

NAPLEX Domain Crosswalk

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Introduction

Following the completion of the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination[®] (NAPLEX[®]) Practice Analysis, initiated in Spring 2024, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) undertook a comprehensive crosswalk activity to align the current (2021) NAPLEX competency statements with the updated (2025) content outline. This process involved leveraging the expertise of subject-matter experts from the pharmacy field to systematically compare and map each competency area in the existing framework to one or more subdomains in the new content outline. By doing so, NABP's competency assessment team ensured a clear correlation between the established 2021 competency statements and the updated 2025 content outline.

The crosswalk serves as a tool to illustrate how the current NAPLEX competency framework aligns with and supports the forthcoming updates to the exam. Apart from the 5 new subdomains in the 2025 content outline, every competency statement from 2021 is associated with one or more subdomains in the upcoming 2025 content outline. The practice analysis demonstrated a need to further integrate foundational pharmacy practice and medication use process knowledge into a holistic patient centered approach to ensure entry-level pharmacists can develop and manage treatment plans for specific patient cases.

The updated NAPLEX content outline breaks down the overarching competency statements into specific content areas (domains, subdomains, and sub-subdomains). These subdomains ensure candidates' competency is assessed comprehensively by targeting knowledge, skills, and abilities. Domains, on the other hand, organize the competency areas into specific content categories, grouping related tasks and responsibilities to structure the exam framework systematically.

The following crosswalk table compares the current (2021) competency statements to the updated (2025) content outlines.

Example:

1. Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice (DOMAIN)

- A. Pharmaceutical science principles and concepts (Subdomain)
 - 1. Pharmacology (Sub-subdomain)



Crosswalk Table

2021 Competency Statement	2025 Content Domains
1.1	1A2
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.1 – From instruments, screening tools, laboratory, genomic or genetic information, or diagnostic findings 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical science principles and concepts Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or pharmacogenomics
1.2	2C2 3A 3B 3C1 3C7
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.2 – From patients: treatment adherence, or medication- taking behavior; chief complaint, medication history, medical history, family history, social history, lifestyle habits, socioeconomic background 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Immunization services and documentation Contraindications and precautions Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Medication history, allergy history, and reconciliation Health histories, screenings, and assessments Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Signs, symptoms, and findings of medical conditions, etiology of diseases, or pathophysiology Adherence
1.3	3A 3C7
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.3 – From practitioners: treatment adherence, or medication- taking behavior; chief complaint, medication history, medical history, family history, social history, lifestyle habits, socioeconomic background 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Medication history, allergy history, and reconciliation Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Adherence



1.4	3A 3C1 3C7
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.4 – From medical records: treatment adherence, or medication-taking behavior; chief complaint, medication history, medical history, family history, social history, lifestyle habits, socioeconomic background 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Medication history and reconciliation Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Signs, symptoms, and findings of medical conditions, etiology of diseases, or pathophysiology Adherence
1.5	3B 3C1 3C2 3C5 3E3
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.5 – Signs or symptoms of medical conditions, healthy physiology, etiology of diseases, or pathophysiology 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Health histories, screenings, and assessments Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Signs, symptoms, and findings of medical conditions, etiology of diseases, or pathophysiology Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Adverse drug reactions Patient education Disease state management
1.6	3B 3C1 3E1
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.6 – Risk factors or maintenance of health and wellness 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Health histories, screenings, and assessments Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Signs, symptoms, and findings of medical conditions, etiology of diseases, or pathophysiology Patient education Lifestyle modifications and health maintenance

