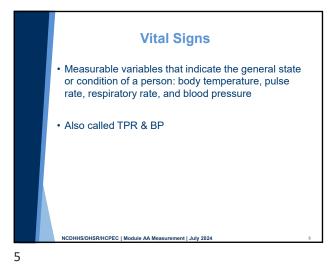


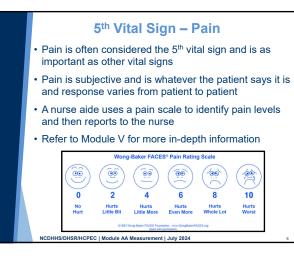
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Objectives Explain how to use equipment that measures temperature, pulse, respirations, blood pressure, height, weight, intake of fluids and output. Differentiate units of measurement nurse aides use during the care of residents – millimeters of mercury (mmHg), degrees Fahrenheit, ounces, milliliters (mL), cubic centimeters (cc), inches, and feet. Convert ounces to milliliters and inches to feet/inches.

4



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Why Check Vital Signs?

- Changes can indicate worsening of a resident's condition
- Can reflect response to medication and/or treatment
- Value of a vital sign may be basis for a medication or change of a medication
- Accuracy when taking vital signs is crucial

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 Report abnormal vital signs immediately to nurse and per facility policy







8

What Is an Analog Watch and Why Is it

Included in EQUIPMENT for Vital Signs?

- A watch that has moving hands and is typically marked with numbers 1 – 12
- It has an hour hand, minute hand, and second hand

IMPORTANT

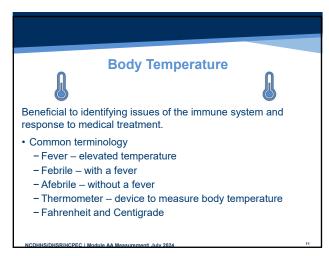
 Nurse aides use the second hand to count respirations and pulse rate



Analog Watch – How to Count for Full 60 Seconds for Respirations and Pulse

- · First, identify what number the second hand is on
- Second, while watching the second hand, start counting the vital sign you want to know and stop counting on the same number when secondhand returns to that number
- We will practice once we learn how to check for a pulse and respirations
 Hour Hand

10





12

Sites for Checking Temperature

- Mouth (oral)
- Rectum (rectal)
- Armpit (axilla)Ear (tympanic)



• Temporal (forehead)

Important- Check with nurse or care plan to see what type of thermometer should be used

13

Types of Thermometers

- Digital oral, rectal, axillary
- Electronic oral, rectal, axillary





• Non-mercury, liquid-filled glass (oral – green tipped; rectal – red tipped)



14

Temperature Values

- Oral
 - Baseline 98.6°F
 - Normal range 97.6°F to 99.6°F
- Rectal
 - Baseline 99.6°F
 - Normal range 98.6°F to 100.6°F
- Axillary
 - Baseline 97.6°F
 - Normal range 96.6°F to 98.6°F



Temperature Values

- Tympanic membrane
 - Baseline 98.6°F
 - Normal range 97.6°F to 99.6°F
- Temporal
 - Baseline 98.6°F
 - Normal range 97.6°F to 99.6°F



16

Digital Thermometer

- Oral, rectal, or axillary
- Displays results digitally within 2 60 seconds; beeps or flashes when done
- Battery-operated
- Requires a disposable sheath



17

Electronic Thermometer

- Oral, rectal, or axillary
- Has oral/axillary and rectal probes; requires probe cover
- Displays results digitally 2 60 seconds; beeps or flashes when done
- Battery-operated; stored in recharging device
- Requires a probe cover





Temporal Thermometer

- Measures heat from skin over the forehead, specifically over temporal artery
- Done by a stroke or scan over the area
- Registers within 3 seconds
- Noninvasive

20

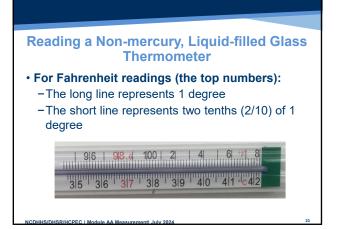
Non-mercury, Liquid-filled Glass Thermometer

