

Generic  
Ezetimibe (Ezetrol)

Classification: Cholesterol-lowering agents

Indication: Hypercholesterolemia, Homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia, & homozygous sitosterolemia.

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Angioedema
- Joint pain
- Diarrhea
- Sinusitis
- Pain in arm or leg

Nursing Considerations:

- Contraindications: Hypersensitivity; Acute liver disease, pregnancy, children (<10 yrs old)
- Obtain diet history, esp. fat consum.
- Labs: serum choles. & triglyceride levels b/c
- May cause liver transaminases when given with HMG CoA reductase inhibitors

Generic  
Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat)

Classification: Antianginals

Indication: Angina (chest pain), Prevent angina attacks, & Acute Coronary Syndrome

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Headache
- Hypotension (orthostatic)
- Hot flushing on the face
- Rash
- Tingling/burning sensation

Nursing Considerations:

- Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to nitrogly., Allergy to adhesive (transdermal), taking PDE inhibitors, head trauma (cerebral hemorrhage), & Severe anemia.
- DONT take w/ PDE inhibitors.
- Monitor BP educate to slowly get up
- ↑ risk for falls

Generic  
Clopidogrel (Plavix)<sup>Brand</sup>

Classification: Anti-platelet agents  
Indication: Acute coronary synd.,  
Peripheral arterial disease, recent MI,  
or recent stroke.

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Chest pain • Acute generalized
- Edema • exanthematous eruptions
- Hypertension • GI bleeding
- Bleeding • Fatigue, dizziness

Nursing considerations:

- Contraindications: pregnancy, children,  
Hypersensitivity to clopidogrel or prasugrel,  
Pathologic bleeding
- Assess for <sup>signs of</sup> stroke, PVD, or MI
- Monitor signs of thrombotic thrombocytopenic  
purpura
- Labs: bleeding time, CBC

Generic  
Atorvastatin (Lipitor)<sup>Brand</sup>

Classification: HMG-CoA reductase  
inhibitors

Indication: Hyperlipidemia, Prevent  
risk for CAD & stabilize those w/ CAD

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Headache • Constipation
- Nausea • Cramping
- Dizziness • Abdominal pain
- Hyperglycemia

Nursing considerations:

- Contraindications: pregnancy, hypersensitivity,  
acute liver disease
- Monitor liver enzymes (ALT/AST)
- Monitor therapeutic response (LDL should ↓ 50%)
- Avoid grapefruit consumption (↑ risk for toxicity)
- Monitor for signs of rhabdomyolysis

Generic  
Aspirin (Brand Bayer)

Classification: Antiplatelet agents, antipyretics, nonopioid analgesics

Indication: Inflammatory disorders (Rheumatoid arthritis & Osteoarthritis), Mild to Severe pain, and Prophylaxis of transient ischemic attacks & MI

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- GI bleeding
- Hypersensitivity reactions (anaphylaxis & laryngeal edema)
- Tinnitus • Nausea
- Rash • Indigestion (dyspepsia)

Nursing Considerations:

- Contraindications: >30 weeks gestation (preg.)  
Children
- Monitor s/s of fever, rash, lymphadenopathy, & facial swelling
- Assess pain & admin <sup>after</sup> admin
- Assess for toxicity & overdose

Generic Brand  
Heparin (Hep-Loak)

Classification: Anticoagulant

Indication: Short-term, prophylaxis ant treatment of thromboembolic disorders, peripheral arterial thromboembolism

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Bleeding
- Anemia
- Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT)

Nursing Considerations:

- Contraindications: Hypersensitivity; uncontrolled bleeding, history of HIT
- Assess for bleeding & hemorrhage (bleeding gums, nosebleed, unusual bruise, black tarry stools, hematuria, ↓ in Hct or BP)
- Assess ↑ thrombosis
- Labs: aPTT & hematocrit, platelet

Generic      Brand  
Warfarin (Coumadin) → Jantoven

Classification: Anticoagulant

Indication: Prophylaxis & treatment of venous thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, Atrial fibrillation w/ embolization, MI, prevention of thrombus formation

Side effects / adverse reactions:

- Dermal necrosis • Bleeding
- Cramps • Calciphylaxis (Ca<sup>2+</sup> accumulation in blood vessels)
- Nausea

Nursing Considerations:

- Contraindications: pregnancy, uncontrolled bleeding, Active ulcer disease
- Assess for bleeding & hemorrhage
- Labs: PT, INR, CBC
- Monitor stool & urine for occult blood
- Toxicity & overdose

Generic      Brand  
Epoetin alfa (Procrit)

Classification: Antianemics

Indication: Anemia associated w/ chronic kidney disease, Anemia secondary to Zidovudine (AZT) therapy

Side effects / adverse reactions:

- HF • Hypertension • transient rashes
- MI • seizures
- Stroke • Headache
- Thromboembolic events

Nursing Considerations:

- Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to albumin or mammalian cell-derived products. >200 erythropoietin levels, on hormonal agents, radiotherapy & chemotherapy
- Monitor BP b/f & during therapy
- Monitor anemia s/s (fatigue, weakness, pallor)
- Labs: may cause ↑ WBC & platelets. ↓ bleeding Hmg levels

Generic Brand  
Ferrous sulfate (Feospan)

Classification: Antianemics

Indications: Treatment & prevention  
iron deficiency anemia

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Nausea • Epigastric pain
- Constipation • Headache • Syncope
- Dark stools • Dizziness (fainting)

Nursing considerations:

- Contraindications: Anemia not due to iron deficiency; Hemochromatosis; Hemosiderosis; Hypersensitivity to iron products
- Assess nutritional status & dietary history, find cause
- Assess bowel function for constipation or diarrhea
- Labs: Hmg, Hct, & iron
- Occult blood in stools
- Toxicity & overdose

Generic Brand  
Enoxaparin (Lovenox)

Classification: Anticoagulants (low molecular weight Heparin)

Indication: Prevent thromboembolism venous (VTE), DVT (deep vein thrombosis) and/or pulmonary embolism (PE)

Side effects/adverse reactions:

- Bleeding • Vomiting
- Anemia • Dizziness
- Nausea • Headache

Nursing considerations:

- Contraindications: Hypersensitivity, HIT
- Assess for bleeding & hemorrhage
- Assess for ↑ thrombosis
- Assess location, duration, intensity, and precipitating factors of original pain