Student Learning Advisory Service

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Please come and see us if you need any academic advice or guidance.

Canterbury

Our offices are next to Santander Bank

Open

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Open

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AT A GLANCE/ PHARMACY CALCULATIONS AMOUNT STRENGTHS

Calculating the amount of substance in a concentration expressed as an amount strength



Example 1

How much bismuth subsalicylate is contained in a 236mL bottle of 17.6mg/mL concentration?

Method

Step 1: An amount strength is a fraction.

Thus ... 17.6mg/mL =
$$\frac{17.6mg}{1mL}$$

Step 2: By multiplication

$$\frac{17.6mg}{1mL} \times 236mL = 4153.6mg$$

Example 2

How much sodium (Na) is contained in 50mL of a 2g/L concentration

Method

Step 1: Convert the amounts to common units (mL).

Thus ...
$$2g/L = \frac{2g}{1000mL}$$

Step 2: By multiplication

$$\frac{2g}{1000mL} \times 50mL = \mathbf{0}.\,\mathbf{1g}\,\checkmark$$

Example 3

If a 5mL spoonful of Cough-Max expectorant contains 100mg of guaifenesin, how many g will be contained in a 228mL bottle?

Method

Step 1: Using
$$c_1/v_1 = c_2/v_2$$

$$\frac{100mg}{5mL} = \frac{x (mg)}{228mL}$$

Step 2: Transpose for x and solve

$$x = \frac{100 \times 228}{5} = 4560 mg = 4.56 g \checkmark$$

Example 4

If a product should contain 2.4mcg/100mcL, how many mg will be required to make up 2.5L?

Method

Step 1: Convert the amounts to common units (mL).

Thus ... 2.4mcg/0.1mL and 2500mL

Step 2: Using
$$c_1/v_1 = c_2/v_2$$

$$\frac{2.4mcg}{0.1mL} = \frac{x (mcg)}{2500mL}$$

Step 3: Transpose for x and solve

$$x = \frac{2.4 \times 2500}{0.1} = 60,000 mcg = 60 mg$$

Q1

How much active ingredient is contained in the following?

- a) 50mL of 0.2mL/100mL
- b) 100mL of 120mcL/mL
- c) 0.2mL of 3mg/mL
- d) 0.5L of 2mcg/mLl
- e) 200mg of 5mcg/mg
- f) 200mg of 10g/kg
- g) 120mL of 1.4mcL/mL
- h) 50g of 0.2g/g
- i) 330mL of 0.27g/15mLl
- j) 5mL of 0.6g/30mL

Q2

How much active ingredient is contained in the following?

- a) 30mL of 0.4mL/mL
- b) 750mL of 50mcL/mL
- c) 4.7L of 80mg/100mL
- d) 5L of 35mcg/100mL
- e) 6L of 22mcg/100mL
- f) 564mL of 5mL/100mL
- g) 4500mL of 72mg/dL
- h) 1500L of 5mcg/mL
- i) 225mL of 250mg/15mL
- j) 0.25kg of 0.2mcg/mg

Answers

Q1 a) = 0.1mL. b) = 12mL. c) = 0.6mg. d) = 1mg. e) = 1mg. f) = 2mg. g) = 168mcL. h) = 10g. i) = 5.94g. j) = 0.1g.

Q2 a) = 12mL. b) = 37.5mL. c) = 3.76g. d) = 1.75mg. e) = 1.32mg. f) = 28.2mL. g) = 3.24g. h) = 7.5g. i) = 3.75g. j) = 50mg.