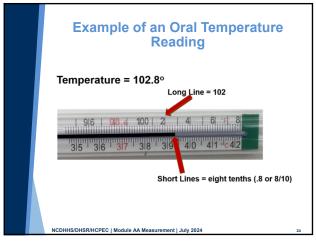
- Oral, rectal, or axillary
- Color-coded; blue or green for oral; red for rectal
- Takes a longer time to register
- Nurse aide must read at eye level after it registers temperature; held at stem
- Most use Fahrenheit scale to measure temperature

EC I M











When NOT to Take an Oral Temperature

- Unconscious
- Recent facial/mouth surgery •
- Recent injury to face
- Sores/redness/mouth pain •
- Confused/agitated • History of seizure •
- Using oxygen
- Mouth-breather •



Feeding tube .

25

When NOT to Take a Rectal Temperature

- Has diarrhea
- Has rectal problem
- Has heart disease
- Recent rectal surgery
- · Is confused or agitated



26

Pulse

The beat of the heart felt at an artery, as a wave of blood passes through the artery

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- · Pulse rate
- · Pulse rhythm
- · Pulse force

Pulse Sites

- Temporal
- Carotid
- Apical
- Brachial
- Radial
- Pedal



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28

Radial Pulse Site

- Typically used to take pulse during routine vital signs checks
- · Does not expose resident
- Located on thumb side of wrist



• Nurse aide places their first 2 or 3 fingers (never thumb) over the radial pulse

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29

Pulse Values

- Normal between 60 and 100 beats per minute
- Regular
- Strong
- Refer to Module H for abnormalities



Counting Pulse – Equipment

- Analog watch with second hand
- Notepad and pen



31

Checking Pulse and Documentation

- Nurse aide counts pulse rate for 60 seconds
- While watching second hand of watch, the nurse aide starts and stops counting on same number
- · Document on record if pulse is normal
- Document on record and notify nurse if pulse is abnormal

32

Checking Pulse – Example #1

- Nurse aide begins counting pulse rate when second hand is on 4 and stops counting pulse rate when the secondhand lands on _____
- Nurse aide counts a pulse rate of 82 in 60 seconds
- 82 is the number the nurse aide would document



Checking Pulse – Example #2

- Nurse aide begins counting pulse rate when the second hand is on 10 and stops counting pulse rate when the second hand lands on _____
- Nurse aide counts a pulse rate of 109 in 60 seconds
- 109 is the number the nurse aide would document
- Nurse aide would notify the nurse; why?



34

Respiration

- Process that supplies oxygen to cells and removes carbon dioxide from cells
- Involves
 - Inspiration (inhalation) breathing in oxygen; chest rises
- Expiration (exhalation) breathing out carbon dioxide; chest falls
- Each respiration = 1 inspiration and 1 expiration
- Respiratory rate (or respirations) the number of inspirations/exhalations a person takes in a minute

35

Respiration Values

- Normal breathing is defined as eupnea
- · Between 12 and 20 breaths/minute
- Regular
- Quiet
- Both sides of chest equal

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· For abnormalities refer to Module H

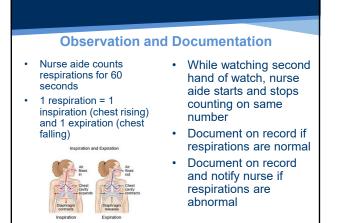


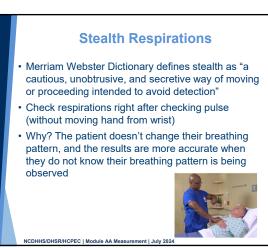
Counting Respirations – Equipment

- Analog watch with second hand
- Notepad and pen



37





Checking Respirations – Example #1

- Nurse aide begins counting respirations when the second hand is on 4 and stops counting respirations when the secondhand lands on _____
- Nurse aide counts 16 chest rises/falls in 60 seconds
- 16 is the number the nurse aide would document



40

Checking Respirations – Example #2

- Nurse aide begins counting respirations when the second hand is on 10 and stops counting respirations when the second hand lands on _____
- Nurse aide counts 24 chest rises/falls in 60 seconds
- 24 is the number the nurse aide would document
- Nurse aide would notify the nurse; why?



