.
Pharmacy service	(1) The procurement, distribution, and control of all pharmaceuticals used within the facility; (2) the evaluation and dissemination of comprehensive information about drugs and their use; and (3) the monitoring, evaluation, and assurance of the quality of drug use.
Phlebitis	Inflammation of a vein.
Phlegm	Viscous mucus secreted orally.
Physician	An authorized practitioner of medicine.
Physician assistant	An authorized practitioner of medicine who works under the responsible supervision of a licensed physician.
Piggyback	Refers to small-volume IV solution (25–250 mL) that is run into an existing IV line over a brief period of time, e.g., 50 mL over fifteen minutes.
Pill	A small globular or oval medicated mass intended for oral administration.
Pipette	Narrow glass tube with both ends open for transferring and measuring liquids by sucking them into the tube.
Pneumatic tube	A method of sending medication orders through the hospital by placing it in a “tube” and sending it to a dispatcher who then forwards it to a specific location.
Podiatrist	A specialist in foot care.
Poison Prevention Packaging Act	Federal law mandating special packaging requirements that make it difficult for children under the age of five to open a package or container.
Policy	A defined course to guide and determine present and future decisions; established by an organization or employer that guide the employee to act in a manner consistent with management philosophy.
Polymer	A high-molecular-weight substance made up of identical base units.

Polymorphic state	A condition in which a substance occurs in more than one crystalline form.
Polyurethanes	Substances sometimes used for linkage in elastomers.
Postoperatively	Following surgical operation.
Preferred provider organization (PPO)	An insurance plan that provides comprehensive health care through contracted providers.
Preferred vendor	The drug firm selected as the wholesaler.
Prescriber	A person in health care who is permitted by law to order drugs that legally require a prescription; includes physicians, physician assistants, podiatrists, dentists, and nurse practitioners.
Prescription	Permission granted orally or in writing from a prescriber for a patient to receive a certain medication on an outpatient basis that will help relieve or eliminate the patient's problem.
Preservatives	Substances used to prevent the growth of microorganisms.
Prime vendor	Drug wholesaler who contracts directly with hospital pharmacies for the purpose of their high-volume pharmaceuticals.
Procedures	Guidelines on the preferred way to perform a certain function; particular actions to be taken to carry out a policy.
Product line management	An organization concept that emphasizes the end product or category of services being delivered.
Programs	Instructions for a computer.
Propellant	A substance used to help expel the contents of a pressurized container.
Prophylaxis	Prevention of or protection against disease.
Pro res natum (PRN)	Drug to be given as needed when a clinical situation arises.
Proteins	Macromolecules consisting of amino acids.
Psychiatric	Relating to the medical treatment of mental disorders.
Psychotropic	A drug used to treat mental and emotional disorders.
Purified protein derivative (PPD)	Skin test for tuberculosis.
Pyrogen	Any substance that produces fever.
Quality assurance	A method of monitoring actual versus desired results in an effort to assure a certain level of quality that meets predetermined criteria.

Quality assurance program	A format that elaborates special basic quality assurance steps.
Quality of life	A meaningful life for the patient at the optimum level of functioning for as long as possible.
Quality standards	The minimum results needed to achieve a desired level of quality.
Radiopaque	Having the property of absorbing x-rays.
Reconstitute	Adding a sterile solvent to a sterile active ingredient for injectable purposes. This procedure can also be used for oral purposes.
Rectal	Relating to the rectum.
Refractory	Unresponsive.
Retrobulbar	Behind the eyeball.
Rule of three	The process of pharmacy personnel checking a medication being prepared and dispensed three times before it is administered to a patient.
Satellite pharmacy	Where distribution occurs from a decentralized pharmacy. A satellite usually handles all the needs of the units or sections for which it is responsible.
Scanners	Optical recognition devices that read preprinted characters or codes.
Secondary storage	Data and programs maintained on tapes or discs.
Semipermeable	Half permeable; said of a membrane that will allow fluids, but not the dissolved substance, to pass through it.
Sepsis	Presence of pathogenic organisms in the blood.
Soft copy	Visual display units.
Software	The actual programs for a computer system.
Solution	A homogeneous mixture of one or more substances dispersed in a dissolving solvent; clear liquid with all components completely dissolved.
Solution balance	Single unequal arm balance used for weighing large amounts.
Solvate	A compound formed by the reaction between a solvent and solute.
Solvation	Process by which a solute is incorporated into a solvent.
Stability	A condition that resists change; for example, a drug maintains potency.

