

N322 Drug Card Exam 4

Brand/Generic	Psyllium (Metamucil) (BULK- FORMING LAXATIVE)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Add mass to the feces, stimulating peristalsis and defecation.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Occasional constipation May help lower cholesterol Treats diarrhea
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Severe flatulence Abdominal cramping Esophageal or bowel obstruction
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Must be taken with water to avoid obstruction. (Most desirable laxative for long-term use) May reduce the absorption of certain meds. Take 1-2 hr. after other meds. Do not give in pts with underlying abdominal pain.

Brand/Generic	Docusate Sodium (Colace) (SURFACTANT LAXATIVE)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Decrease the surface tension of the fecal mass to allow water and fat to penetrate into the stool. (Prevents straining)
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Making stools softer and easier to expel.
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Stomach pain Diarrhea Irritated throat with liquid form
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Docusate Sodium has little true laxative effect. Acts within 1-3 days; can be taken daily Could lead to dependence and decreased function of the colon Do not take with mineral oil

Brand/Generic	Mineral Oil (LUBRICANT LAXATIVE)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Lubricate the fecal mass and slow colonic absorption of water from the fecal mass. Lubricant laxatives may interfere with the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins and if aspirated may result in a lipid aspiration pneumonia.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Constipation
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	N/V/D Anal pruritus Lipoid pneumonitis (if aspirated)
Nursing Considerations or Teaching	Acts within 1-3 days; can be taken daily

(1 or 2)	Avoid prolongs usage (could lead to dependence and decreased function of the colon) Do not take with mineral oil
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Brand/Generic	Bisacodyl (Dulcolax) (STIMULANT CATHARTIC)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Irritate the GI mucosa, pull water into the colon, and stimulate peristalsis.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Constipation
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	N/V/D Rectal sensation burning Electrolyte imbalance (long-term) Cathartic colon (long-term)
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Stimulant cathartics are the strongest and most abused laxative products. Produce watery stool and may lead to fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base imbalances.

Brand/Generic	Milk of Magnesia (SALINE CATHARTIC)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Increases the osmotic pressure in the intestinal lumen, resulting in the retention of water, which distends the bowel and stimulates the peristalsis.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Relieves occasional constipation Relieves indigestion/sour stomach/heartburn
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Slow heartbeats Flushing (redness, or tingly feeling) N/V/D
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Saline laxatives cathartics produce a semifluid stool and may lead to fluid and electrolyte imbalances.

Brand/Generic	Polyethylene glycol (Miralax) (SALINE CATHARTIC)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Increases the osmotic pressure in the intestinal lumen, resulting in the retention of water, which distends the bowel and stimulates the peristalsis.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Occasional constipation or irregular bowel movements
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Severe or bloody diarrhea Bloating/gas Increased sweating/dizziness
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Pour the powder into 4-8 ounces of cold or hot beverage

Brand/Generic	Lactulose (Miscellaneous Agent)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Exerts an osmotic effect, pulling water into the colon and stimulating peristalsis.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Constipation Hepatic encephalopathy (usually for alcoholic liver disease; decreases the production of the water product ammonia)
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	N/V/D Belching/gas Electrolyte imbalances (hypokalemia/hyponatremia/dehydration)
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor for electrolyte imbalances Monitor blood ammonia level, fluid balances Monitor diabetic pts May have poor response when taken with anti-infective

Brand/Generic	Sorbitol (Miscellaneous Agent)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Draws water into the large intestine
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Hyperkalemia to aid in the expulsion of the potassium
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	N/V/D Dehydration Fluid/electrolyte imbalances
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor pts for side/adverse effects Monitor for fluid and electrolyte imbalances Caution in pts with heart or kidney issues.

Brand/Generic	Kayexalate (Miscellaneous Agents)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Helps the body get rid of extra potassium
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Hyperkalemia
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Constipation N/V/D Anorexia Hypokalemia Hypocalcemia Hypomagnesemia
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor electrolyte levels Administer 3 hrs before or after other oral meds

Brand/Generic	Tums, Mylanta, Maalox (Antacids)
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Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Treat heartburn, reduces the acidity in the stomach
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Heartburn Acid reflux
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Constipation Hypophosphatemia Osteomalacia Diarrhea Hypermagnesemia
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Caution in older adults (neuromuscular effects)

Brand/Generic	Famotidine (Pepcid), Cimetidine (Tagamet), Ranitidine (Zantac) (Histamine 2 Receptor Antagonists- H2RA)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Inhibits both basal secretion of gastric acid and the secretion stimulated by histamine, acetylcholine, and gastrin.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Treat and prevent ulcers in the stomach and intestines
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Diarrhea Dizziness/drowsiness/confusion HA Gynecomastia
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor liver levels Abdominal examination Normal output

Brand/Generic	Omeprazole (Prilosec), Pantoprazole (Protonix), Lansoprazole (Prevacid) (Proton Pump Inhibitors)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Reduce the amount of acid in the stomach
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Treat the overproduction of acid in the stomach GERD PUD
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Constipation Diarrhea Flatulence HA Upset stomach N/V
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Give med before meals, with an antacid as prescribed Monitor for anemia, can interact with B12 Long-term use may increase risk of gastric carcinoma

Brand/Generic	Sucralfate (Carafate)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Binds to normal and ulcerated mucosa “stomach coater”
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Prevent and treat peptic ulcer disease
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	N/V Unexplained weight loss Flushed/dry skin Blue lips and fingernails
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Requires use for 4-8 week Dosage reduction is necessary for long-term use

Brand/Generic	Promethazine (Phenergan)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Blocks the action of acetylcholine, reducing nausea of motion sickness
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Sedative Amnesic Antiemetic Anti-motion-sickness
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Blurred vision Urinary retention Dry mouth Photosensitivity Drowsiness Confusion
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Do not drive or use machinery Use caution when in the sun Avoid alcohol