41

Blood Pressure



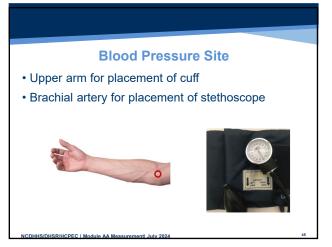
- The amount of force exerted by the blood against the walls of the artery
- Top number is the systolic pressure; the pressure when the heart contracts and pumps blood out
- Bottom number is the diastolic pressure; when the heart rests as the heart fills with blood

Blood Pressure

- Important indicator of health status; shows how well the heart is working
- Can change from minute to minute depending on:
 - -Activity of the resident
 - -Lifestyle choices
 - -Reaction to stress
 - -Acute injury or emergency
 - -Medications

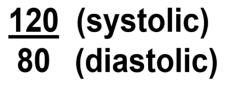
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The Blood Pressure Value

- Measured in millimeters of mercury (mmHg)
- Recorded as a fraction
- Pronounced as 120 over 80

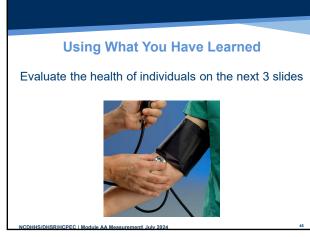


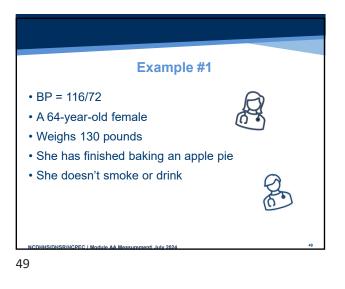
46

Normal Blood Pressure Ranges

American Heart Association defines normal blood pressure as less than 120/80

- Systolic Less than 120 mm Hg
- Diastolic Less than 80 mm Hg
- Document on record
- If above 120/80, document on the record and notify the nurse
- Refer to Module H for abnormalities

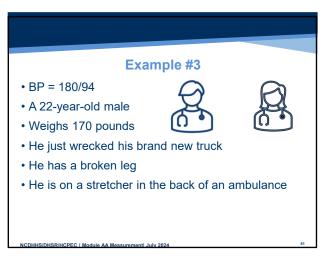




Example #2

- BP = 162/86
- A 72-year-old male
- Weighs 260 pounds
- R
- He just ate a couple of hot dogs and potato chips for lunch and is on his $4^{\mbox{th}}$ beer
- He just sent his son to the store for more cigarettes





Checking Blood Pressure

The nurse aide uses 3 senses when checking a blood pressure

• Seeing – watches needle's movement in relation to numbers on the manometer

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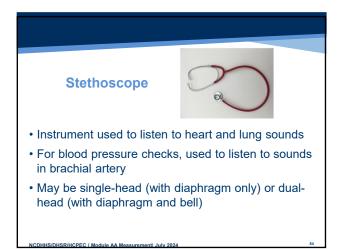
- Hearing uses the stethoscope to listen for changes in blood flow in the brachial artery
- Touching controls inflation and deflation of cuff using thumb and index finger

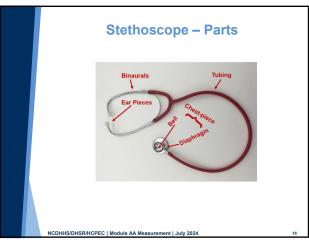
52

Checking Blood Pressure – Equipment

- Stethoscope
- Sphygmomanometer, also known as blood pressure cuff (BP cuff)
- · Alcohol wipes
- · Notepad and pen









Stethoscope – Ear Pieces

- Always clean before and after use with alcohol wipes
- Insert ear pieces into ears so they point forward toward the nose
- Should fit snugly in ears





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Two Ways to Check for Active Diaphragm

- 1. After inserting earpieces into ears, tap diaphragm lightly to determine if tap is heard; if tap not heard, rotate chest-piece at tubing, and repeat the tap.
- 2. If chest-piece has an indicator dot, rotate chest-piece so indicator dot is closed.

