

cetirizine	
Classification:	Indication:
Antihistamine H ₁ -histamine antagonist	Rhinitis, allergy symptoms Unlabeled uses: Asthma, atopic dermatitis
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headache, dizziness • Dry mouth, constipation • Rash • Thickening of bronchial secretions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Breastfeeding, newborn or premature infants, hypersensitivity to this product or hydroxyzine, severe hepatic disease • Assess for allergy symptoms, evaluate for therapeutic response, educate patient about drug

montelukast	
Classification:	Indication:
Bronchodilator Leukotriene receptor antagonist	Chronic asthma, seasonal allergic rhinitis, bronchospasm prophylaxis
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness, seizures, suicidal ideation, memory impairment, hostility, somnambulism • Abdominal pain, dyspepsia, pancreatitis • Thrombocytopenia • Rash • Muscle cramps • Nasal congestion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity • Assess for respiratory symptoms, can cause severe hepatic disease, use with caution if pregnant or breastfeeding, check therapeutic response, education to patient or family,

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaphylaxis, angioedema, Churg-Strauss syndrome, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis 	
---	--

fluticasone propionate (Flonase, Veramyst (nasal spray))	
Classification:	Indication:
corticosteroids	Prevention of chronic asthma, nasal symptoms, allergic/nonallergic rhinitis Unlabeled uses: COPD
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nervousness, dizziness • Pharyngitis, dry eyes, cataract, epistaxis, blurred vision • abdominal pain, oral candidiasis • dermatitis • Hyperglycemia, growth retardation in children, cushingoid features • eosinophilic conditions, angioedema, Churg-Strauss syndrome, anaphylaxis, adrenal insufficiency (high doses) • joint pain • URIs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindication: hypersensitivity to product or milk protein, bronchospasm, primary treatment in status asthmaticus • Assess respiratory status, check for adrenal insufficiency, if pregnant only take if benefit outweighs fetal risk, avoid breastfeeding, evaluate therapeutic response. Patient/family education, look out for cushingoid symptoms

ipratropium (Atrovent HFA, Atrovent Nasal Spray)

ipratropium (Atrovent HFA, Atrovent Nasal Spray)	
Classification:	Indication:
bronchodilator Synthetic quaternary ammonium compound	Bronchospasm, COPD; rhinorrhea
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anxiety, dizziness • Palpitation • Dry mouth, blurred visions • Nausea • Rash • bronchospasms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindication: hypersensitivity to product (atropine, bromide, soybean, or peanut products) • Assess for palpitation, check for tolerance of long therapy, check for atropine sensitivity, assess respiratory status, if pregnant only take if benefit outweighs fetal risk, avoid breastfeeding, patient/family education

diphenhydramine (Allerdryl , Benadryl, Diphedryl, Sominex, Allergy Formula , Benylin , Calmex , Dormex , Dormiphen , Nadryl)

diphenhydramine (Allerdryl , Benadryl, Diphedryl, Sominex, Allergy Formula , Benylin , Calmex , Dormex , Dormiphen , Nadryl)	
Classification:	Indication:
Antihistamine H ₁ -histamine antagonist	Allergy symptoms, children insomnia, nighttime sedation, infant colic
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness, drowsiness, seizures • Hypotension, palpitations • Blurred vision, dilated pupils, tinnitus • Anorexia • Retention, dysuria, frequency • Thrombocytopenia, agranulocytosis, hemolytic anemia • Anaphylaxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to H₁-receptor antagonist, neonates • Assess urinary function, CBC for long-term therapy, check respiratory status, make sure it is stored correctly (cap tight in room temperature), if pregnant only take if benefit outweighs fetal risk, avoid breastfeeding, evaluate therapeutic response

guaifenesin (Benlyn Chest Congestion Extra Strength, Guiatuss, Jack & Jill, Mucinex, Robitussin Guaifenesin, Vicks Chest Congestion Relief , Vicks DayQuil Mucus Control)

Classification:	Indication:
Expectorant	Productive and nonproductive cough
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowsiness • Nausea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity, chronic, persistent cough • Assess cough, increase fluids, if pregnant only take if benefit outweighs fetal risk, evaluate therapeutic response, patient/family education (avoid driving, smoking, breastfeeding, not for < 2 years old)

epinephrine (Adrenaclick, Adrenalin, Auvi-Q, Anapen, EpiPen)

Classification:	Indication:
Bronchodilator nonselective adrenergic agonist Catecholamine	Acute asthmatic attacks, hemostasis, bronchospasm, anaphylaxis, allergic reactions, cardiac arrest, adjunct in anesthesia, shock
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tremors, anxiety, insomnia, headache, dizziness, hallucinations, cerebral hemorrhage • Palpitations, tachycardia, hypertension, dysrhythmias, increased T wave • Anorexia, nausea • Dyspnea, paradoxical bronchospasm (inhalation) • Hypoglycemia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to sympathomimetics, nonanaphylactic shock during general anesthesia • Assess asthma, vasopressor, Sulfite sensitivity, cardiac status, allergic reactions, therapeutic response, respiration, patient/family teaching

albuterol sulfate (ProAir RespiClick, Proventil, Proventil HFA, ReliOn, Salbutamol, Ventolin HFA, VoSpire ER, Volmax)

Classification:	Indication:	
Adrenergic β 2-agonist, sympathomimetic, bronchodilator	exercise-induced asthma, acute bronchospasm, bronchitis, emphysema, bronchiectasis, or other reversible airway obstruction Unlabeled uses: Hyperkalemia in dialysis patients, COPD, emphysema	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tremors, anxiety, hallucinations, restlessness, flushing • Palpitations, tachycardia, angina, hypo/hypertension, dysrhythmias • Heartburn • Sweating, hypokalemia, metabolic acidosis • Muscle cramps • dyspnea, paradoxical bronchospasm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to sympathomimetics • Assess respiratory function, check for paradoxical bronchospasm, if pregnant or breastfeeding only use if necessary, evaluate therapeutic response, patient/family education. 	

terbutaline sulfate (Bricanyl)

Classification:	Indication:	
Selective β 2-agonist; bronchodilator Catecholamine	Bronchospasm Unlabeled uses: Premature labor, nonresponsive status asthmaticus in children	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cardiac arrest, QT prolongation, tachycardia, hypertension • Hypokalemia, hyperglycemia • Paradoxical bronchospasm, dyspnea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to sympathomimetics, closed-angle glaucoma, tachydysrhythmias • Assess patient's respiratory function, check for paradoxical bronchospasm, patient's tolerance to Rx, Patient/family education 	

rifampin (Rifadin, Rofact)	
Classification:	Indication:
Antitubercular Rifamycin B derivative	Pulmonary TB, meningococcal carriers (prevention) Unlabeled uses: Endocarditis, Hansen’s disease, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC), orthopedic device–related infection, pruritus
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pseudomembranous colitis • pancreatitis • Hematuria, acute renal failure, hemoglobinuria • Hemolytic anemia, eosinophilia, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia • Rash • Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis, angioedema, anaphylaxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to product, rifamycin’s; active Neisseria meningitidis infection • Assess for infections, skin reaction, Pseudomembranous colitis, , if pregnant only take if benefit outweighs fetal risk, do not breastfeed, therapeutic response, Patient/family education, report flulike symptoms

Reference:

Skidmore-Roth, L., & Skidmore-Roth, L. (2020). *Mosby's 2020 Nursing Drug Reference*. Elsevier Health Science.