Nathaniel Muse: Drug Cards (51-60)

Phenytoin(Epanutin)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsant	Control certain types of seizures and prevent those which may begin during or after surgery
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
• Headaches • Drowsiness • Nervousness • Swollen gums • Constipation	• Check with your doctor if you have pain or tenderness in the upper stomach • Can temporarily lower white blood cells which cause a predisposition to infection

Phenobarbital(phenobarb)	
Classification:	Indication:
Barbiturates	Anti-seizure management, status epilepticus, insomnia, and alcohol withdrawal
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
● Drowsiness ● Dizziness ● Depressed mood ● Restlessness ● Hangover effect	● Contraindicated with patients with history of porphyria, liver impairment, and nephritic syndrome

Diazepam(valium)	
Classification:	Indication:
Benzodiazepine	Anxiety disorders, spasticity, muscle spasms, and postop anxiety relief
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
● Dry mouth ● Constipation ● Nausea ● Tiredness ● Muscle weakness ● Drowsiness	● May increase risk of serious breathing problems, sedation, or coma if used along with certain medications

Valproic acid(Syonell)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsant	Used as a sole and adjunctive therapy in treating simple and complex absence seizures
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
• Stomach pain • Diarrhea • Dry mouth • Shakes • Feeling tired • Weight gain	• Arrange for the patient to have platelet counts drawn regularly • Determine bleeding time before therapy and prior to surgery

Carbamazepine(Tegretol)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticonvulsant	Manage and treat epilepsy, trigeminal neuralgia, and acute manic and mixed episodes
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
● Feeling sleepy ● Dizziness ● Sick ● Headaches ● Dry mouth ● Weight gain	● Call doctor immediately if you develop painful rash, hives, or blistering and peeling of skin

Carbidopa-levodopa(Sinemet)	
Classification:	Indication:
Decarboxylase inhibitor	Treats motor symptoms in parkinson disease
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
• Loss of appetite • Diarrhea • Dry mouth • Throat pain • Constipation • Change in sense of taste	• Discuss any strange or unusual thoughts you develop while receiving this medication

Benztropine(Cogentin)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergic	Used as an adjunct in therapy of all forms of parkinsonism
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
● Abdominal or stomach cramps ● Forgetfulness ● Bloating ● Burning while urinating ● Confusion about identity, place, and time ● Decreased urine output	● Instruct patient to know symptoms and recognize their ability to react before driving, using machines, or any jobs that require them to be alert and well coordinated

Bethanechol(Duvoid)	
Classification:	Indication:
Parasympathomimetic	Treating acute, functional postpartum and postoperative urinary retention
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
● Belching ● Blurred vision ● Dizziness ● Feeling faint ● Frequent urge to urinate ● Nausea or vomiting	● Include a focused assessment of urinary symptoms and monitor for side effects and therapeutic effects

Pyridostigmine(Mestinon)	
Classification:	Indication:
Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors	Used in treatment of myasthenia gravis
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
● Upset stomach ● Vomiting ● Drooling ● Pale skin ● Cold sweats ● Blurred vision	● Breastfeeding mothers may occasionally be required to discontinue breastfeeding to avoid excessive fatigue with the mother

Atropine(Atropen)	
Classification:	Indication:
Anticholinergic	Used in patients with hypersalivation, bronchial secretions, or bradycardia
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
• Dilated pupils • Blindness • Chest pain • Decreased vision • Decrease in urine volume • Eye pain	• Avoid driving or operating heavy machinery while under the influence of atropine • Reduce lighting to decrease photophobia