Drugs... A Diminishing Return

You are an Olympic athlete scheduled to compete Friday at 4:00 P.M. On Thursday morning, you awaken with a bad cold and consider taking a cold medication. You know drug testing will take place immediately prior to the competition and the drug test is capable of detecting 1 or more milligrams of medication in your system. After each 4-hour time period, your body will have dissipated one-fourth of the remaining drug. If you take a 16 mg dosage at 8:00 A.M., will you pass the drug test and be able to participate? If not, how long will it take to for you to be able to pass the drug test?

Complete the chart by calculating how much cold medicine is in the blood system at the end of each 4 hour interval. Round these answers to the nearest hundredth.

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| Number of 4 Hour Intervals (*x*) | Elapsed Hours | Process  (Math expression) | Milligrams of Drug Remaining (*y*) |
|  | 0 |  |  |
|  | 4 |  |  |
|  | 8 |  |  |
|  | 12 |  |  |
|  | 16 |  |  |
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| X |  |  | Y = |

Fill out this table using the results from the table above. Graph the data (include labels and a title) and write the equation for the function.

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Equation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Domain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Range: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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