



Math Study Strategies

Math for Nursing

Converting between Fractions, Decimals, and Percents

Percents are a special form of decimals. A percent is a fraction that has the denominator of 100. You will usually see percent written with the percent symbols (%).

$$\frac{75}{100} = 75\%$$

Example:

A 500 cc I.V. bag is labeled 10% dextrose in water. How many cc's of dextrose are in the bag?

****Of is an important keyword for multiplication in word problems***

Before we find 10% of dextrose or $500 \text{ cc} \times 10\%$, we must first change 10% into a fraction or decimal

Converting Percents into Fractions:

Remove the percent symbols (%), divide by 100, and reduce to the simplest form.

Example: $10\% = \frac{10}{100} = \frac{1}{10}$

Converting Percents into Decimals:

Remove percent symbol (%) move decimal point two decimal places to the left $10\% = 0.1$

Example: $10\% = 0.1$

Converting Decimals to Percents :

Multiply by 100, moving the decimal places to the right and insert percent symbol (%)

Example: $0.1 \times 100 = 10\%$

Therefore: **In the bag are 50 cc dextrose**

$$0.1 \times 500 = 50\text{cc}$$