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Review Article

Appearing for D. Pharm Examination – In Artistic Way

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ABSTRACT

The rationale behind this study is give direction for getting easiness and success in pharmacy exam with scientific management through artistic way. In this epoch, pharmacist can work as solid member of health profession for creating and caring for healthy life. The pharmacist is more interactive person with public, as compare to physicians. Pharmacist is playing a vital role in health care profession providing important services for betterment of health. Pharmacist is concentrating on his/her approach from product orientation to patient orientation. Pharmacist should move from 'behind the counter' and start serving the people by providing care, dispensing the medicines as well as clinical pharmacist. Clinical Pharmacy is the branch of pharmacy, concerned with various aspects of patient care and deals not only with dispensing of drug but also advising the patients on safe and rational use of drugs. The clinical pharmacist is involved in active patient care. For all these purpose one should successfully acquire adequate knowledge in theoretical lectures with having practical hand and authentic, real time training. Passing in examination is another task, but it is a main task to have registration in central register one's name as 'Registered Pharmacist' to serve better services regarding health. This article gathered such important feedbacks from various examiners, invigilators, subject experts and students also. It will increase successful attempts of students towards exam.

Keywords: D. Pharm, examination, Maharashtra, MSBTE, success, time management

INTRODUCTION

The rationale behind this study is give direction for getting easiness in MSBTE's Diploma in Pharmacy exam with scientific management through artistic way. In this era the world is suffering from many health related problems. Thorough going dilemma is due to a variety in geographic, environmental, human races, ethnic backgrounds conditions. [1,2] A number of health professionals are engaged in facing actively health dilemma by giving their best. The retail pharmacist and physician are most visible and direct connected with public amongst from other members of health care profession. The pharmacist has an exclusive chance of getting interactive with the public, more as compare to physicians. The

pharmacist as a vital part of health care profession, provides important services of caring and creating of healthy life. [3,4] India is country of multi-linguistic people living across the country, pharmacist can take advantage to interact people in many languages to get better attraction of people and giving better patient counselling. [5,6] The Pharmacy is an authorized area or licensed premises where drugs are sale, possession, storage, manufactured and compounded by a qualified person known as registered pharmacist. [7] For this qualification pharmacist is required to be well acquaintance and capable in learning, for giving good services by oneself. [8] In India, the concept of good pharmacy practice is transforming into pharmacy practice. [4] Pharmacist has to move from his typical role of 'behind the counter person for start serving the people by effectively providing health related services, medicine dispensing along with as a 'clinical pharmacist'. The clinical pharmacist is involved in interactive patient care. Clinical Pharmacy is the branch of pharmacy, concerned with various aspects of patient care and deals not only with dispensing of drug but also advising the patients on safe and rational use of drugs. [9] The concept of good pharmacy practice is transforming into pharmacy practice, which is having more impact of patient orientation than product orientation. [4] Health care profession have its influence on economy personally and socially. The socioeconomic is one of the reason for patient noncompliance. The word patient compliance is referring to adherence of patient with treatment getting quick relief from illness.

Pharmacy Course, Maharashtra and MSBTE

In India, Diploma in Pharmacy course is basic criteria to become as a registered pharmacist. The D. Pharm course is designed and organized by Indian Pharmacy Council all over India, which is revised, updated and amended constantly for matching with new technology and industry requirements. It is mandatory to learn and take education from those institutes who has been approved by Pharmacy Council of India. After completing Higher Secondary Certificate (12th) exam or any other qualification equivalent to HSC (10+02) as approved by the Pharmacy Council of India, students are eligible for admitting in D. Pharm. Course. [10] In Maharashtra state the D. Pharm. course is effectively run by Maharashtra State Board of Technical Education, Mumbai which is recognized as MSBTE. It is having a clear vision which states that ensuring of diploma level technical education which is useful to latest requirements of Technology and industry. In addition to this it includes the multitalented personal development from students for making them globally competitive. [11] The duration of diploma course is of three parts.

Part I- First Year Diploma in Pharmacy,

Part II- Second Year Diploma in Pharmacy, and
Part III- Training Part.

It is yearly based pattern. For the part I and II, each academic year should not be less than of 180 working days. The exam is at the end of curriculum in summer i.e. April or May and supplementary in winter. Part III consist of 500 to 750 hours training, after completion of Part I and II, over a period of three months, in community or retail pharmacy store. The course of study for D. Pharm. Part-I and Part-II (**Table 1**) includes the following subjects, with their maximum marks in theory and practical's.