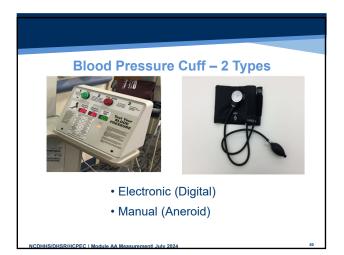


58

Diaphragm Concepts

- Always clean diaphragm with alcohol wipes
- Warm diaphragm before making contact with resident
- To use diaphragm, apply enough pressure to make seal against brachial artery



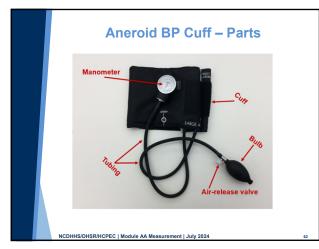


Electronic (Digital)

- No stethoscope needed
- After BP cuff is placed on arm, button is pressed causing cuff to inflate/deflate automatically
- BP reading is displayed



61



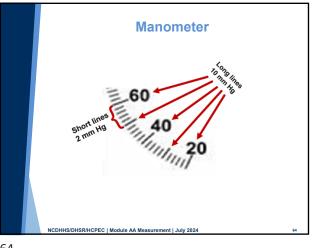
62



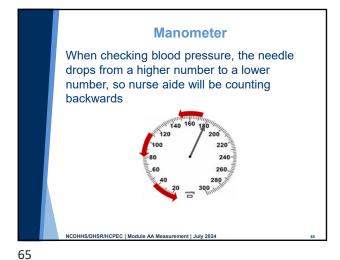
- Marked with long and short lines and has a needle
- Long lines mark 10 mm Hg

Short lines mark 2 mm Hg











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68

Cuff

- Typically has 1 or 2 arrows (left arm/right arm) on cuff which align with brachial artery
- Cuff positioned/wrapped at least an inch above the elbow
- Cuff or stethoscope should not be placed over clothing



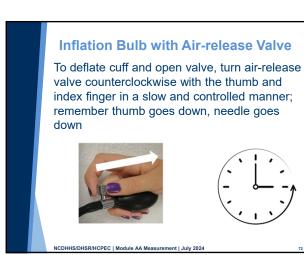
Tubing

- Made of rubber
- Two tubes connect the:
 (#1) Cuff to the manometer and
 (#2) Cuff to the handheld inflation bulb









Inflation Bulb with Air-release Valve

- Inflate cuff to between 160 mm Hg to 180 mmHg
- If beat is heard immediately, deflate the cuff; wait 30

 60 seconds; inflate cuff to no more than 200
 mmHg

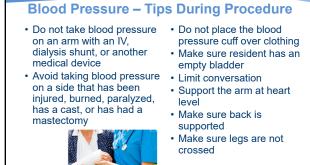


73

Inflation Bulb with Air-release Valve

Goal: Learn how to inflate the cuff and how to deflate the cuff in a slow, controlled manner





Checking for Orthostatic Hypotension

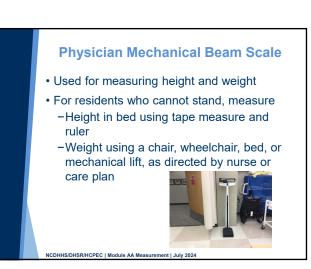
Blood pressure is abnormally low

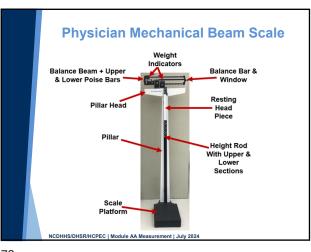


- BP checked while lying down,
- record on notepad
- · Have resident sit up, wait 2 minutes, check BP, record on notepad
- · Have resident stand up, wait 2 minutes, check BP, record on notepad
- Throughout process, check to see if resident is feeling weak, dizzy, faint, or seeing spots
- · Record and report to nurse











