

diazepam (Valium)

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Classification:	Indication:
Benzodiazepine anticonvulsants, Benzodiazepines.	Treats anxiety disorders or alcohol withdrawal symptoms
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
Dizziness, drowsiness, confusion, headache, anxiety, tremors, stimulation, hallucinations, ataxia, fatigue, orthostatic hypotension, ECG changes, tachycardia, hypotension, blurred vision, tinnitus, mydriasis, nystagmus, neutropenia, rash, dermatitis, respiratory depression. Drug-drug:	Considerations: avoid coadministration with other CNS depressants, do not use with opioids. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Respiratory depression, monitor for respiratory depression, respirations q5-15 min if given IV.-

carbamazepine (Carbatrol, Carnexiv, Epitol, Equetro, Tegretol)

Classification: Anticonvulsant		Indication: Treatment of epilepsy in children 10 years and older, treatment of bipolar mania, schizophrenia management, ADHD, organic brain syndrome, and prophylaxis of migraine headaches.	
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Side effects/ adverse reactions: Drowsiness, nausea or vomiting, dry mouth, putting on weight. Stevens Johnson syndrome.		Nursing Considerations: History hypersensitivity, history of bone marrow depression, concomitant use of MAOIs. Black box warning: reduce dosage, discontinue or substitute other antiepileptic medication gradually. Abrupt discontinuation of all antiepileptic medication gradually.	
Side effects/ adverse reactions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black, tarry stools - Bleeding gums - Bloating or swelling of the face, arms, hands, lower legs, or feet. - Blood in the urine or stool - Confusion - Dysphoria - Joint pain - Rapid weight gain 		Nursing Considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - History: hypersensitivity to Valproic acid; hepatic impairment; pregnancy, lactation. - Physical: Weight, skin color, lesions; orientation, affect reflexes; bowel sounds, normal output; CBC and differential, bleeding time tests, LFTs, serum ammonia level, exocrine tests; discontinue drug immediately if pancreatic function tests, EEG. - Give drug with food if GI upset occurs - Warning: arrange for patient to have CBC, including platelet, reticulocyte counts, and serum iron determination gradually; abrupt discontinuation of all antiepileptic. 	

carbidopa-levodopa (Parcopa, Rytary, Sinemet 10-100, Sinemet 25-100, Sinemet 25-250, Sinemet CR. *Canadian Brands:* Sinemet 10010, Sinemet 10025, Sinemet 25025, Sinemet CR 10025, Sinemet CR 20050)

Classification:	Indication:	
Decarboxylase Inhibitors	Combination used to treat Parkinson's disease, sometimes called shaking palsy or paralysis agitans. It also treats parkinsonism from encephalitis, or parkinsonism caused by carbon monoxide or manganese poisoning.	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:		Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Twitching, twisting, uncontrolled repetitive movement of the tongue, lips, face, arms, or legs. - Pins and needles - Acid or sour stomach - Skin rash, hives - Redness of the face, neck, arms, and occasional upper chest. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May cause orthostatic hypotension - May cause dark urine - Weeks to months to take effect - DO NOT use with MAOIs - Do not use w/ glaucoma, melanoma. - Assess for parkinsonian symptoms - Instruct pt. to take as directed.

pyridostigmine (Mestinon, Mestinon Timespan, Regonol)

Classification:	Indication:
Cholinergic muscle stimulants	Treat symptoms of myasthenia gravis and used in military personnel who have been exposed to nerve gas.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Severe itching, skin rash, or hives - Slurred speech - Confusion - Seizures - Difficulty breathing - Anxious and feelings of panic - Watery eyes - drooling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hypersensitivity to pyridostigmine, bromides, or any component; GI or GU obstruction. - Increased effect of depolarizing neuromuscular blockers (succinylcholine) - increased toxicity with edrophonium.

atropine (Atropine)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergic, Antispasmodic Agents.	Treatment of symptoms of low heart rate (bradycardia), reduces salivation and bronchial secretions before surgery or as an antidote for overdose of cholinergic drugs or mushroom poisoning.

bethanechol (Cogentin)

Classification:	Indication:	Nursing Considerations:
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Treatment of urinary retention (trouble urinating) that may be caused by surgery, delivering a baby, or other conditions.	Avoid in acute hemorrhage, tachycardia, and angle closure glaucoma.
<p>Miscellaneous genitourinary tract agents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eye irritation and redness - Swelling of lids - Sensitivity to bright light 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor patient for tachycardia and palpitations

Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dry mouth - Slow heartbeats - Red or dry skin - A light-headed feeling, like you might pass out - Wheezing, chest tightness, trouble breathing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hypersensitivity - May cause urinary retention in elderly patients - Hyperthyroidism - Peptic ulcer - Patients may experience constipation due to slowed GI motility - Latent bronchial asthma - Active bronchial asthma - Bradycardia - Orthostatic hypotension

benztropine (Cogentin)

Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergic antiparkinson agents	Treats symptoms of Parkinson's disease such as stiffness or tremors.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dry mouth - Difficulty or pain when urinating - Constipation - Depression - Delusions or hallucinations - Vision changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May lead to arrhythmias, hypotension, palpitations, and tachycardia. - Anticholinergic effects like constipation, dry mouth. - Assess for extra pyramidal symptoms. - Instruct patient to take as directed - Instruct patient to maintain good oral hygiene.