1.7	1F
 Area 1 – Obtain, Interpret, or Assess Data, Medical, or Patient Information 1.7 – Evidence-based literature or studies using primary, secondary, and tertiary references 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice 1F. Retrieval, assessment, and interpretation of primary, secondary, and tertiary resources
2.1	1A1 1A2 2A1 2A2 2A5 3C2 3C3 3C5 3C6 3D3
Area 2 – Identify Drug Characteristics	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical science principles and concepts Pharmacology Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or pharmacogenomics
	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Drug names and therapeutic classes Indications, usage, and dosing regimens Safety and effectiveness (eg, laboratory parameters, vital signs)
2.1 – Pharmacology, mechanism of action, or therapeutic class	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Interactions (eg, drug-drug, drug-condition, drug-food, drug- allergy, drug-laboratory) Adverse drug reactions Toxicologic exposures and overdoses Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Effectiveness

2.2	2A1 2A2 2A3 2B
 Area 2 – Identify Drug Characteristics 2.2 – Commercial availability; prescription or non-prescription status; brand, generic, or biosimilar names; physical descriptions; or how supplied 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Drug names and therapeutic classes Indications, usage, and dosing regimens Available dosage forms Therapeutic substitutions (eg, formulary restrictions, therapeutic alternatives, shortages, biosimilars)
2.3	2A4
 Area 2 – Identify Drug Characteristics 2.3 – Boxed warnings or REMS 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Prescription regulations (eg, boxed warnings, risk evaluation and mitigation strategies)
2.4	2C1 2C2 3C2 3D2
	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Immunization services and documentation Indications and scheduling Contraindications and precautions
 Area 2 – Identify Drug Characteristics 2.4 – Pregnancy or lactation 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Safety

3.1	3F
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.1 – Triage or medical referral	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Over-the-counter medications and dietary supplements
3.2	3D1 3D2 3D3 3E3
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.2 – Therapeutic goals or outcomes and clinical endpoints	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Therapeutic goals, clinical endpoints, and follow-up Safety Safety Effectiveness Patient education Disease state management
3.3	2A2 3C2 3C4 3D1 3D3
	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Indications, usage, and dosing regimens
 Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.3 – Medication reconciliation; indication or therapeutic uses; lack of indication; inappropriate indication; duplication of therapy; omissions 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Errors and omissions (eg, dosing, duplication, additional therapy needed, unnecessary therapy) Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Therapeutic goals, clinical endpoints, and follow-up Effectiveness

3.4	2A2 3C2 3D1 3D3
	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) 2A. Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Indications, usage, and dosing regimens
 Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.4 – Drug dosing or dosing adjustments; duration of therapy 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Therapeutic goals, clinical endpoints, and follow-up Effectiveness
3.5	2A2 2A3 3C2
 Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.5 – Drug route of administration, dosage forms, or delivery systems 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Indications, usage, and dosing regimens Indications, usage forms Available dosage forms Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making)

3.6	2A4 2A5 2C2 3C2 3C3 3D2
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.6 – Drug contraindications, allergies, or precautions	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Prescription regulations (eg, boxed warnings, risk evaluation and mitigation strategies) Safety and effectiveness (eg, laboratory parameters, vital signs) Immunization services and documentation Contraindications and precautions Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Interactions (eg, drug-drug, drug-condition, drug-food, drug- allergy, drug-laboratory) Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Safety
3.7	2A5 2C5 3C2 3C3 3C5 3C6 3D2 3D3 3E2
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.7 – Adverse drug effects, toxicology, or overdose	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Safety and effectiveness (eg, laboratory parameters, vital signs) Immunization services and documentation Adverse reactions

<i>(3.7 continued)</i> Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.7 – Adverse drug effects, toxicology, or overdose	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Interactions (eg, drug-drug, drug-condition, drug-food, drug- allergy, drug-laboratory) Adverse drug reactions Toxicologic exposures and overdoses Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Safety Effectiveness Patient education Medication use, storage, and disposal
3.8	1A2 3C3 3D2 3D3 3E3
	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical science principles and concepts Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or pharmacogenomics
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.8 – Drug interactions	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Interactions (eg, drug-drug, drug-condition, drug-food, drug- allergy, drug-laboratory) Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Safety Effectiveness Patient education Disease state management