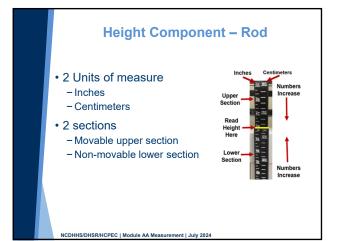


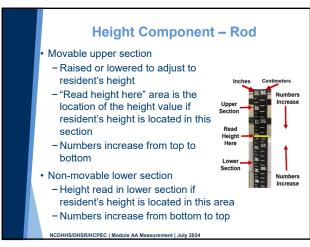
- extended upward in preparation for measuring resident's height
- Lowered and placed on resident's head and height measured



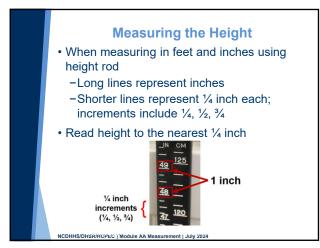
• Becomes at rest when flat and low against height rod

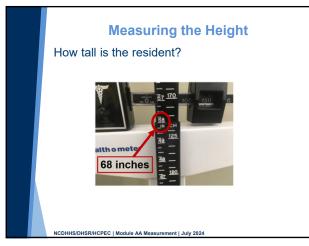
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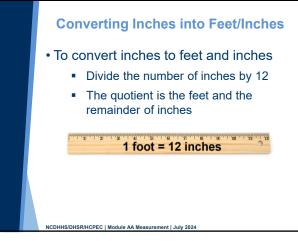


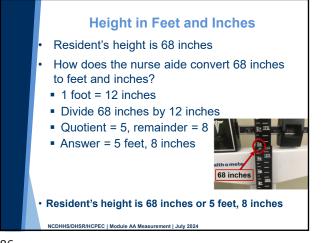








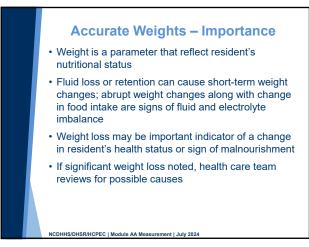




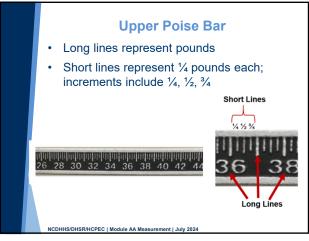


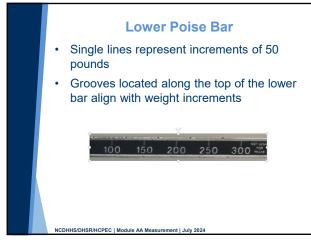
Weights - Consistent Process Weigh the resident: Wearing a similar type of clothing At approximately the same time of the day (preferably before breakfast) Using the same scale Either consistently wearing or not wearing orthotics or prostheses

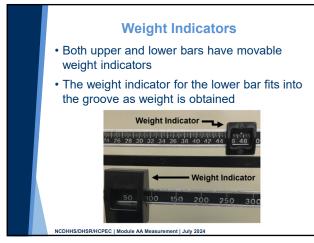




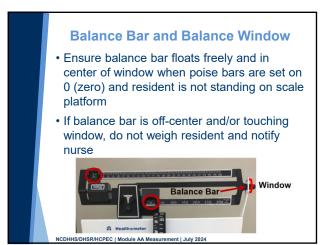


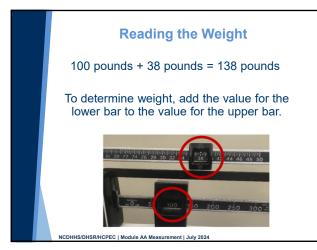












95

Measuring Intake and Output (I&O)

- Intake (also called input) the amount of fluid taken in by the body
- Output the amount of fluid lost from the body
- Intake and output are typically seen together and commonly abbreviated I&O
- For fluid balance to occur fluid intake roughly equals fluid output

