

**Mental Health Nursing
Class Preparation
Antidepressant Therapy**

Directions: Please fill in the blanks and answer the questions in the spaces provided.

1. What is the mechanism by which antidepressant medications achieve their desired effect (regardless of the different physiological processes by which this action is accomplished)?

_____ blocks the reuptake of norepinephrine and or dopamine and serotonin

2. For what must a nurse be on the alert with a client who is receiving antidepressant medication?

_____ A nurse must be alert for seizure precautions.

3. When should a nurse expect a client to begin showing signs of symptomatic relief after the initiation of antidepressant therapy?

_____ Increase in mood

4. Give an example of a tricyclic antidepressant:

_____ Amitriptyline _____

Give an example of an MAOI:

_____ Phelzine _____

Give an example of an SSRI: _____ Fluoxetine

5. Describe some common side effects and nursing implications for tricyclic antidepressants.

_____ Anticholinergic effects: dry mouth, blurred vision, urinary retention, constipations, tachycardia, photophobia

6. _____ hypertensive crisis _____ is the most potentially life-threatening adverse effect of MAOIs. Symptoms for which the nurse must be on the alert include: _____ increased HR, BP, headache, nausea

7. What must be done to prevent these symptoms from occurring?

_____ Avoid Tyramine foods: beer, wine, cheese, avocado, banana, pepperoni, salami _____
