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Principles of Pharmacology
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Generic Name (Brand Name): dobutamine (Dobutrex)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Inotropic agent	- Acute heart failure - Hypotensive episode
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- N/V - Headache - Dizziness - Tachycardia - Chest pain - High BO - Arrhythmia	- Should be administered IV, continuously - Closely monitor heart rate, blood pressure, and urine output for good perfusion - Closely monitor the IV site for extravasation

Generic Name (Brand Name): iodine (no specific brand)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Naturally occurring element, but can be classified as antiseptic, disinfectant, radiographic contrast	- Thyroid function testing - Iodine deficiency treatment - Contrast agent for dx imaging
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- Skin irritation - Skin staining - Rash - GI upset - **allergic reactions	- Closely monitor for allergic reactions, anaphylaxis - Ensure that patients are well-hydrated before and after iodine administration to reduce the risk of contrast-induced nephropathy

Generic Name (Brand Name): vasopressin (Pitressin, Vasostrict)

Classification:	**Indications:**
Antidiuretic hormone (ADH) analogue	- Diabetes Insipidus - Managing low blood pressure - Septic shock - GI bleeding
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- Abdominal cramping - N/V - Headache - Dizziness - Tremors - Cardiac arrest	- Administration through IV or IM - IV site should be monitored for s/s of extravasation - Monitor closely for hyponatremia - Monitor for tissue ischemia, decreased urine output, peripheral pulses, changes in mental status

Generic Name (Brand Name): nystatin (Mycostatin, Nilstat)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Antifungal agent	- Fungal infections - Candida infections of mouth, throat, GI
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- N/V - Diarrhea - GI pain - Rash	- Patients should be instructed to take nystatin for the full course of treatment, even if symptoms improve, to prevent the development of drug-resistant strains of fungus - Patients with a history of liver disease should be monitored for signs of hepatic encephalopathy

Generic Name (Brand Name): lactulose (Kristalose, Enulose)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Osmotic laxative	- Constipation - Reduce elevated blood ammonia
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- Diarrhea	- Lactulose may cause electrolyte

- Abdominal cramping - Flatulence - Dehydration - Electrolyte imbalances	imbalances, particularly in patients with renal or liver disease, so nurses should monitor electrolyte levels regularly - Patients should be instructed to increase their fluid intake while taking lactulose to prevent dehydration - Lactulose may cause gastrointestinal upset

Generic Name (Brand Name): alteplase (Activase)	
Classification:	**Indications:**

Thrombolytic agent	- Dissolving blood clots
	  - MI
	  - Stroke
	  - PE

Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**

- Bleeding
- Headache
- N/V
- Fever
	- Monitor the patient for bleeding
	  - Vital signs
	  - Nose bleed
	- Allergic reactions
	  - Hives
	  - Rash
	  - SOB

Generic Name (Brand Name): streptokinase (Streptase)	
Classification:	**Indications:**

Thrombolytic agent	- Dissolving blood clots
	  - MI
	  - Stroke
	  - PE

Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- Bleeding - Allergic reactions - Fever	- Monitor the patient for signs of anaphylaxis - Educate the patient and family members about the signs and symptoms of bleeding

	- Monitor the patient for signs of bleeding and allergic reactions, including changes in vital signs, hives, rash, and shortness of breath

Generic Name (Brand Name): folic acid (Folacin)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Vitamin	- Folate deficiency - Anemia
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- Nausea - Bloating - Gas - Decreased appetite - Bitter taste in the mouth - Skin rash	- Assess the patient's folate levels and monitor for signs of anemia - Assess the patient's dietary intake of folate and provide education on foods that are rich in folate, such as leafy green vegetables and legumes

Generic Name (Brand Name): glucagon (GlucaGen)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Hormone	- Hypoglycemia - Dx for certain conditions affecting the stomach and intestines
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- N/V - Injection site reactions - Hypotension	- Monitor pt. Blood glucose levels - Monitor vital signs - Administer the drug promptly in emergency situations, monitor the patient for signs of anaphylaxis or hypersensitivity reactions

Generic Name (Brand Name): dexamethasone (Decadron)	
Classification:	**Indications:**
Corticosteroid	- Inflammatory disorders

	- Allergic reactions - Some types of cancer
Side Effects/Adverse Reactions:	**Nursing Considerations:**
- Increased appetite - Weight gain - Mood changes - Increased risk of infection - Insomnia - Increased BP	- Monitor the patient's blood glucose levels, electrolyte levels, and signs of infection - Monitor for hyperglycemia - Gradual tapering of drugs to avoid withdrawal symptoms