Standard	A reference to be used in evaluating institutional programs and services.
Standard of care	The acceptable level of professional practice that exists by which the actions of a professional are judged.
Standards of practice	Rules that are established for a profession that represent the preferred way to practice.
Staphylococcus (plural staphylococci)	Microorganism of the family <i>micrococcaceae</i> that is the most common cause of localized suppurative infections.
Sterile	Free from microorganisms.
Stop order	Stop medication. An automatic stop order requires a prescriber's renewal order or the medication should be discontinued.
Subconjunctival	Beneath the conjunctiva.
Subcutaneously	Under the skin; introduced beneath the skin (e.g., subcutaneous injections).
Sudorific	A substance that causes sweating; also called a <i>diaphoretic</i> .
Suppositories	Solid dosage forms for insertion into body cavities (e.g., rectum, vagina, urethra) where they melt at body temperature.
Surface active agents	Substances that lower the surface tension of liquids.
Surfactants	Surface active agents, commonly known as wetting agents.
Suspension	Liquid containing finely divided drug particles uniformly distributed.
Synthesize	Combining elements to form a chemical compound.
Syrup	A concentrated sugar solution that may have an added medicinal.
System software	Contains the operating system that includes master programs for coordinating the activities of the hardware and software in a computer system.
Systemic	Pertaining to a whole body rather than to one of its parts or organs.
Systemic side effect	An effect on the whole body, but secondary to the intended effect.
Tablet	A solid dosage form of varying weight, size, and shape that contains a medicinal substance.
Tare	A weight used to counterbalance the container holding the substance being weighed.
Teratogenic	Substance that interferes with normal prenatal development.

Therapeutic	Provision of treatment of a disease, infirmity, or symptom by various methods.
Therapeutic alternates	Drug products that contain different therapeutic moieties but that are of the same pharmacologic and/or therapeutic class.
Therapeutic effect	A healing, curative, or ameliorating effect.
Therapeutic equivalent	A drug product that, when administered in the same amount, provides the same therapeutic effect and pharmacokinetic characteristics as another drug to which it is compared.
Therapeutic substitution	The substitution of one drug product with another that differs in composition but is considered to have the same or very similar pharmacologic and therapeutic activity.
Therapy	Treatment of disease.
Tincture	An alcoholic or hydroalcoholic solution containing a medicinal substance.
Tonicity	State of normal tension or partial contraction of muscle fibers while at rest.
Topical	Pertaining to the surface of a part of the body.
Total parenteral nutrition (TPN)	Intravenous nutrition comprised of any or all of the following: amino acids, dextrose, lipids, vitamins, minerals, trace elements, electrolytes, and water in a prepared sterile solution that infuses into a large central venous blood vessel. TPN provides all of the essential nutrients needed for patients to survive if they are unable to ingest nutrients.
Toxic effect	Acute or chronic poisoning through use of pharmaceuticals.
Toxicity	Degree to which something is poisonous.
Toxicology	The scientific study of poisons and their actions, detection, and treatment of conditions caused by them.
Toxin	A poison.
Transdermal	Entering through the dermis or skin, as in administration of a drug applied to the skin in ointment or patch form.
Triturate	To reduce particle size and mix one powder with another.
Troche	A small tablet intended to dissolve in the mouth to deliver medication to the mouth or throat.
Unit dose	A single-use package of a drug. In a unit-dose distribution system, a single dose of each medication is dispensed prior to the time of administration.

Urethra	Tube through which urine passes from the bladder to the outside of the body.
Utilization review	Work of committee that determines how use of resources meets criteria and standards.
Vaccination	Introduction of a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a particular disease, e.g., smallpox inoculation.
Vaccine	A suspension of attenuated or killed bacteria, viruses, or rickettsiae administered for the prevention, amelioration, or treatment of infectious diseases, e.g., tetanus.
Vasoconstrictor	A process, drug, or substance that causes constriction of blood vessels.
Vasodilator	An agent or drug that causes dilation of the blood vessels; increases the caliber of the blood vessels.
Verified	Reviewed and approved as true and authentic.
Vertical laminar flow hood	An air filter process to maintain a particulate-free environment.
Volatile	Evaporates at low temperature.

