



## ***NACNS CNS Pharmacology Self-Assessment Checklist***

***Pharmacotherapeutic content may include but is not limited to drug specific information, safe prescribing practices, safe medication administration, prescribing methodology, new regulations or similar content*** – ANCC Statement, 2016

Increasingly, CNSs are taking advantage of prescriptive privilege. With this, comes requirements to have continuing education credits for pharmacology. NACNS\* prepared this check list for speakers to consider when determining the amount of pharmacology credit that is contained within their session.

Please remember – two types of CE are given to a session – both standard CE and pharmacology CE. These are two different calculations and they are not additive. Meaning a 1 hour session can be assigned both 1.0 CE and 1.0 Pharmacology CE. In order to assign pharmacology CE to a session, one or more of the following self-assessment question should be answered in the affirmative. Once you have determined all of the categories that the session covers, the speaker can then determine the total amount of pharmacology CE contained in a session.

- √ Does the session include discussion about a specific pharmacologic agent?
- √ Does the session provide drug-specific information?
- √ Does the session discuss safe prescribing practices?
- √ Does the session include discussion about safe pharmacologic administration?
- √ Does the session include discussion about prescribing methodology, why or why not a pharmacotherapeutic should be used or not used?
- √ Does the session include discussion about new pharmacotherapeutic regulations – federal, state, JCAHO, etc.?
- √ Does the session include discussion about recommended policies and procedures related to the use of the pharmacotherapeutic treatment?

- √ Does the session provide a case study or content that assists the learner in discriminating when a pharmacologic agent should be used and when it should not be used?
- √ Does the session highlight new research or evidence related to the use of a pharmacologic agent or the replacement of a pharmacologic agent with another intervention?
- √ Does the session discuss strategies to assist patients/families/caregivers to adhere to a medication regimen?
- √ Does the session discuss common or unique side effects related to the use of pharmacologic agents?
- √ Does the session help the learner differentiate when a specific pharmacologic agent is the preferred choice to manage a patient's symptoms or health conditions?
- √ Does the session discuss evidence-based practice and/or safety issues related to a specific pharmacologic agent?
- √ Does the session present content on how to educate the family/patient/caregiver to use a specific pharmacologic agent?
- √ Does the session discuss the legal/ethical or cultural considerations related to use of a specific pharmacologic agent?
- √ Does the session discuss why a prescriber would select a non-pharmacologic agent or intervention rather than a specific pharmacologic agent?

\*This document was prepared in consultation with ANCC.