

Ezetimibe (Ezetrol)	
Classification:	Indication:
Cholesterol lowering medication	reduce total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein (LDL), apolipoprotein B (apo B), and non-high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in patients with primary hyperlipidemia, mixed hyperlipidemia, familial hypercholesterolemia (HoFH), and homozygous sitosterolemia (phytosterolemia).
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdominal fullness. • Black tarry stools. • Blood in urine or stools. • Darkened urine. • Gaseous abdominal pain. • General tiredness or weakness. • Large, hive-like swelling on face, eyelids, lips, tongue, throat, hands, legs, feet, sex organs. • Light-colored stools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients may experience arthralgia, rhabdomyolysis, hepatic impairment, dizziness, upper respiratory infections, or diarrhea if they are taking this medication. • Minimal side effects were reported with monotherapy.

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 NUR203: Principles of Pharmacology: NA
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Drug Cards

Nitroglycerin (Nitrostat)	
Classification:	Indication:
Belongs to a group of medicines called nitrates	chest pain or discomfort associated with angina pectoris or suspected acute myocardial infarction, as well as pulmonary

	edema with hypertension.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bloating or swelling of the face, arms, hands, lower legs, or feet. • Burning, crawling, itching, numbness, prickling, "pins and needles", or tingling feelings. • Difficult or labored breathing. • Feeling faint, dizzy, or lightheadedness. • Feeling of warmth or heat. 	<p>May cause</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blurred vision • Dryness of the mouth • Skin reactions <p>Contraindications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe anemia • Increased ICP <p>Monitor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hemodynamics • Chest pain

Clopidogrel (Plavix)	
Classification:	Indication:
Antiplatelet	prevent serious or life-threatening problems with the heart and blood vessels in people who have had a stroke, heart attack, or severe chest pain

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headaches. • Dizziness. • Nausea. • Diarrhea. • Constipation. • Indigestion (dyspepsia) • Stomachache or abdominal pain. • Nosebleeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be alert for signs of GI bleeding signs (abdominal pain, vomiting blood, blood in stools, black/tarry stools) or other signs of bleeds (bleeding gums, nosebleeds, unusual bruising, hematuria; fall in hematocrit or blood pressure). • Notify physician or nursing staff immediately if these signs occur.

Atorvastatin (Lipitor)	
Classification:	Indication:
HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, or statins	primary hyperlipidemia and mixed dyslipidemia in adults, hypertriglyceridemia, primary dysbetalipoproteinemia, homozygous familial hypercholesterolemia, and heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling sick (nausea) or indigestion. Stick to simple meals and do not eat rich or spicy food. • Headaches. Make sure you rest and drink plenty of fluids. • Nosebleeds. • Sore throat. • Cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, blocked nose or sneezing. • Constipation or farting (flatulence) • Diarrhea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindicated in active liver disease • May cause rhabdomyolysis • Monitor renal function • Monitor serum cholesterol before, about 4 weeks after starting, and frequently during drug therapy • Monitor liver function tests • Instruct patient to report muscle weakness (sign of rhabdomyolysis)

Aspirin (Acetylsalicylic acid)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS)	temporary relief of headache, pain and fever of colds, minor pain of arthritis, muscle pain, menstrual pain, and toothache
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigestion and stomach aches – taking your medicine with food may help reduce this risk. • Bleeding or bruising more easily than normal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use caution in bleeding disorders, chronic alcohol use • May lead to Stevens-Johnson syndrome, laryngeal edema, and anaphylaxis • Increases risk for bleeding with warfarin, heparin, and clopidogrel • Increased risk for GI bleeding with NSAID uses • Monitor liver function tests • Concurrent use with alcohol may increase risk for GI bleeding • Aspirin with viral infections can cause Reye’s syndrome
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Heparin (Hep-Lock)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticoagulants (blood thinner)	prevention and treatment of thrombotic events such as deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE) as well as atrial fibrillation (AF)

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdominal or stomach pain or swelling. • Back pain or backaches. • Bleeding from the gums when brushing teeth. • Blood in the urine. • Coughing up blood. • Headaches, severe or continuing. • Heavy bleeding or oozing from cuts or wounds. • Joint pain, stiffness, or swelling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Withdraw the needle immediately and apply prolonged pressure at the injection site. • Avoid applying heat/cold or massaging the injection site. • Rotate sites in subcutaneous injection. • Avoid the IM route for injections due to the risk of hematoma.

Warfarin (Coumadin, Jantoven)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticoagulant (blood thinner)	Atrial fibrillation (AF), the presence of artificial heart valves, deep venous thrombosis (DVT), and pulmonary embolism (PE).
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe bleeding, including heavier than usual menstrual bleeding. • Red or brown urine. • Black or bloody stool. • Severe headache or stomach pain. • Joint pain, discomfort or swelling, especially after an injury. • Vomiting of blood or material that looks like coffee grounds. • Coughing up blood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for signs of bleeding and hemorrhage, including bleeding gums, nosebleeds, unusual bruising, coughing up blood, black/tarry stools, hematuria, or a fall in hematocrit or blood pressure. • Notify physician or nursing staff immediately if warfarin causes excessive anticoagulation
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Epoetin Alfa (Procrit, Epogen)	
Classification:	Indication:
Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs)	treatment of anemia due to chronic kidney disease (CKD), including patients on dialysis and not on dialysis to decrease the need for red blood cell (RBC) transfusion.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bone or joint pain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess dialysis shunts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General feeling of tiredness or weakness. • Heartburn or belching. • Itching or stinging at the injection site. • Loss of strength or energy. • Muscle aches or weakness. • Skin pain. • Stomach discomfort, upset, pain, or swelling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindicated in albumin hypersensitivity • May cause, Seizures, CHF, MI, CVA, Hypertension • Do not shake vial • Initiate seizure precautions • Monitor bleeding times and signs of anemia
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Ferrous Sulfate (Slow FE, Fer-In-Sol, Feratab, Iron, Mol-Iron, Feosol, MyKidz Iron 10)	
Classification:	Indication:
Type of Iron	treat and prevent iron deficiency anemia.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting), stomach pain or heartburn. • Loss of appetite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May cause seizures, hypotension, constipation, epigastric pain, diarrhea, skin

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constipation. • Diarrhea. • Dark or black poo. • Black stained teeth (from the drops) 	<p>staining, anaphylaxis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess nutritional status, bowel function • Monitor hemoglobin, hematocrit, iron levels • May cause elevated liver enzymes • Take on an empty stomach to increase absorption/vitamin c helps with absorption • Use z-track for IM injections
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Enoxaparin (Lovenox)	
Classification:	Indication:
Low molecular weight heparin	prevention of ischemic complications in unstable angina and in non-Q-wave myocardial infarction; it is indicated in conjunction with percutaneous intervention and/or other treatment for the management of acute ST elevation myocardial infarction.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bleeding gums. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor platelet count closely.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coughing up blood.• Difficulty with breathing or swallowing.• Increased menstrual flow or vaginal bleeding.• Nosebleeds.• Paralysis.• Prolonged bleeding from cuts.• Red or black, tarry stools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Withhold drug and notify physician if platelet count less than 100,000/mm³.• Monitor closely patients with renal insufficiency and older adults who are at higher risk for thrombocytopenia.• Monitor for and report immediately any sign or symptom of unexplained bleeding
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