



## **Lesson 6: Using Medication References and Resources**

**After completing this lesson you will be able to:**

1. Describe why a person may want to check a reference regarding a drug or medication.
2. Describe several different sources that could be used to understand medications.
3. Describe benefits and limitations to some common references and resources.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use a reference when necessary.

## OJT List

On-the-Job Training (OJT) statements are observable measures of skill that a person can demonstrate. These are the OJT statements for Lesson #6: Using Medication References and Resources.

- The direct support professional can describe several possible resources useful for learning more about medications.
- The direct support professional can list benefits and limitations of medication resources he or she uses.
- The direct support professional can accurately use the references and resources provided by the employer.

## Portfolio List

Portfolio samples are examples of work a person could place in a portfolio based on the content of this lesson. These are the Portfolio suggestions for Lesson #6: Using References and Resources.

- The direct support professional (DSP) uses a references or resource to assist a person he or she supports learn more about a medication. The portfolio example includes actual work samples that help illustrate the problem or concern. For example, narratives regarding side effects experienced are included or copies of medical referrals suggesting a change in medications. The DSP provides a summary statement that describes the problem or concern about the medication. The summary includes the type of resources used and what happened as a result of the investigation.

## Using Medication References and Resources

**Directions:** To complete this exercise you will need at least two different resources on medications.

1. Using the resources, look up the medication or remedy that someone you support uses. If you do not have a specific preparation in mind, use the medication called "Celexa, 20 mg."
2. Look up the answers to these questions in both resources and write down your responses. Keep track of any differences. If you use a web site as a resource, write down the web address for questions on the next page.

Questions:

1. Based on the resources you used, what is the recommended use for this preparation?

2. What are likely side effects?

3. Who should not use the preparation?

4. What substances are likely to interact negatively with this preparation?

5. What other precautions or concerns are there to using this medication?

