ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: # Medication

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MEDICATION Spironolactone REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER

CATEGORY CLASS Potassium-Sparing Diruetic

PURPOSE OF MEDICATION

Expected Pharmacological Action

Causes loss of sodium bicarb and calcium while saving potassium and hydrogen ions by antagonizing aldosterone.

Therapeutic Use

Improved survival in heart failure patients, and weak diuretic and antihypertensive response when compared to other diuretics.

Complications

Arrhythmias, DRESS, toxic epidermal necrolysis, amenorrhea, hyperkalemia, agranulocytosis, muscle cramps, dizziness, and headache.

Contraindications/Precautions

Contraindicated in hypersensitivity, anuria, acute renal insufficiency, significant renal impairment, hyperkalemia, addison's disease, and concurrent use of eplerenone. Use cautiously in hepatic dysfunction and geriatric or debilitated patients with diabetes.

Interactions

Use with eplerenone increases risk of hyperkalemia, increased hypotension with acute alcohol ingestion, use with ACE inhibitors, lithium excretion, and may increase effects of digoxin.

Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness

Improved survival in patients with heart failure. Weak diuretic and antihypertensive response when compared with other diuretics. Decreased BP, prevention of hypokalemia, treatment of hypoaldosteronism.

Medication Administration

PO (Adults): tablet: 25mg once daily, may then increase to 50mg once daily, if hyperkalemia develops, decrease dose to 25mg every other day.

Nursing Interventions

Monitor intake and output ratios, daily weight, evaluate BP before admin. and during therapy. Assess pt. frequently for hyperkalemia, confusion, dyspnea, and cardiac dysrhythmias. Assess pt. for skin rash.

Client Education

Emphasize med. adherence, even if they're feeling well. Take med. at same time each day, take misses doses as soon as possible, avoid salt substitutes and high potassium foods. May cause dizziness, and to avoid driving until response is known.