3.9	2A5 3D1 3D2 3D3 3E3
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.9 – Therapeutic monitoring parameters, monitoring techniques, monitoring tools, or monitoring frequency	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Safety and effectiveness (eg, laboratory parameters, vital signs) Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Therapeutic goals, clinical endpoints, and follow-up Safety Effectiveness Patient education Disease state management
3.10	1A2
 Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.10 – Drug pharmacokinetics or pharmacodynamics 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical science principles and concepts Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or pharmacogenomics
3.11	3C2 3D3 3F
Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.11 – Evidence-based practice	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Therapeutic monitoring, plan development, evaluation, and modifications Effectiveness Over-the-counter medications and dietary supplements

3.12	2A2 3C2 3E1 3E3 3F 3G
	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Indications, usage, and dosing regimens
 Area 3 – Develop or Manage Treatment Plans 3.12 – Non-drug therapy: lifestyle, self-care, first-aid, complementary and alternative medicine, or medical equipment 	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient health conditions including special populations and medication-related factors Appropriateness of therapy (eg, medications, immunizations, non-drug therapy, dosing, contraindications, warnings, evidence-based decision making) Patient education Lifestyle modifications and health maintenance Disease state management Over-the-counter medications and dietary supplements Devices to administer medications and self-monitoring tests
4.1	1C1
 Area 4 – Perform Calculations 4.1 – Patient parameters or laboratory measures 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical calculations Patient parameters or laboratory measures
4.2	1C2
 Area 4 – Perform Calculations 4.2 – Quantities of drugs to be dispensed or administered 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical calculations Quantities of drugs to be dispensed or administered
4.3	1C3
Area 4 – Perform Calculations4.3 – Rates of administration	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical calculations Rates of administration

4.4	1C4
Area 4 – Perform Calculations	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical calculations
4.4 – Dose conversions	1C4. Dose conversions
4.5	1C5
Area 4 – Perform Calculations	1. Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice
4.5 – Drug concentrations, ratio strengths, osmolarity, osmolality, or extent of ionization	1C. Pharmaceutical calculations1C5. Drug concentrations, ratio strengths, osmolarity, or osmolality
4.6	1C6
Area 4 – Perform Calculations	1. Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice 1C. Pharmaceutical calculations
4.6 – Quantities of drugs or ingredients to be compounded	1C6. Quantities of drugs or ingredients to be compounded
4.7	1C7
Area 4 – Perform Calculations	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical calculations
4.7 – Nutritional needs and the content of nutrient sources	1C7. Nutritional needs and the content of nutrient sources
4.8	1C8
Area 4 – Perform Calculations	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical calculations
4.8 – Biostatistics, epidemiological, or pharmacoeconomic	1C8. Biostatistics, epidemiological, or pharmacoeconomic
measures	measures
	measures 1C9
measures	

5.1	1A2 1A3 1B1 1B2 2D
 Area 5 – Compound, Dispense, or Administer Drugs, or Manage Delivery Systems 5.1 – Physicochemical properties of drug products affecting compatibility, stability, delivery, absorption, onset, duration, distribution, metabolism, or elimination 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical science principles and concepts Pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, or pharmacogenomics Pharmaceutical compounding Pharmaceutical compounding Nonsterile preparations Sterile preparations Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring Medication handling, storage, stability, and disposal (eg, hazardous and nonhazardous drugs, controlled substances, parenteral medications, sharps handling, temperature control)
5.2	1B2
 Area 5 – Compound, Dispense, or Administer Drugs, or Manage Delivery Systems 5.2 – Techniques, procedures, or equipment for hazardous or non-hazardous sterile products 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical compounding Sterile preparations
5.3	1B1
 Area 5 – Compound, Dispense, or Administer Drugs, or Manage Delivery Systems 5.3 – Techniques, procedures, or equipment for hazardous or non-hazardous non-sterile products 	 Foundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice Pharmaceutical compounding Nonsterile preparations