Intake and Output

- Ordered by the doctor, found on the care plan, and by the directive from the nurse
- Typically calculated at end of each shift and totaled every 24-hours
- Documented on a facility-specific form
- Calculations and totals based on the milliliter (mL)



97

Milliliter (mL)

- A unit of measure in the metric system
- Fluids measured using the milliliter (mL)
- Another unit of measure used in health care is called the cubic centimeter (cc); should use mL instead of cc when documenting fluids
- 1 milliliter is equal to 1 cubic centimeter
- Most people familiar with the teaspoon; there are 5 mL or 5 cc in a teaspoon

98

Graduate

- Accurate measuring device for fluids when resident is on I&O
- Fluid for I&O is measured and documented in milliliters (mL)
- Measure fluid at eye-level on a flat surface
- If both intake and output to be measured with the graduate, two separate graduates used and labeled

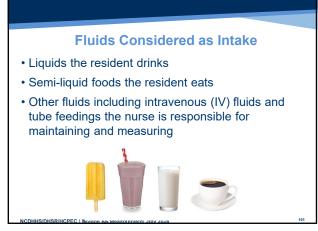
Units of Measure for the Graduate

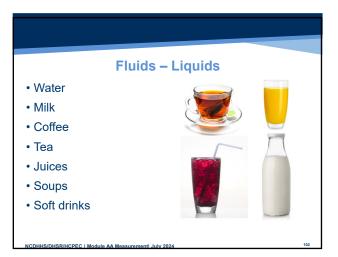
- The cc (cubic centimeter) side of the measurement scale is used in health care
- Recall 1 cc on the graduate = 1 milliliter (mL)



Shortest line represents either 25 cc/mL or 75 cc/mL Longest lines represent multiples of 50 cc/mL

100







Popsicles

103

Determining Oral Fluids as Intake

- To determine intake, nurse aide must know serving sizes of facility specific containers
- Two methods
 - -Measures
 - -Using fractions
- Follow facility policy and/or procedure when determining intake of fluids during and between meals

104

Typical Serving Sizes of Liquids

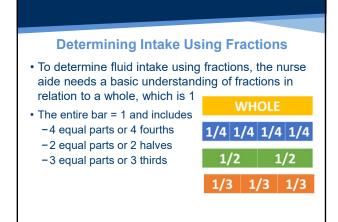
- Water glass = 240 mL
- Tea glass = 180 mL
- Juice glass = 120 mL
- Milk carton = 240 mL
- Coffee cup = 240 mL
- Soft drink can = 360 mL
- Gelatin = 120 mL
- Soup bowl = 180 mL

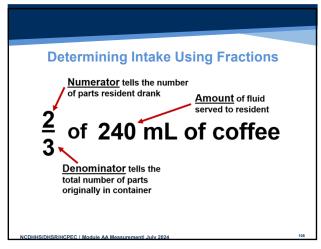


Determining Intake - Example

- The glass with the resident's apple juice holds 240 mL of fluid
- Using the graduate and measuring apple juice left in glass, the resident did not drink 120 mL of apple juice
- Subtracting 120 mL of apple juice the resident didn't drink from number of mL the glass holds
- Resident drank 120 mL of apple juice

106

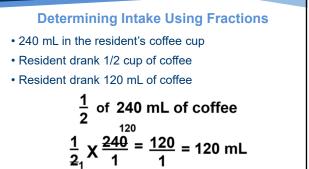


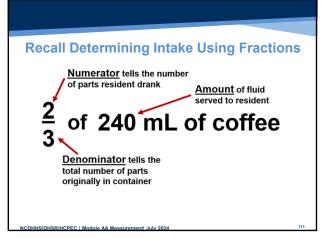




- 240 mL in the resident's coffee cup
- Resident drank 2/3 cup of coffee
- Resident drank 160 mL of coffee

$$\frac{2}{3}$$
 of 240 mL of coffee
 $\frac{2}{3}$ X $\frac{240}{1}^{80} = \frac{160}{1} = 160$ mL





Determining Intake Using Quickly Fractions

- Determine what 1 part of total coffee equals by dividing the total mL amount of coffee (240) by 3 = 80
- Resident drank 2 of the 3 parts of the coffee, so multiply 80 (which is 1 part) by 2 because the resident drank 2 of the 3 parts = 160
- The resident drank 160 mL of the coffee