Examiner and Examination

The students admitting to course should be familiar to examination pattern. There are two types of assessment for student's learning-understanding towards curriculum, one is sessional exam and another is annual exam. PCI states that '*Each examination may be held twice every year. The first examination in a year shall be the annual examination and the second examination shall be supplementary examination of the Diploma in Pharmacy (Part-I) or Diploma in Pharmacy (Part-II), as the case may be*'. Each subject carrying 100 marks divided into 80 marks for annual and 20 marks for sessional. [10] For first year diploma students, there should be medicinal garden visit regularly to be familiar with plants in Pharmacognosy subject. The pathology lab visit is also required for getting practical knowledge on Biochemistry and Clinical Pathology subject. For second year diploma students, hospital visit and industrial visit for getting actual knowledge, in ward trainings, learning hospital administration skills etc. of subjects viz. Hospital & Clinical pharmacy and Pharmaceutics. After having regular and satisfactory attendance in theory lectures and practical with minimum 75%, student is eligible for appearing sessional and final examination. For each subject there are 03 sessional examinations, from which average marks of best two are taken for consideration as final sessional assessment. This pattern is implemented for theory as well as practical. As per more concern about students, they are taken lightly for sessional assessment about not securing marks, students think they will surely pass in annual examination. More number of students failed in specific subject more often due to lack of sufficient marks in sessional examination. The number of questions depend upon subject and duration of the examination.

Appearing for Examination

We can divide the phases of examination as follows

Phase 01 -Preparations before examination,

Phase 02 -Actual appearing in examination and

Phase 03 -After examination (if required).

Table 1: Diploma in Pharmacy (Part- I and II)

Part I - First Year Diploma in Pharmacy								
Subject	No. of hours (TH)	No. of hours (PR)	Maximum marks (TH)			Maximum marks (PR)		
			Final Exam	Sessional	Total	Final Exam	Sessional	Total
Pharmaceutics I	75	100	80	20	100	80	20	100
Pharmaceutical Chemistry I	75	75	80	20	100	80	20	100
Pharmacognosy	75	75	80	20	100	80	20	100
Biochemistry & Clinical Pathology	50	75	80	20	100	80	20	100
Human Anatomy & Physiology	75	50	80	20	100	80	20	100
Health Education & Community Pharmacy	50	-	80	20	100	-	-	-
Part II - Second Year Diploma in Pharmacy								
Pharmaceutics II	75	100	80	20	100	80	20	100
Pharmaceutical Chemistry II	100	75	80	20	100	80	20	100
Pharmacology & Toxicology	75	50	80	20	100	80	20	100
Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence	50	-	80	20	100	-	-	-
Drug Store and Business Management	75	-	80	20	100	-	-	-
Hospital and Clinical Pharmacy	75	50	80	20	100	80	20	100

PHASE 01- PREPARATIONS BEFORE EXAMINATION

For getting success in every examination there should be preparation before examination. It is well known phrase that 'The more you sweat in practice, the less you bleed in battle'. For this purpose, student should focus on various points discussed below in the sequence of importance or appearance-

Schedule (Time table): Board/ College authorities displays directorial schedule well known in students as time table for examination. The student should note that from notice board or MSBTE website and keep it handy to use at hostel/ room / house. It's more important to prepare for right paper at right time.

Appropriate Food (balanced Diet): During examination, most of students avoid dinner or lunch; i.e. one-time food, to get rid of laziness or sleep. But if proper diet planning is followed then no need to worry. The Maharashtrian people chants before every meal a prayer by Samarth Ramdas Swami. Meaning of this quote is as follows - "While taking a mouthful of food, chant the name of God, the food is easily offered as an offering to god when his name is said, the food gives life to us as it is completing God Principle, having food is not just filling the stomach but is a type of fire-sacrifice (Yajna)". According to Ayurvedic expert's daily diet should be divided into 03 types viz. breakfast, lunch and dinner. Breakfast should be full of appetite (hunger), lunch should keep some part of stomach empty, and dinner must be easily digestible and light. Overall food should be with sufficient fluids and water. For examination

student should not go empty stomach; light, non-spicy food or fruits should be eaten before it. Keep water bottle with self if required.

Appropriate Rest (Sleep): Taking rest for proper time will increase intellectual and motor skills. Student must take good sound sleep, the day before examination. Well recognized English dramatist says 'Sleep is that golden chain that ties health and our bodies together.

Seat No. / Roll No.: The student must carry identity card (properly signed and stamped by college authorities) and hall-ticket (students seat number card given by examining authorities) while facing examination.

Utility Box: The student should carry sufficient number of writing pens (preferably blue), sharpened pencil, sharpener, eraser and other required stationery materials.

Simple Calculator: If required and unless until stated through instructions by authority student may carry their own simple calculator but not scientific calculators or any other electronic gadgets.

Cell Phone/ any other communicating gadgets: Don't carry a mobile phone, pagers, or any other electronic gadgets in examinations hall. If student carries it will be considered as malpractice.

Institutional Uniform: Student should wear neat and clean uniform. Most of institutes are strict for wearing uniform.

Reaching examination place before time: The student should reach the examination place at least before half an hour of paper timing. If student is late

for examination, the exertion for reaching examination hall within time will affect performance.