5.4	2C 2D 3E2 3G		
 Area 5 – Compound, Dispense, or Administer Drugs, or Manage Delivery Systems 5.4 – Equipment or delivery systems 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Immunization services and documentation Medication handling, storage, stability, and disposal (eg, hazardous and nonhazardous drugs, controlled substances, parenteral medications, sharps handling, temperature control) 		
	 Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning 3E. Patient education 3E2. Medication use, storage, and disposal 3G. Devices to administer medications and self-monitoring tests 		
5.5	2A2 2C4 3E2 3E3		
 Area 5 – Compound, Dispense, or Administer Drugs, or Manage Delivery Systems 5.5 – Instructions or techniques for drug administration 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Prescriptions and medication order interpretation Indications, usage, and dosing regimens Immunization services and documentation Immunization services and documentation Administration (eg, techniques, preparation, routes) Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient education Medication use, storage, and disposal Disease state management 		
5.6	2C3 2D 3E2		
 Area 5 – Compound, Dispense, or Administer Drugs, or Manage Delivery Systems 5.6 – Packaging, storage, handling, or disposal 	 Medication Use Process (Prescribing, Transcribing and Documenting, Dispensing, Administering, and Monitoring) Immunization services and documentation Storage and handling Medication handling, storage, stability, and disposal (eg, hazardous and nonhazardous drugs, controlled substances, parenteral medications, sharps handling, temperature control) 		



(5.6 continued)		Person-Centered Assessment and Treatment Planning Patient education Medication use, storage, and disposal
6.1		5A
 Area 6 – Develop or Manage Practice or Medication-Use Systems to Ensure Safety and Quality 6.1 – Interdisciplinary practice, collaborative practice, or expanded practice responsibilities 	5. 5A.	Pharmacy Management and Leadership Pharmacy operations (eg, operational planning, risk management, regulations and regulatory bodies, technology applications and informatics, error-prevention strategies, medication safety)
6.2		5A
 Area 6 – Develop or Manage Practice or Medication-Use Systems to Ensure Safety and Quality 6.2 – Continuity of care or transitions of care 	5. 5A.	Pharmacy Management and Leadership Pharmacy operations (eg, operational planning, risk management, regulations and regulatory bodies, technology applications and informatics, error-prevention strategies, medication safety)
6.3		4A 4B
 Area 6 – Develop or Manage Practice or Medication-Use Systems to Ensure Safety and Quality 6.3 – Disease prevention or screening programs; or stewardship 		Professional Practice Adverse drug event reporting and medication error reporting (eg, MedWatch, VAERS) Public health initiatives and risk prevention programs (eg, tobacco and nicotine cessation, antimicrobial stewardship, health screenings, opioid stewardship)
6.4		4C 5A 5C
	4. 4C.	Professional Practice Social determinants and drivers of health

6.5	5A		
Area 6 – Develop or Manage Practice or Medication-Use Systems to Ensure Safety and Quality 6.5 – Pharmacy informatics	 5. Pharmacy Management and Leadership 5A. Pharmacy operations (eg, operational planning, risk management, regulations and regulatory bodies, technology applications and informatics, error-prevention strategies, medication safety) 		

NEW Domain	1D 1 E		
	1 D. Dr	oundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice rug development processes (eg, clinical trial phases, nergency use authorizations)	
	1E. Re	oundational Knowledge for Pharmacy Practice esearch design principles and biostatistics (eg, blinding, ndomization, biases, statistical tests and outcomes, ethics)	
NEW Domain		4D	
	4D. Et pri	ofessional Practice hical considerations (eg, informed consent, ethical inciples, professional conduct and responsibility, patient onfidentiality)	
NEW Domain		5B 5D	
	5 B. Inv	narmacy Management and Leadership ventory and supply management (eg, drug recalls, drug lortages)	
	5D. Me	narmacy Management and Leadership entorship and preceptorship (eg, providing and receiving edback, delegation of work activities, preceptor roles)	