

Medication	Mechanism of Action/Use	Nursing considerations
Methotrexate	Interferes with the growth and division of cells, especially cancer cells, and cells that cause inflammation/ Used to treat certain types of cancers, to control severe psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, and joint pain (2024)	Allergies to the drug, renal or hepatic disease, shouldn't be used in pregnancy, monitor for toxicity, liver functioning and CBC monitoring.
Mifepristone	Antagonist of glucocorticoid and progesterone receptors/ Used in the medical termination of pregnancy through 49 days. Controls hyperglycemia in those with Cushing's who have type II DM (2024)	Encourage birth control while on this medication due to drug abortion properties, report post-menopausal bleeding, and avoid antacids that contain magnesium.
Rhogam	Suppresses the immune response of Rh-Negative individuals to Rh- Positive red blood cells/ Used in pregnant women who are Rh Negative blood type who may come in contact with Rh Positive blood (2024)	Monitor for side effects at the injection site and hypersensitive reactions, educate why it is needed, educate to not receive live vaccines within three weeks
Promethazine	Works on H1 receptors to treat allergic reactions, N/V, and motion sickness/ Used for the treatment of N/V and motion sickness	Monitor IV site due to may cause damage to tissue, may cause CNS depression, Monitor LOC, Educate to avoid alcohol use, Educate to avoid prolonged exposure to the sun, educate to maintain fluid intake

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Pyridoxine and Doxylamine	Used together to treat N/V during pregnancy/ Used to treat N/V (2024)	Educate to take on an empty stomach with a full glass of water at bedtime, don't chew but take whole. Educate them to avoid driving or hazardous activity, educate them to avoid alcohol, educate them that this drug may interact with other medications, and to let their MD know all drugs and herbal supplements they are on.
Ondansetron	Serotonin type 3 receptor antagonist to treat N/V/Used to treat N/V (2024)	Monitor for reduced symptoms, monitor motor function, monitor for dizziness and drowsiness, monitor labs for dehydration, monitor cardiac status, educate the patient about side effects and that this drug can interact with other meds to report everything they take to their MD.
Betamethasone	Corticosteroid used to relieve inflammation in various conditions/ Used to treat inflammation caused by allergies, dermatological d/o, gastrointestinal disease, and hematological d/o (2024)	Monitor weight weekly, don't take while breastfeeding, discontinue slowly, monitor for side effects
Indomethacin	NSAID with anti-inflammatory analgesic and antipyretic properties/Used to manage chronic musculoskeletal pain and to induce closure of ductus arteriosus in premature infants (2024)	Monitor for dizziness, drowsiness, and headache. Educate that aspirin may decrease effectiveness. Educate them to wear sunscreen, which is not recommended during breastfeeding.
Magnesium Sulfate	Causes direct inhibition of	Monitor EKG, Respiratory rate,

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	action potential of myometrial muscle cells/Used as an anticonvulsant, cathartic, and electrolyte replenisher in the treatment of pre-eclampsia and eclampsia (2024)	magnesium levels. Use caution in those with renal insufficiency; you will need to monitor labs, Have calcium gluconate ready as an antidote, monitor and educate the patient to report side effects like SOB, muscle weakness, arrhythmias, and hypotension
Terbutaline Sulfate	Beta 2 adrenergic agonist/ Used as a broncho dilator and to prevent premature labor (2024)	Educate pt how to take their own pulse and when to notify MD of pulse changes. Monitor maternal/fetal VS if used for preterm labor, monitor for hypoglycemia, and monitor for hypokalemia.
Glyburide	2 nd generation sulfonylurea that stimulates insulin secretion/ Used to treat patients with DM type II (2024)	Monitor HbA1C levels, Monitor CBC, Give drug 30 minutes before meal, and monitor urine or serum glucose levels frequently to determine effectiveness
Insulin	Promotes cellular uptake of glucose/Used to treat type 1 sometimes type 2 DM	Educate pt how to give insulin, how often to give the insulin, how to mix different types of insulin if needed. Educate the patient on different diets and monitor for hypoglycemia. Monitor BP for hypertension.
Hydralazine hydrochloride	Vasodilator used to treat high blood pressure/ Used to manage HTN, heart failure, pre-eclampsia or eclampsia (2024)	Assess for contraindications or allergies, monitor VS before administration, report any hypotension, tachycardia, or angina
Labetalol	Alpha and Beta-adrenergic	Monitor BP prior and post

