

NURS 6521 Week 11: Pediatrics

Children, like adults, deal with a variety of health issues, but they also have issues that are more prevalent within their population. One issue that significantly impacts children is the prescription of drugs for off-label use. As an advanced practice nurse, how do you determine the appropriate use of off-label drugs in pediatrics? Are there certain drugs that should be avoided with pediatric patients?

This week, you examine the practice of prescribing off-label drugs to children. You also explore strategies for making off-label drug use safer for children from infancy to adolescence, as it is essential that you are prepared to make drug-related decisions for pediatric patients in clinical settings.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Evaluate the practice of prescribing off-label drugs to children
- Analyze strategies to make the off-label use of drugs safer for children
- Identify key terms, concepts, and principles related to prescribing drugs to treat patient disorders

Learning Resources

[Required Readings \(click to expand/reduce\)](#)

Rosenthal, L. D., & Burchum, J. R. (2021). *Lehne's pharmacotherapeutics for advanced practice nurses and physician assistants* (2nd ed.) St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.

- Chapter 9, "Drug Therapy in Pediatric Patients" (pp. 58—60)

[Corny, J., Lebel, D., Bailey, B., & Bussieres, J. \(2015\). Unlicensed and off-label drug use in children before and after pediatric governmental initiatives. The Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 20\(4\), 316–328. Retrieved from https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4557722/](#)

[This article highlights pediatric governmental initiatives to prevent unlicensed and off-label drug use in children. Review these initiatives and guidelines and how they might impact your practice as an advanced practice nurse.](#)

[Panther, S. G., Knotts, A. M., Odom-Maryon, T., Daratha, K., Woo, T., & Klein, T. A. \(2017\). Off-label prescribing trends for ADHD medications in very young children. The Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 22\(6\), 423–429. doi:10.5863/1551-6776-22.6.423](#)

This study examines the frequency of off-label prescribing to children and explores factors that impact off-label prescribing. This study also examines off-label prescribing to children with ADHD.

[Document: Final Exam Study Guide \(PDF\)](#)

[Required Media \(click to expand/reduce\)](#)

[Laureate Education \(Producer\). \(2019i\). Therapy for pediatric clients with mood disorders \[Interactive media file\]. Baltimore, MD: Author.](#)