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 Principles of Pharmacology
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Generic Name (Brand Name): phenytoin (Dilantin)	
Classification:	Indications:
Anticonvulsant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generalized tonic-clonic seizures - Complex partial seizures - Status epilepticus - Prophylaxis measures for seizures
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dizziness - Drowsiness - Ataxia - Nystagmus - Toxic epidermal necrolysis - Blood dyscrasia - Gingival hyperplasia - Osteoporosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain therapeutic drug levels - Avoid alcohol or any CNS depressants - Encourage good oral hygiene and regular dental check ups - Pt. education on interaction with oral contraceptives and warfarin

Generic Name (Brand Name): phenobarbital (luminal)	
Classification:	Indications:
Barbiturate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seizures - Insomnia - Anxiety
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dizziness - Drowsiness - Confusion - Resp. depression - Hypotension - Bradycardia - Withdrawal symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor closely when administered to elderly patients or patients with hepatic or renal impairments - Monitor for fatal resp. Depression - Educate pt. About withdrawal/dependence on drug - Do not suddenly discontinue

Generic Name (Brand Name): diazepam (valium)	
Classification:	Indications:
Benzodiazepine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seizures - Anxiety - Muscle spasms
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dizziness - Drowsiness - Confusion - Resp. depression - Hypotension - Bradycardia - Withdrawal symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor closely when administered to elderly patients or patients with hepatic or renal impairments - Monitor for fatal resp. Depression - Educate pt. About withdrawal/dependence on drug - Do not suddenly discontinue

Generic Name (Brand Name): valproic acid (depakote)	
Classification:	Indications:
Anticonvulsant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seizures - Bipolar disorder - Migraine headaches
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/V - Hepatotoxicity - Pancreatitis - Thrombocytopenia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor for possible GI irritation, administer with food to minimize GI discomfort - Monitor liver function tests to detect hepatotoxicity - Monitor for S/S of thrombocytopenia

Generic Name (Brand Name): carbamazepine (tegretol)	
Classification:	Indications:
Anticonvulsant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seizures - Neuropathic pain
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dizziness - Drowsiness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administer with food to minimize gastrointestinal irritation.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confusion - Hyponatremia - Aplastic anemia - Stevens-johnson syndrome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor serum sodium levels to detect hyponatremia. - Monitor for signs of aplastic anemia such as fever, sore throat, and fatigue. - Monitor for signs of Stevens-Johnson syndrome such as skin rash and blisters.
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Generic Name (Brand Name): carbidopa-levodopa (Sinemet)	
Classification:	Indications:
Dopamine agonist	Parkinson's disease
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/V - Dyskinesia - Orthostatic hypotension - Hallucinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administer with food to minimize gastrointestinal irritation. - Monitor for dyskinesia, which may require a dosage adjustment. - Monitor blood pressure, especially when the patient is standing, to detect orthostatic hypotension. - Monitor for signs of hallucinations and other psychotic symptoms

Generic Name (Brand Name): benztropine (Cogentin)	
Classification:	Indications:
Anticholinergic	Parkinson's disease
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dry mouth - Blurred vision - Urinary retention - Constipation - Confusion - Agitation - Tachycardia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the patient's mental status and cognitive function regularly - Instruct the patient to avoid activities that require mental alertness or physical coordination until the effects of the drug are known - Advise the patient to avoid alcohol and other CNS depressants while taking the drug - Inform the patient that the drug may cause dry mouth and other

	anticholinergic effects - Encourage the patient to maintain good oral hygiene and increase fluid intake to prevent dry mouth and constipation.
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Generic Name (Brand Name): bethanechol (urecholine)	
Classification:	Indications:
Cholinergic agonist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urinary retention from weak bladder or neuro related bladder issue - Post-op urinary retention - Treatment for gastroesophageal reflux
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abdominal cramps - D/N/V - Flushing - Headache - Bronchospasm - Bradycardia - Hypotension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the patient's bowel and bladder function before administering bethanechol - Monitor the patient's vital signs regularly, especially for signs of hypotension and bradycardia - Encourage the patient to maintain good oral hygiene and increase fluid intake to prevent dry mouth and constipation - Instruct the patient to empty the bladder completely before taking the drug

Generic Name (Brand Name): pyridostigmine (mestinon)	
Classification:	Indications:
Cholinesterase inhibitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Myasthenia gravis - Can be treatment for orthostatic hypotension
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abdominal cramps - D/V/N - Increased salivation - Sweating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the patient's baseline muscle strength and monitor for changes in muscle strength during treatment - Monitor the patient's vital signs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bradycardia - Hypotension - Bronchospasm 	<p>regularly, especially for signs of hypotension and bradycardia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage the patient to maintain good oral hygiene and increase fluid intake to prevent dry mouth and constipation - Pyridostigmine may interact with other medications, such as anticholinergics, beta blockers, and quinidine
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Generic Name (Brand Name): atropine (atropen)	
Classification:	Indications:
Anticholinergic agent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Symptomatic bradycardia - Preop med to reduce salivation, bronchial secretions, and gastrointestinal motility - Pupil dilation during eye exam
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dry mouth - Blurred vision - Photophobia - Increased heart rate - Urinary retention - Constipation - Decreased sweating - Flushed, dry skin - Confusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess the patient's vital signs regularly, especially for signs of tachycardia, hypertension, or hypotension - Instruct the patient to report any symptoms of urinary retention, constipation, or dry mouth - Encourage the patient to maintain good oral hygiene and increase fluid intake to prevent dry mouth and constipation - Atropine should be used with caution in patients with glaucoma, hyperthyroidism, hypertension, cardiac disease, or gastrointestinal or urinary obstruction - Atropine may interact with other medications, such as beta blockers, digoxin, and opioids