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	antagonist/ Used to treat HTN, angina, and sympathetic overactivity syndrome (2024)	administration, educate pt to remain upright for 3 hours post-administration to prevent postural hypotension, strict I&O, monitor for hypoglycemia. Monitor BP, and if a rapid drop in blood pressure occurs, lay pt on left lateral position, provide O2, and fluid bolus.
Nifedipine	Calcium channel blocker/Used to manage several types of angina pectoris and HTN (2024)	Monitor BP and P, use caution, and monitor those with heart block, Educate to not consume grapefruit juice while taking this med. Monitor calcium labs, liver function tests, and for Steve's Johnson syndrome.
Calcium gluconate	Increases the level of calcium in the blood or by binding to excess potassium or magnesium in the blood/ Used to manage hypocalcemia, cardiac arrest, and cardiotoxicity due to hyperkalemia or hypermagnesemia (2024)	Nurses need to have close monitoring of the IV site, serial lab values, cardiac monitoring. Nurses should monitor for Trousseau's and Chvostek's signs and monitor respiratory status.
Misoprostol	Prostaglandin analog. Stimulation of these receptors in the stomach reduces gastric acid secretions, and in the uterus and cervix increases the strength and frequency of contractions/ Used to reduce the risk of NSAID-induced gastric ulcers and to terminate first trimester pregnancies. (2024)	Educate to not share the medication. Educate female patients that this drug can cause spontaneous abortions, and educate the pt to report black tarry stools or diarrhea that persists for a week or more. Educate pt to avoid alcohol or foods that upset their stomachs.
Cervidil	Stimulates the myometrium of the uterus to contract in a	Monitor the fetal vs and the mother's vs, and educate on the

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	manner that is similar to the contractions seen in the term uterus during labor/ Used to terminate pregnancy and for evacuation of the uterine contents of a fetal death up to 28 weeks of gestational age. (2024)	side effects like N/V, diarrhea, or abdominal pain. Educate them that this drug could cause uterine rupture. Nurses should monitor for allergic reactions.
Penicillin G	Acts directly on bacteria in the body and kills the pathogen by weakening their cell walls/Used to treat pneumonia, strep throat, staph, diphtheria, meningitis, gonorrhea, and syphilis (Gurarie, 2023)	Monitor for allergy to Penicillin. Educate the patient to let the MD know every med they are taking, even over the counter, as they could interact. Monitor liver and kidney labs. Educate pt on side effects.
Methylergonovine	Increases uterine tone and contractions/Used to stimulate contractions for birth and for elected abortions. Lessens blood loss during childbirth (Multum, 2022)	Educate them not to drink grapefruit juice with med. Educate to notify MD of all meds pt is taking to prevent interactions and educate on side effects. Educate them to pump and dump the first 12 hours of breast milk if they plan to breastfeed.
Nalbuphine (Nubain)	Synthetic opioid agonist-antagonist/Used to relieve pain during childbirth and surgery or operations (Drugs.com, 2023)	Educate pt to notify MD of all meds pt is taking to prevent interactions. Educate on side effects and possible long-term side effects. Monitor VS and excessive sedation, and monitor for fall precautions. Monitor pain levels for therapeutic effect.
Naloxone--	Opioid antagonist that works by reversing and blocking the effects of other opioids/Used to treat opioid overdose (Puckey, 2023)	Have resuscitation equipment available. Give slowly to prevent N/V. Educate opioid-dependent pts on options for drug rehabilitation.
Fentanyl	Synthetic opioid used to treat moderate to severe pain	Educate pt to notify the MD of all meds pt is taking to prevent

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	(Puckey, 2023)	interactions. Educate on the side effects and possible long-term side effects. Monitor VS and excessive sedation, monitor for fall precautions, and monitor pain levels for therapeutic effect.
Ibuprofen	NSAID that blocks COX enzymes/ used to treat pain and fever and reduce inflammation (Durbin, 2023)	Monitor labs for renal and cardiac. Educate to take as prescribed. Educate the patient to hydrate well while taking this medication, educate to take it with food, and educate the pt to let the MD know of all medications to prevent interactions or overdose. Educate to report any black, tarry stools. Monitor pain levels for therapeutic effect.
acetaminophen	Analgesic that blocks COX enzymes in the brain/ used to treat pain and fever (Durbin, 2023)	Monitor pain levels for therapeutic effect. Monitor for allergies and labs for adverse effects on renal function and liver function. Educate to take as prescribed. Educate them to hydrate well while taking this medication, educate them to take it with food, and educate pt to let MD know of all medications to prevent interactions or overdose. Educate to report any black, tarry stools.
oxycodone	Semi-synthetic opioid that works on opioid receptors.	Educate pt to notify MD of all meds pt is taking to prevent