PHASE 02 - ACTUAL APPEARING IN EXAMINATION

The Faith: Thanking to the idol or GOD to whom student believes; GOD will not be going to face one's examination instead of student worshipping. Keeping faith on SOMEONE will encourage student to face examination fearlessly; gives feeling that examination will be easy and secure expected marks.

Student's details: The student must read 'instructions for examiners' and fill correct information like seat no., subject etc. at proper place given on answer sheet.

Reading question paper carefully: As soon as student receives question paper, student must read it carefully. The student should check it for any conflict or discrepancy in questions. On the top of question paper student must write his/her seat no. neatly in provided space only. Read and understand all the given instructions on question paper. Arrange the order in mind which question should be solved first and then subsequent.

Good start: Assurance building confident by choosing the question which he/she knows better.

Managing the time: Students must have control on time management task. Distribution of allotted time should be divided equally by keeping time for revision. Allocation of time for 06 questions should be likely 25 minutes per major question (approximately 07 minutes to each sub-question).

Keeping 30 minutes for corrections (if any) review and revision. It will help in giving more time for lengthy and difficult questions.

Time watch: The student must bring wrist watch for time management. Asking for how much time remaining at every interval to invigilator or supervisor is embarrassing and disturbing to other students also. Musician Connor Maynard says that 'I always wear my black watch on my left wrist so I know I'm on stage on time'.

Answering pattern: Most of students practice to write points in answer and then its description. Either student use this method or underline main points in answer with pencil.

Handwriting: The handwriting must be neat and clean. For this student may practice for calligraphy. Highlighting or making underline to main points in answer with black pencil will be advantageous to students.

Diagrams/ Figures/ Flow Charts: Diagrammatic representation in answer helps to recognize examiner that 'what student learnt and understood'. The student should draw diagrams or figures or flow charts with black pencils only wherever necessary firstly and then describe it. Do not use colour pencils, objects unless until permitted. Otherwise it will be considered as identification of answer-sheet for specific examiner. The diagrammatic representation should be on one side and labels on other hand. For reference follow image (Fig. 1) will be useful.

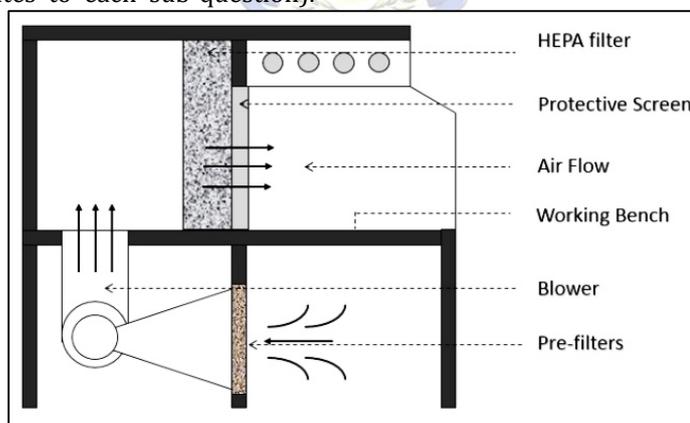


Figure 1: How to draw diagram well

Other supportive things/ instructions: If there is no arrangement for water at examination center, sometimes examining authorities allows water bottles in examination hall. Don't go for malpractice by carrying written materials in examination hall. Invigilator/ supervisor or internal squad check for any such materials in accessories student's taking along with them. Students must check for this incidence, which may happen intentionally or unintentionally.

Closing Session: Student should keep last 15 minutes just for revision and verifying the answers

written in paper. Making tick on question paper for solved answer can be done if permitted so by examination authorities. This time should be utilized for tying up supplementary answer sheets if any, and note on main answer sheet's front page. At last student must verify seat no., supplement no. and other details on main answer sheet before submission to supervisor.

PHASE 03 - AFTER EXAMINATION (IF REQUIRED)

Hold onto books, other study material: It is obvious that as examination is over, student neglect books and study materials of that subject. But for future use it should be keep well and good. It will help

for next attempt in case of failure or for giving it to juniors.

Rest: As discussed previous student must be relaxing in time span up to next examination, by taking consideration of schedule.

Preparation for Sub sequent examination: After taking rest, student should make planning for next examination. Student should collect, arrange and organize study materials, books and notes for subsequent examination. Study well with concentration and attentiveness.

Failure in examination: Most of students are afraid of becoming fail in their examination. Student must remember that this is not last examination of life and no one will criticize your life through this. One's intelligence is not going to judged merely on one examination, accept it and move forward for facing examination in new way, using another method of attempting in changed angle. One of the great physicists Sir Stephen Hawking says, 'Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change'.

CONCLUSION

Reading question paper carefully with proper time management will help students getting more marks as expected. More often students not get marks due to following reasons viz. - not getting question, solving disorder, lack of time management, giving more time for easy and well known questions or writing extra, unnecessary in it. It is true that 'well begun is half done'. Giving pointless weightage to easy, well known questions can reduce time for lengthy - hard questions. Well studied student can face examination scientifically but having artistic view of good representation will definitely increase marks.

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