

Ezetimibe (Ezetrol)	
Classification:	Indication:
Cholesterol-lowering medication	Treats high blood cholesterol, can be used if patient can't take statins.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abdominal fullness• Chills• Loss of appetite• Light-colored stools• Nausea• Fever• Red spots on skin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not administer to pregnant or breastfeeding patients if used in combination with HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors• Use caution when combining with additional medications

Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat)

Classification:	Indication:
Nitrate	Prevention of chest pain from coronary artery disease
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rapid weight gain● Sweating● Chest tightness● Tingling of the hands or feet● Bloating of face, arms, hands, lower legs, or feet● Feeling of warmth or heart	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Contraindicated in patients with allergy to nitrates● Use cautiously with hepatic or renal disease● Take medication before chest pain begins, in anticipation of activities or situation that may cause an attack

Clopidogrel (Plavix)

Classification:	Indication:
Antiplatelet medication	Prevention of platelets sticking together to form a blood clot. Helps patients with an increased risk of blood clot formation.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abdominal pain• Nosebleeds• Diarrhea• Constipation• Nausea• Dizziness• Headaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor for signs of GI bleeding• Periodically assess blood pressure and compare to normal values, report if elevated• Monitor respiratory symptoms and report severe or prolonged ones• Assess dizziness and drowsiness that might affect gait or balance

Atorvastatin (Lipitor)

Classification:	Indication:
HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors/Statins	Used in treatment of several dyslipidemia types (primary hyperlipidemia, mixed dyslipidemia, hypertriglyceridemia, etc.)
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Indigestion● Nosebleeds● Flatulence● Diarrhea● Hives, itching, or skin rashes● Unusual weakness● Muscle cramps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Monitor liver function tests before initiating therapy, medication is primarily metabolized in the liver● Assess pregnancy and breastfeeding status before beginning medication● Monitor CK levels

Aspirin (Bufferin)

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Classification:	Indication:
Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)	Temporary relief of headache, minor arthritis, toothache, menstrual pain, muscle pain, and fevers.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficult breathing• Decrease or infrequent urine• Change in level of consciousness• Black tarry stools• Indigestion• Stomach aches• Convulsions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review patient's history of GI bleeding and ulceration• Monitor hematocrit levels to check for GI blood loss• Be aware the aspirin can alter the results of some lab tests• Monitor serum salicylate levels

Heparin (Hep-lock)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticoagulants	Used in preventing and treating thrombotic events, these include deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, and atrial fibrillation
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint stiffness or swelling• Blood in the urine• Coughing up blood• Back pain or aches• Gum bleeding from brushing teeth• Headaches• Heavy bleeding from cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not use for patients who can't regularly test for blood coagulation• Take caution in patients with severe liver or renal disease• Antihistamines, digoxin, and nicotine can decrease the anticoagulant effect of heparin

Warfarin (Jantoven)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticoagulant	Indicated for use in deep venous thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, artificial heart valves, and atrial fibrillation.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vision changes• Random bruising• Red or brown urine• Bloody stool• Severe bleeding• Joint pain or swelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess regularly for signs of bleeding and hemorrhage• Monitor any symptoms of DVT to determine if drug therapy is effective• Monitor skin reactions and report adverse reactions

Epoetin Alfa (Procrit)

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Classification:	Indication:
Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs)	Used in treatment of chronic kidney disease, includes patients on dialysis and not on it to decrease the need for red blood cell transfusion.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bone or joint pain• General feeling of tiredness or weakness• Heartburn or belching• Muscle aches or weakness• Skin pain• Stomach discomfort or swelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor for changes in regular blood pressure• Check for signs of allergic reactions including itching, rashes, and trouble breathing• Use caution with cancer patients, medication possible worsens it

Ferrous sulfate (Fesopan)

Classification:	Indication:
Iron	Medication is used to treat and prevent iron deficiency anaemia
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black stained teeth• Loss of appetite• Feeling or being sick• Constipation• Diarrhea• Tarry stools• Nausea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess nutritional status and bowel function prior to drug administration• Taking on an empty stomach helps increase absorption• Routinely monitor hemoglobin, hematocrit, and iron levels

Enoxaparin (Lovenox)

Classification:	Indication:
Low molecular weight heparin (LMWH)	Used in prevention of deep vein thrombosis, acute DVT, or pulmonary embolism
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bleeding gums• Coughing up blood• Difficulty breathing or swallowing• Prolonged bleeding from cuts• Red or black stools• Increased menstrual flow or vaginal bleeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closely monitor platelet count, withhold if count is less than 100,000/mm• Monitor and report any sign or symptom of unexplained bleeding• Monitor closely patients with renal insufficiency