Lesson Plan – Exponential decay and its effect on pain control

This lesson is connected to the Role Model Video about Oncology Nursing by Melissa Holt.

This lesson is designed to be used in an algebra 2 class. Students understand the general form of exponential decay and have already learned how to find the half-life of a decay function. Although they have worked problems related to exponential decay of medicine, they have not considered what would happen when medicine is administered at regular intervals over time.

Activities:

Watch and discuss role model video on Oncology Nursing. Discuss the importance of pain control and the importance of getting the dosage correct. Include in this discussion how decay rate and the time interval of the dosage might influence the doctor’s decision.

Students work with Morphine Dosage fathom file as they complete the worksheet on the unit.

Class discussion at the end of the activity.