Brand/Generic	Hydroxyzine (Vistaril)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Affects certain natural substances (acetylcholine, serotonin) and acts directly on parts of the brain. Works as an antihistamine.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Anxiety Pruritis Preoperative sedation Nausea and vomiting
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Drowsiness/dizziness/confusion Dry mouth Thickened respiratory secretions Blurred vision Urinary retention Tachycardia

Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Do not drive or use machinery Avoid alcohol
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Brand/Generic	Ondansetron (Zofran)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Blocks serotonin that causes vomiting
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Prevention of nausea and vomiting caused by cancer drug therapy and post-surgical
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Diarrhea HA Dizziness Constipation Fatigue Transient elevation of liver enzymes
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Pt should avoid other OTC meds Assess lung sounds Maintain adequate fluid intake

Brand/Generic	Diphenoxylate with atropine (Lomotil), Loperamide (Imodium A-D) (Opiate-related antidiarrheals)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Slows peristalsis by acting on the smooth muscles in the intestine.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Is the prototype used to treat moderate to severe diarrhea
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Tachycardia Dizziness HA Flushing N/V Dry skin and mucous membranes Urinary retention
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	ETOH may increase CNS depression (Not for children under 2)

Brand/Generic	Alosetron (Lotronex), bismuth subsalicylate (Pepto-Bismol) (Bismuth salts)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Has antibacterial and antiviral activity. Commonly used OTC drug, has antisecretory and possibly anti-inflammatory effects because of the salicylate component.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Diarrhea associated with contaminated food
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Check for ASA (Not for long term use)

Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	May turn stools dark Coats stomach and slows loss of water
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Brand/Generic	Octreotide Acetate (Sandostatin)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	This medication decreased the growth hormone in the blood decreasing the occurrence of diarrhea.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Diarrhea
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Bradycardia HTN CHF exacerbation
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	This medication is not compatible with TPN feedings. Monitor patients vital signs diligently as this medication can cause bradycardia.

Brand/Generic	Pancreatin or Pancrelipase (Viokase, Pancrease, Cotazym)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	These medications use trypsin, amylase, and lipase to help break down proteins, carbohydrates, and fats.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Digestive Enzyme
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	GI Obstruction Abnormal Stools Biliary Tract Stones
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor these patients BM habits to ensure the patient does not suffer from constipation or diarrhea. This medication can decrease appetite.

Brand/Generic	Cholestyramine (Questran) Colestipol (Colestid)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Binds intestinal bile acids to prevent reabsorption and increase bile acid in BM.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Dyslipidemia
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Fecal Impaction

	GI Obstruction Osteoporosis
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	This medication can cause sever flatulence Educate patient to keep BM diary to help awareness of constipation and what OTC medications may help.

Brand/Generic	Biphosphonates
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Slow down and help prevent bone loss
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	osteoporosis
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Flu like symptoms Hypocalcemia Bone or Joint Pain
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	It is best to not continue to take this medication more than 10 years. Monitor calcium levels in the blood frequently to determine if this medication is becoming therapeutically effective or if it has stopped working.

Brand/Generic	Calcium and Vitamin D Preparations
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Stimulates bone mineralization
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Hypoparathyroidism
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	No Serious Reactions
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor lab values to ensure you are staying within therapeutic ranges

Brand/Generic	Desmopressin and Vasopressin
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Vasoconstriction of the blood vessels to increase the blood pressure.
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Diabetes Insipidus Advance Life Support
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Change in arrhythmias Angina

	Ischemic Injury
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor of bronchospasms Monitor constant vitals to ensure the patient is progressing to stable ranges while administering these medications.

Brand/Generic	Oxytocin (Pitocin)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	To stimulate contraction of uterus
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Induction of Labor Pregnancy Termination
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Uterine rupture Placentae Abruptio Postpartum hemorrhage
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Continuous Fetal Monitoring Monitor mothers' vital signs to ensure stable and no critical values

Brand/Generic	Somatropin (recombinant)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Stimulates multiple growth, anabolic, and anticatabolic effects
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Growth Hormone
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Diabetes Mellitus Hypothyroidism Sudden Death
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor this patient for edema on all extremities This medication is common to cause carpal tunnel syndrome. If limbs start to become numb or feeling is decreased, notify physician immediately.

Brand/Generic	Fludrocortisone (Florinef)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Produces sodium retention and potassium excretion to increase blood pressure
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Take in combination with Hydrocortisone for Cushing's Disease.

Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Growth Suppression Hyperglycemia Heart Failure
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Monitor Sodium and Potassium Levels Increase risk for yeast infection, thrush or any type of infection since it is an immunosuppressant.

Brand/Generic	Ketoconazole (Apo-Ketoconazole)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Control Cortisol Secretion Decreased production of Cortisol
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Cushing's Disease
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Pruitus Abdominal Pain Toxicity to the liver
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	Disopyramide (Antiarrhythmic) May cause life threatening ventricular dysrhythmias. Monitor this patient for severe Abdominal Pain as this medication is rapidly absorbed in the GI tract. Caution clients with liver disease

Brand/Generic	Mitotane (Lysodren)
Mechanism of Action (brief description use your own words)	Causes adrenal cortex to atrophy decreased the production of cortisol
Reasons Prescribed (conditions in which this drug is usually prescribed)	Primarily for cancer patients
Common Side Effects/Adverse Reactions (3 most common)	Depression Muscle tremors Anorexia
Nursing Considerations or Teaching (1 or 2)	This medication interacts with phenytoin and phenobarbital (Seizure Meds) Monitor for CNS effects. Adrenal Crisis can occur as we are suppressing the adrenal cortex