Glossary of Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACE	Angiotensin-converting enzyme
ADJ	CHCS menu code option for adjustments to inventory
AFMLL	Air Force Medical Logistics Letter
AFMLO	Air Force Medical Logistics Office
AFOSH	Air Force Occupational Safety and Health
AFS	Air Force specialty
AFSC	Air Force specialty code
AHFS	American Hospital Formulary Service
AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ALS	Advanced life support
AMH	<i>Accreditation Manual for Hospitals</i>
APhA	The American Pharmaceutical Association
ASHP	American Society Of Health-system Pharmacists
BCA	Business case analysis
BCM	CHCS menu code option for baker cell menu
BLMPS	Base level military personnel system
BLS	Basic life support
BMET	Biomedical equipment technician
BSC	Biomedical Science Corps
CCAF	Community College of the Air Force
CCM	Cost center manager
CDT	Video display terminal
CEM	Chief enlisted manager
CFG	CHCS menu code option for create formulary group
CHAMPUS	Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services
CHCS	Composite Healthcare System
CIR	CHCS menu code option for create inventory record
CLEP	College level examination program
CNM	Certified nurse midwife

CNV	CHCS menu code option for cancel a non-verified issue
COM	CHCS menu code option for complex ivf recipe create
CONUS	Continental United States
COS	CHCS menu code option for create/edit order sets
CPD	Central processing and distribution
CPM	CHCS menu code option for controlled prescription menu
CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission
CPU	Central processing unit
CRIS®	Controlled-release infusion system
CRNA	Certified registered nurse anesthetist
CRT	Cathode-ray tube
CSA	Controlled Substances Act
DANTES	Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support
DAPA	Distribution and pricing agreement
DAW	Dispense as written
DBOF	Defense business operations fund
DBPA	Decentralized blanket purchase agreement
DCI	CHCS menu code option for decrement from controlled inventory
DEA	Drug Enforcement Agency
DLA	Defense Logistics Agency
DLS	CHCS menu code option for define location served
DML	Director of Medical Logistics
DMLSS	Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support
DoD	Department Of Defense
DPSC	Defense Personnel Support Center
DRMO	Defense Re-Utilization and Marketing Office
DRU	Direct reporting unit
DUR	Drug utilization review
EAL	Entry authorization list
EAS	Expense assignment system
ECD	Estimated completion date

EDC	CHCS menu code option for enable/disable baker cell
EMC	Emergency message change
EML	CHCS menu code option for edit user options
Eq	Equivalent
ERAA	Equipment review and authorization
ERV	Estimated return value
EXP	CHCS menu code option for enter expiration/receiver of issue
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FMP	Family member prefix
FOA	Field Operating Agency
FOM	CHCS menu code option for formulary menu
FRM	Chcs menu code option for formulary maintenance
FSS	Federal Supply Schedules
FTE	Full time equivalent
GITS	Gastrointestinal therapeutic system
GML	CHCS menu code option for group membership
gr	Grain
gtt	Drop
GYN	Gynecology
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HCM	CHCS menu code option for healthcare provider maintenance
HCP	Health care provider
HEPA	High efficiency particulate air
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HML	CHCS menu code option for help
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
HSA	Hazardous Substance Act
HSI	Health services inspection
IAV	Inventory adjustment voucher
IDMT	Independent duty medical technician
IG	Inspector General

IM	Intramuscular
IMC	Interim Message Change
IV	Intravenous
IAW	In accordance with
IMPAC	International Merchant Purchase Authorization Card
INI	CHCS menu code option for inventory record inquiry
INV	CHCS menu code option for inventory supply menu
ISI	CHCS menu code option for issue inquiry
ISM	CHCS menu code option for issue menu
ISS	Information systems security
IVF	CHCS menu code option for iv medication profile
IVH	CHCS menu code option for IV hyperal
IVM	CHCS menu code option for IV file maintenance
IVP	CHCS menu code option for IV recipe create
JCAHO	Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
JQS	Job Qualification Standard
KVO	Keep vein open
LAN	Local area network
LBL	CHCS menu code option for reprint issue label
LGE	CHCS menu code option for location group edit
LNМ	CHCS menu code option for list new messages
LOD	Line of duty
LVP	Large volume parenteral
MAJCOM	Major command
mcg	Microgram
mcl	Microliter
MDG	Medical group
MDOS	Medical operations squadron
MDS	Medical squadron
MDW	Medical wing
MDSS	Medical support squadron