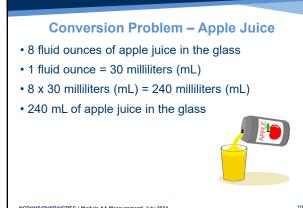
 $\frac{2}{3}$ of 240 mL of coffee

112

Milliliters and Ounces

- A common conversion in health care is changing (or converting) ounces to milliliters
- 1 ounce = 30 mL
- To convert ounces to milliliters, simply multiply number of ounces by 30





Milliliters and Cubic Centimeters

- Devices in health care are often marked in cubic centimeters (cc)
- A common conversion is changing (or converting) cc to milliliters (mL)
- 1 cubic centimeter (cc) = 1 milliliter (mL)
- To convert cc to mL, simply use the exact number measured

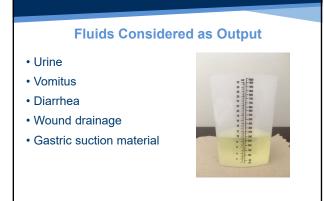
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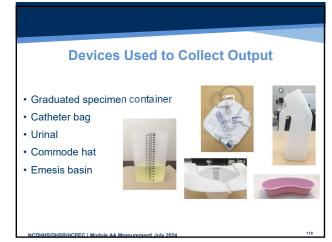
Conversion Problem – Grape Juice

- 120 cubic centimeters (cc) of grape juice in the glass
- 1 cc = 1 milliliter (mL)
- 120 mL of grape juice in the glass



2 1 50 00







119

Urinal

- A plastic, elongated device used by individuals for collection of expelled urine
- Meant for single-resident use
- As a measuring device, marked in ounces and cc (same as mL), with 100 cc (mL) increments marked lines and 50 cc (mL) unmarked lines between



Commode Hat (Specimen Pan)

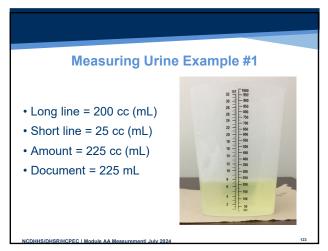
- Plastic collection container placed under commode lid
- Used when resident on bathroom privileges and on measured output
- Used to obtain urine or stool specimen
- Marked in ounces and cc (same as mL); grooved edge

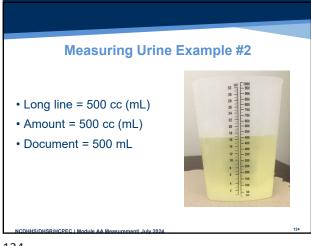


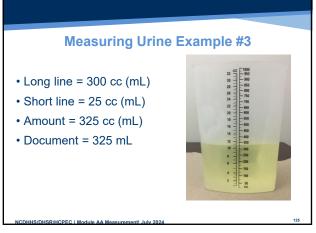
121

Emesis Basin

- A plastic, shallow basin shaped like a kidney that fits against resident's neck and collects bodily fluids
- Used during mouthcare
- If resident is nauseated, used to collect vomitus
- Marked in ounces and cc (same as mL) with 100 cc (mL) increments







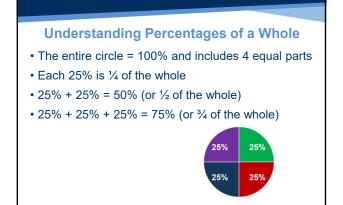


Identifying Food Intake

- Nurse aide compares amount of food eaten with amount of food served
- To measure food intake, nurse aide needs a basic understanding of percentages in relation to a whole, which is 100%



127



128

Identifying and Documenting Food Intake

Follow facility procedure regarding identifying and documenting food intake, for example

- Listing exact food eaten (all of chicken, all of green beans, ½ of mashed potatoes, ¼ of biscuit, all of pie)
- Using specific words (all, good, fair, poor, refused)
- Using percentages of food eaten (100%, 75%, 50%, 25%, 0%)





