

*Mercer County Community College*

*Division of Health Professions*

*Nursing Program*

**Medication Calculation Guidelines**

1. If weight conversion is needed (pounds/kilograms), calculate that as separate problem first, rounding to the nearest tenth.
2. The remainder of the problem should not be rounded until the end of the problem.
3. Convert all items to equal units prior to working problem, if needed.
4. Manual drip rates are always reported in whole numbers.
5. All questions should specify rounding requirements for the answer.
6. Infusion pumps may be rounded to the nearest tenth.
7. Five and up, round up. Four and below, round down.
8. No method of calculation (ratio/proportion, dimension analysis, etc.) is preferred; any is acceptable if the right answer is reached.
9. No half credit is given. If the answer is not rounded correctly or not answered to the requested decimal place, the question is marked incorrect.
10. Trailing zeros are prohibited, e.g. 1.0
11. Leading zeros are required, e.g. 0.1.
12. Label all answers with the correct unit.