

Phenytoin (Dilantin, Phenytek)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsant	Status epilepticus, nonepileptic seizures, complex partial seizures
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
-dizziness, insomnia, suicidal tendencies, aggression, headache, confusion -hypotension, cardiac arrest -nystagmus, blurred vision -diabetes insipidus -nausea, vomiting, constipation, anorexia, weight loss, hepatitis -urine discoloration -leukopenia, thrombocytopenia -rash, hirsutism -hypocalcemia, anaphylaxis	-seizures = duration, type, intensity, precipitating factors -blood studies = CBC, platelets -mental status = mood, affect, memory, suicidal thoughts/ behaviors

Phenobarbital (Luminal)

Classification:	Indication:
Long acting barbiturate	Seizures, sedation
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
-dizziness, drowsiness, -excitation, headache, tiredness, loss of appetite -nausea, vomiting,	-monitor CNS status, CBC with differential -assess seizures -use caution = anemia, depression, cardiac disease, diabetes, drug abuse

Diazepam (Diastat, Valium)

Classification:	Indication:	
Benzodiazepine	Anxiety, acute alcohol withdrawal, adjunct for seizure disorders	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -dizziness, drowsiness, confusion, headache, hallucinations, fatigue -orthostatic hypotension, ECG changes, tachycardia, hypotension -blurred vision -neutropenia -rash, dermatitis, itching -respiratory depression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -orthostatic BP, pulse -assess CBC during long term therapy -assess degree of anxiety -assess withdrawal symptoms, including hallucinations -seizure control and type, duration, intensity of seizures -assess pain relief 	

valproic acid (Depakote, Epival)

Classification:	Indication:	
Anticonvulsant	Simple, complex, mixed seizures; manic episodes associated with bipolar disorder	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -sedation, drowsiness, dizziness, headache, coma, suicidal ideation, hypothermia -hypo/hypertension, taste perversion -NVD, anorexia, cramps, hepatic failure, weight gain -irregular menses -leukopenia, increased PT, bruising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -assess seizure disorder -assess mental status -assess migraines -assess blood studies 	

carbidopa-levodopa (Sinemet)

Classification:	Indication:
Dopamine agonist	Parkinson's disease
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -dizziness, loss of appetite, diarrhea, dry mouth, mouth and throat pain -change in sense of taste -forgetfulness or confusion -nervousness -difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -may cause orthostatic hypotension -may cause dark urine -weeks to months to take effects -do not use with MAOIs -do not use with glaucoma, melanoma -assess for parkinsonian symptoms -instruct patient to take as directed

Carbamazepine(Carbatrol, Epitol, Mazepine)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsant	Tonic-clonic, mixed seizure; trigeminal neuralgia, bipolar disorders
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -paralysis, suicidal thoughts/behaviors, tremors -dry mouth, blurred vision -NVD, anorexia, vomiting, abdominal pain, -frequency, retention -thrombocytopenia -rash, toxic epidermal necrolysis -osteoporosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -assess seizures -assess trigeminal neuralgia = facial pain, location, duration, intensity -assess renal studies -assess bipolar disorder

Benzotropine (Cogentin)

Classification:	Indication:
anticholinergic	Treatment for Parkinson's disease

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -anxiety, restlessness, hallucinations, depression, memory loss -palpitations, tachycardia -dilated pupils, difficulty swallowing -dryness of mouth, nausea, vomiting, abdominal distress -urinary hesitancy/retention -rash -increased temperature, flushing, decreased sweating, hyperthermia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -may lead to arrhythmias, hypotension, palpitations, tachycardia -anticholinergic effects like constipation, dry mouth -instruct patient to take as directed -instruct patient to maintain good oral hygiene

Bethanechol (Urecholine, Duvoid, Myotonachol)	
Classification:	Indication:
Cholinergic	Urinary retention
Side effects/ adverse reactions	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -dizziness, headache, malaise -hypotension, bradycardia, reflex tachycardia, cardiac arrest -increased salivation, lacrimation, blurred vision -Nausea, bloody diarrhea, belching, vomiting, cramps, fecal incontinence -rash, flushing, increased sweating -acute asthma, dyspnea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -assess urinary patterns = retention, urgency -asses BP, pulse -assess I&O ratio -orthostatic hypotension = monitor frequently

Pyridostigmine (Mestinon, Regonol)	
Classification:	Indication:
Cholinergic	Nondepolarizing muscle relaxant antagonist
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -dizziness, headache, sweating, weakness, seizures, incoordination, paralysis -tachycardia, dysrhythmias, bradycardia, AV block, hypotension, ECG changes -NVD, cramps, increased salivary and gastric secretions -urinary frequency, incontinence, urgency -respiratory depression, bronchospasm, constriction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -assess myasthenia gravis = fatigue, ptosis, diplopia, difficulty swallowing, SOB, -assess VS, respiration every 8 hours -assess toxicity = bradycardia, hypotension, bronchospasm, headache, dizziness, seizure -evaluate therapeutic response = increased muscle strength, hand grasp, improved gait
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Atropine (Atropen)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergic	Decreases oral and respiratory secretions; treats sinus bradycardia and heart block
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -headache, dizziness, involuntary movement, confusion, psychosis -tachycardia bradycardia -blurred vision, glaucoma, eye pain, pupil dilation -dry mouth, vomiting, constipation, -rash, dry skin, flushing -anaphylaxis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -avoid in acute hemorrhage, tachycardia, and angle closure glaucoma -monitor patient for tachycardia and palpitations -may cause urinary retention in elderly patients -patients may experience constipation due to slowed GI motility