

Phenytoin (Dilantin)

Classification:		Indication:	
Anticonvulsants		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treat grand mal seizures, complex partial seizures.• Prevent and treat seizures during or following neurosurgery.	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:		Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Headaches. Make sure you rest and drink plenty of fluids.• Feeling drowsy, sleepy.• Feeling nervous, unsteady, or shaky• Feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting)• Constipation• Sore or swollen gums.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Continually monitor patient's cardiac rhythm and check BP frequently and regularly IV infusion.-Monitor injection sites carefully, drug solutions are very alkaline and irritating.-Monitor therapeutic serum levels of 10-20mcg/ml.-Use cautiously in all patients.-Monitor for hypersensitivity.-Assess seizures.	

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Phenobarbital (Solfoton, Tedral)

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Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsants, Barbiturates	Anti-seizure management, Treatment for status epilepticus, Insomnia.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dizziness• Drowsiness• Headache• Tiredness• Loss of appetite• Nausea• Vomiting	<p>-Monitor daytime drowsiness and hangover symptoms (headache, nausea, irritability, lethargy, vertigo)</p> <p>-Repeated or excessive symptoms may require a change in dose or medication.</p> <p>-Be alert for depression, delirium, excitation or other alterations in mood or behavior.</p>

Diazepam (Valium)

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Classification:	Indication:
Benzodiazepines	Indicated for the management of anxiety disorders or for the short-term relief of the symptoms of anxiety.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drowsiness• Dizziness• Tiredness• Muscle weakness• Headache• Dry mouth• Nausea• Constipation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Do not administer intra-arterially, may produce arteriospasm, gangrene.-Carefully monitor patient's blood pressure and respiration during IV administration.-Monitor liver and renal function, CBC during long-term therapy.-Maintain patients receiving parenteral benzodiazepines in bed for 3hrs.-Do not use small veins(dorsum of hand or wrist) for IV injection.

Valproic acid (Depakote, Dyzantil, Convulex)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsants	It is used to treat bipolar disorder. Can also be used to prevent migraine.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stomach pain• Diarrhea• Dry or sore mouth or swollen gums• Feeling tired or sleepy• Headache• Weight gain	<p>-Arrange for patient to have platelet counts, bleeding time determination before therapy, periodically during therapy and prior to surgery.</p> <p>-Monitor patient carefully for clotting defects (bruising, blood-tinged toothbrush)</p> <p>-Discontinue if there is evidence of hemorrhage, bruising, or disorder of hemostasis.</p>

Carbamazepine (Tegretol, Curatil)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsants	Manage and treat epilepsy, trigeminal neuralgia, and acute manic and mixed episodes in bipolar 1 disorder.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feeling sleepy, dizzy, or tired• Feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting)• Headaches• Dry mouth• Putting on weight• Lightheadedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Observe confusion and agitation in older people.-Observe changes in mental state.-Observe for allergic reactions such as rashes, purpura.-Take this drug with food as prescribed.-Do not discontinue this drug abruptly or change dosage, except on the advice of the physician.

Carbidopa-levodopa (Sinemet)

Classification:	Indication:
Decarboxylase Inhibitors	Used for the treatment of motor symptoms encountered in Parkinson disease, post-encephalitic parkinsonism, and parkinsonism symptoms resulting from intoxication by carbon monoxide.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness • Loss of appetite • Diarrhea • Dry mouth • Mouth and throat pain • Constipation • Change in sense of taste. • Confusion 	<p>-Monitoring side effects, including mental state assessment and blood pressure measurement.</p> <p>-Care should be taken to avoid confusion with the antihypertensive medication methyldopa.</p> <p>-Levodopa can cause false results in urine tests for sugar and ketones.</p> <p>-Ensure that patient voids before receiving dose if urinary retention is a problem.</p> <p>-Monitor hepatic, renal, hematopoietic, and CV function.</p>

Benzotropine(Cogentin)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergics	It is used to treat symptoms of Parkinson's disease or involuntary movements due to the side effects of certain psychiatric drugs.

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry mouth • Difficulty or pain when urinating • Constipation • Vomiting • Nausea • Loss of appetite 	<p>-May lead to arrhythmias, hypotension, palpitations, and tachycardia.</p> <p>-Assess for extrapyramidal symptoms.</p> <p>-Instruct patient to take it as directed.</p> <p>-Instruct patients to maintain good oral hygiene.</p> <p>-Instruct patient to report other bothersome side effects including severe or prolonged headache, vision problems, decreased sweating, urinary problems.</p>

Bethanechol (Urecholine)	
Classification:	Indication:
Parasympathomimetic	<p>Is indicated for the treatment of acute, functional postpartum and postoperative urinary retention.</p> <p>Also indicated for the treatment of neurogenic atony of the bladder with retention.</p>

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belching • Blurred vision or change in near or distance vision • Dizziness or lightheadedness • Feeling faint • Frequent urge to urinate. • Increased watering of mouth or sweating • Nausea or vomiting • Redness or flushing of skin or feeling of warmth. 	<p>-Monitor the patient's vital signs, including BP and pulse rate before, during, and after the administration of the medication.</p> <p>-Assessing patient's response to the medication.</p> <p>-Assess patient's renal function before and during the administration.</p> <p>-Assess patient's for any allergies prior to administration of the medication.</p>

Pyridostigmine (Mestinon, Regonol)	
Classification:	Indication:
Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor	It is indicated for the treatment of myasthenia gravis.

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upset stomach. • Diarrhea • Vomiting • Drooling • Pale skin • Cold sweats • Blurred vision • Watery eyes 	<p>-Take pyridostigmine exactly as directed.</p> <p>-Do not take more or less of it or take it more often than prescribed by your doctor.</p> <p>-Swallow the extended-release tablets whole.</p> <p>-Do not chew or crush them.</p> <p>-Continue to take pyridostigmine even if you feel well.</p>

Atropine (Atrophen)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergic or antiparasymphetic (parasympatholytic drug)	Used to reduce saliva and fluid in the respiratory tract during surgery. Also used to treat insecticide or mushroom poisoning. Can be used in an emergency to treat a slow heartbeat.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eye irritation and redness• Swelling of the eyelids• Sensitivity to bright light• Dry mouth• Red or dry skin• Blurred vision• Nausea• Loss of balance• Rapid heartrate	<p>-Avoid driving or operating heavy machinery while under the influence of atropine.</p> <p>-Monitor GI motility (BMs and flatus) and urine output while patient is receiving atropine.</p>
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