

Content Focus: Adverse Drug Reactions

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Your ScoreCard: Correct: 9/25 Incorrect: 16/25

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with losartan?

Angioedema (occurs less than with ACE inhibitors, but still a potential risk)

Headache, dizziness, hypotension, insomnia

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with spironolactone?

Hyperkalemia

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with nifedipine?

Reflex tachycardia causing increased angina pain in clients with angina Note: This effect is most likely with faster-acting tablets than the sustained release form.

Headache, Lightheadedness, dizziness (caused by vasodilation)

Facial flushing, perception of heat (caused by vasodilation)

Peripheral edema of feet and legs

Arrhythmias

Gingival hyperplasia (growth of gum tissue, bleeding gums) – rare

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with atenolol and metoprolol?

Bradycardia due to blockade of beta1 receptors; may lead to reduced cardiac output

Heart failure – shortness of breath, edema, coughing at night

Rebound excitation causing angina pain or MI with sudden withdrawal of beta blocker in client with CHD

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with reserpine?

Severe depression and risk for suicide, which can linger after reserpine is discontinued

Bradycardia and orthostatic hypotension

GI symptoms: diarrhea, abdominal cramping

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with clonidine?

CNS effects: drowsiness, dizziness

Dry mouth

Rebound hypertensive crisis may result if clonidine is abruptly discontinued

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with carvedilol?

Dizziness, hypotension

Bradycardia due to blockade of beta1 receptors; may lead to reduced cardiac output

Postural hypotension

Exacerbation of asthma

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with furosemide?

Electrolyte imbalance: hyponatremia, hypochloremia, severe fluid loss (dehydration), and hypokalemia

Hypotension

Ototoxicity (all loop diuretics can be temporary or permanent depending on the specific drug)

Hyperglycemia (especially in clients who have diabetes mellitus)

Increased uric acid levels (hyperuricemia) with possible gouty arthritis in susceptible clients

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with digoxin?

Cardiac dysrhythmias, especially likely with digoxin toxicity

Any dysrhythmia may occur, with AV block being most common

GI symptoms – early signs of toxicity

Nausea, vomiting, anorexia

CNS symptoms

Fatigue, visual disturbances, such as yellow vision and blurred vision

Increased mortality in women

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with dobutamine?

Tachycardia, cardiac dysrhythmias, and possible angina pain

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with milrinone?

Hypokalemia

Cardiac dysrhythmias, hypotension

Anginal chest pain

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with nitroglycerin and isosorbide?

Headache (severe at first, reduced with treatment)

Orthostatic hypotension

Tachycardia

Tolerance develops quickly to all forms (decreased effectiveness)

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with quinidine and procainamide?

GI symptoms: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Tachycardia (more frequent with quinidine due to anticholinergic effects)

Hypotension (less severe with oral administration than IV)

Widen the QRS complex and prolongs QT interval

Ventricular dysrhythmias occur due to toxicity; oral or IV therapy (QRS too wide or QT interval too long)

Arterial embolism (caused by dislodging small clots) if treating atrial fibrillation

Speed shock with too rapid IV infusion (flushing, headache, irregular heart rate, severe hypotension, loss of consciousness, cardiac arrest)

Quinidine: cinchonism (tinnitus, visual disturbances, headache, nausea, vomiting)

Procainamide: systemic lupus erythematosus-like syndrome (SLE) seen in 70% of clients after 1 year of oral therapy)

Blood dyscrasias (procainamide with continued use)

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with flecainide and propafenone?

Dizziness, dyspnea, and visual disturbances

Worsening of heart failure; edema

Widen QRS complex; prolongs QT and PR intervals

Potential for 1st degree AV block; multiple dysrhythmias may occur

What are the adverse drug reactions associated with propranolol?

Bradycardia due to blockade of beta1 receptors; may lead to reduced cardiac output

Heart failure

Rebound excitation causing angina pain or MI with sudden withdrawal of beta blocker in client with CHD

Peripheral arterial insufficiency (similar to Raynaud's disease)

CNS effects: confusion, fatigue, drowsiness

What are adverse drug reactions associated with verapamil?

Hypotension, especially with IV dose or overdose

Bradycardia, especially with IV dose, but also with oral therapy

Heart failure, peripheral edema of feet and legs

Lightheadedness, dizziness (caused by vasodilation)