MEB	Medical evaluation board
MEDCAT	Medical Catalog
MEDLOG	Medical Supply's Computerized Medical Logistics System
MEPRS	Medical Expense and Performance Reporting System
meq	Milliequivalent
MER	Medical equipment repair
MHCMIS	Military Health Care Medical Information System
MHSS	Military Health Services System
MMP	CHCS menu code option for minimum or maximum dose Parameters
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
MTF	Medical treatment facility
MWR	Morale, Welfare, and Recreation
N.F.	<i>National Formulary</i>
NAR	CHCS menu code option for narcotic system maintenance menu
NDC	National Drug Code
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NKA	No known allergies
NML	CHCS menu code option for new messages and responses
NMS	Nutritional Medicine Service
NSD	CHCS menu code option for narcotic site definition
NSM	CHCS menu code option for narcotic system menu
NSN	National stock number
NUM	CHCS menu code option for prescription number maintenance
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OB	Obstetrics
OBRA	Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
OEP	CHCS menu code option for stand-alone order entry Maintenance
OI	Operating Instruction
OLUM	CHCS menu code option for on-line users manual

OMG	Objective medical group
OMM	CHCS menu code option for outpatient maintenance menu
OPR	Office of primary responsibility or outpatient pharmacy reports
ORI	Operational readiness inspection
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSI	Office of Special Investigations
OSR	Occupational survey report
OSU	CHCS menu code option for outpatient summary report
PA	Physician assistant
PC	Personal computer
PDO	Publication's Distribution Office
PDR	<i>Physician's Desk Reference</i>
P&T	Pharmacy and Therapeutics
PCM	Primary care manager
PCS	Permanent change of station
PDL	Preferred drug list
PEC	Pharmacoeconomic center
PIV	CHCS menu code option for site parameters (IV)
PME	Professional military education
PNM	CHCS menu code option for prescription number maintenance Menu
PPC	Product and price comparison
PPPA	Poison Prevention Packaging Act
PRM	CHCS menu code option for pharmacy reports menu
PRN	pro res natum; drug to be given as needed when a clinical situation arises
QAF	Quality Air Force
QAFA	Quality Air Force assessment
QML	CHCS menu code option for queued message for deletion
qs	Latin word meaning as much as suffices
RAI	CHCS menu code option for return an issue

RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	CHCS menu code option for recipe menu
REM	CHCS menu code option for remove Rx transaction
RES	CHCS menu code option for reset prescription numbers
RM	Resource Management
RML	CHCS menu code option for read a message
RMO	Resource management office
ROU	CHCS menu code option for medication routes
RRT	CHCS menu code option for return rx transaction
RTM	CHCS menu code option for record tracking menu
SAV	Staff assistance visit
SC	Subcutaneous
SGH	Chief of Hospital or Clinic Services
SII	Special interest item
SIM	CHCS menu code option for simple IVF recipe create
SKT	Specialty knowledge test
SML	CHCS menu code option for send a message
SOE	CHCS menu code option for stand-alone order entry maintenance menu
SQ or Sub-Q	Subcutaneous
ss	One-half
SSN	Social security number
stat	<i>Statim</i> , to be given immediately
ST	Sublingual tablet
STS	Specialty training standard
TASO	Terminal area security officer
TBC	CHCS menu code option for test the baker cell interface
TBS	Tablespoonful
tbsp	Tablespoonful
TDS	Transdermal delivery system
THREATCON	Terrorist threat condition

TIG	The Inspector General
TPN	Total parenteral nutrition
TSF	Tri-service formulary
UCA	Uniform Chart of Accounts
USP	United States Pharmacopoeia
UDF	CHCS menu code option for unit dose file maintenance menu
UDK	CHCS menu code option for use defined keys
UDS	CHCS menu code option for unit dose site parameters
UM	Utilization management
UPC	Uniform product code
UR	Utilization review
USM	Uniform staffing methodology
U.S.P.	<i>United States Pharmacopoeia</i>
VDT	Video display terminal
VER	CHCS menu code option for verified issues
VO	Voice order, verbal order
WAPS	Weighted Airman Promotion System
ZOP	Zero-overpricing

AFSC 4P051

4P051B 00 S01 0001

Edit Code 02