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	Used for pain management in moderate to severe pain (Durbin, 2023)	interactions. Educate on side effects and possible long-term side effects. Monitor VS and excessive sedation, and monitor for fall precautions. Don't take it if you have asthma, and don't mix it with alcohol. Can cause with drawl in newborns. Don't nurse while on this medication
hydrocodone	Semi-synthetic opioid that works on opioid receptors. Used for around-the-clock treatment of severe pain (Thornton, 2023)	Educate pt to notify MD of all meds pt is taking to prevent interactions. Educate on side effects and possible long-term side effects. Monitor VS and excessive sedation, and monitor for fall precautions. Don't mix with alcohol. Can cause with drawl in newborns. Don't nurse while on this medication
ketorolac	NSAID that blocks COX enzymes/ used to treat moderate to severe pain for five days or less(Multum, 2024)	Monitor pain levels for therapeutic effect. Monitor for allergies and labs for adverse effects on renal function and liver function. Educate to take as prescribed. Educate the patient to hydrate well while taking this medication, educate to take it with food, and educate pt to let the MD know of all medications to prevent interactions or overdose. Educate to report any black, tarry stools
Hepatitis B vaccine	Stimulates the immune system	Monitor for adverse reactions.

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	to protect against Hepatitis B/ Used in routine immunizations of children and adolescents to prevent infectious disease (Multum, 2024).	Provide education on side effects and how to manage them, as well as when to contact the provider. Educate that arm will be sore at the injection site for a few days. Educate s/sx of infection at the injection site and when to seek medical care. Educate the patient that if they are moderately ill, they should wait until they are better before they receive the vaccine.
Erythromycin eye ointment	Inhibits protein synthesis in bacteria/Used as a bacteriostatic against gram-positive cocci and intracellular pathogens (Sinha, 2023)	Monitor for adverse reactions. Educate the mother that the eye ointment is standard preventative for every newborn. Educate to not wipe ointment off of the eye. Eyes should be kept closed for 30 to 60 seconds. Educate the mother that there could be mild eye irritation and eye sensitivity with this ointment
Phytonadione	Reverses the effects of anticoagulant therapy/ Used to reverse or neutralize bleeding complications because of an unplanned surgery or overdose of anticoagulants (Multum, 2023)	Monitor for adverse reactions. Monitor for therapeutic effects. Educate mothers that babies are not able to produce vitamin K needed for certain coagulation factors and are at increased risk for bleeding
Prenatal vitamins	Synthetic vitamins and minerals/ Used to help with growth and development (Multum, 2023)	Monitor for adverse reactions, Educate to hydrate well while taking this medication, educate to take with food, educate pt to let MD know of all medications to prevent interactions or overdose. Educate to take daily to reduce birth defects like neural tube defect, anencephaly, and spina bifida.
MMR vaccine	Stimulates the immune system	Monitor for adverse reactions.

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	to protect against MMR/Used in routine immunizations of children and adolescents to prevent infectious diseases (Adrian & Amit, 2022)	Provide education on side effects, how to manage them, and when to contact the provider. Educate that arm will be sore at the injection site for a few days. Educate s/sx of infection at the injection site and when to seek medical care.
Tetanus & reduced diphtheria toxoids/acellular pertussis vaccine	Stimulates the immune system to protect against DTaP/Used to protect against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis in infants and young children (Ogden et al., 2022)	Monitor for adverse reactions. Provide education on side effects, how to manage them, and when to contact the provider. Educate that arm will be sore at the injection site for a few days. Educate s/sx of infection at the injection site and when to seek medical care.
Lidocaine mucosal gel	Blocks the signal to the brain in the area it is applied, regarding sensation/ Used as a local anesthetic in a wide variety of procedures (2024)	Use caution in those with allergy to the drug, those with hepatic or cardiac disease. Monitor for overdose and educate pt on what those s/sx are as well as possible side effects. Monitor for and educate the patient to report nervousness, double vision, tremors, and confusion. Educate the patient not to apply to large or broken skin areas and avoid eye contact.

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