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 NUR203: Principles of Pharmacology: NA
 Prof: Lauren Lebo

Estradiol (Estrace, Vivelle-Dot, Delestrogen, DepoEstradiol, Divigel, Elestrin, Alora, Estrace Cream, Estraderm Transdermal, estradiol topical, Estradot, Estrasorb, Estrogel, Evamist, Femtrace, Menostar, Minivelle, Vivelle, and Climara)	
Classification:	Indication:
Estrogenic steroid	treatment of moderate to severe vasomotor symptoms and vulvar and vaginal atrophy due to menopause, for the treatment of hypoestrogenism due to hypogonadism, castration, or primary ovarian failure, and for the prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • headache. • breast pain or tenderness. • nausea. • vomiting. • constipation. • gas. • heartburn. • weight gain or loss. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruct patient to take medication as directed. Advise patient to avoid drinking grapefruit juice during therapy. Take missed doses as soon as remembered, but not within 2 hr of next dose. Do not double doses. Advise patient to read Patient Information before starting therapy and with each Rx refill in case of changes. • Inform patient that estrogens should not be used to decrease risk of cardiovascular disease. Estrogens may increase risk of cardiovascular disease, breast cancer, and dementia. • Advise patient to report signs and symptoms of fluid retention (swelling of ankles and feet, weight gain), thromboembolic disorders (pain, swelling, tenderness in extremities; headache; chest pain; blurred vision), depression, hepatic dysfunction (yellowed skin or eyes, pruritus, dark urine, light-colored

	<p>stools), new breast lumps, or abnormal vaginal bleeding to health care professional.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caution patient that cigarette smoking during estrogen therapy may increase risk of serious side effects, especially for women over age 35.• Instruct patient to notify health care professional of all Rx or OTC medications, vitamins, or herbal products being taken and to consult with health care professional before taking other medications, especially St. John's Wort.
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Oxytocin (Pitocin)

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Classification:	Indication:
Oxytocic Hormone	to begin or improve contractions during labor.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confusion.• convulsions (seizures)• difficulty in breathing.• fast or irregular heartbeat.• headache (continuing or severe)• hives.• pelvic or abdominal pain (severe)• skin rash or itching.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electronically monitor the uterine activity and the fetal heart rate throughout the infusion of Pitocin.• Attention should be given to tonus, amplitude and frequency of contractions, and to the fetal heart rate in relation to uterine contractions.

Vardenafil (Levitra, Staxyn)

Classification:	Indication:
Phosphodiesterase inhibitor	to treat erectile dysfunction (impotence; inability to get or keep an erection) in men. It works by increasing blood flow to the penis during sexual stimulation. This increased blood flow can cause an erection.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• headache.• upset stomach.• heartburn.• flushing.• stuffy or runny nose.• flu-like symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor CV status and report angina or other S&S of cardiac dysfunction.• Lab tests: Baseline and periodic LFTs.• Do not take more than once a day and never take more than the prescribed dose.• Do not take this drug without consulting physician if you are taking drugs called "alpha blockers" or "nitrates" or any other drugs for high blood pressure, chest pain, or enlarged prostate.• Report promptly any of the following: palpitations, chest pain, back pain, difficulty breathing, or shortness of breath; dizziness or fainting; changes in vision; dizziness; swollen eyelids; muscle aches; painful or prolonged erection (lasting longer than 4 h); skin rash, or itching.

Sildenafil (Aronix, Liberize, Nipatra, Revatio, Grandipam)

Classification:	Indication:
Phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitor	to treat men who have erectile dysfunction.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Headaches. Make sure you rest and drink plenty of fluids.• Feeling sick (nausea) It may help if you avoid rich or spicy food.• Flushing including hot flushes. Try cutting down on coffee, tea and alcohol.• Indigestion.• Stuffy nose.• Feeling dizzy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure diagnosis of pulmonary arterial hypertension (Revatio)• Ensure diagnosis of erectile dysfunction and determine underlying causes and other appropriate treatment.• Advise patient that drug does not work in the absence of sexual stimulation.

Lidocaine (Xylocaine)

Classification:		Indication:	
Class Ib. antiarrhythmic agent		management of acute ventricular tachydysrhythmias	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:		Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluish-colored lips, fingernails, or palms blurred or double vision. • chest pain or discomfort. • cold, clammy, pale skin. • continuing ringing or buzzing or other unexplained noise in the ears. • difficulty breathing. • difficulty swallowing. • dizziness or lightheadedness 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check drug concentration carefully; many concentrations are available. • Reduce dosage with hepatic or renal failure. • Continuously monitor response when used as antiarrhythmic or injected as local anesthetic. 	

Propranolol (Inderal)

Classification:	Indication:
Nonselective beta blocker	to treat hypertension. Propranolol is also indicated to treat angina pectoris due to coronary atherosclerosis, atrial fibrillation, myocardial infarction, migraine, essential tremor, hypertrophic subaortic stenosis, pheochromocytoma, and proliferating infantile hemangioma.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • headaches. • feeling tired, dizzy, or weak. • cold fingers or toes. • feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting), or diarrhea. • stomach pain. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn usual pulse rate and take radial pulse before each dose. Report to physician if pulse is below the established parameter or becomes irregular. • Be aware that propranolol suppresses clinical signs of hypoglycemia (e.g., BP changes, increased pulse rate) and may prolong hypoglycemia. • Understand importance of compliance. Do not alter established regimen (i.e., do not omit, increase, or decrease dosage or change dosage interval). • Do not discontinue abruptly; can precipitate withdrawal syndrome (e.g., tremulousness, sweating, severe headache, malaise, palpitation, rebound hypertension, MI, and life-threatening arrhythmias in patients with angina pectoris). • Be aware that drug may cause mild hypotension (experienced as dizziness or lightheadedness) in normotensive patients on prolonged therapy. Make position changes slowly and avoid prolonged standing. Notify physician if symptoms persist. • Do not drive or engage in potentially hazardous activities until response to drug is known. • Consult physician before self-medicating with OTC drugs. • Inform dentist, surgeon, or ophthalmologist that you are taking propranolol (drug lowers normal and elevated intraocular pressure).

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not breast feed while taking this drug without consulting physician. |
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<p>Amiodarone (Nexterone)</p>

Classification:	Indication:	
Antiarrhythmic	Treat recurrent ventricular fibrillation (VF) and recurrent hemodynamically unstable ventricular tachycardia (VT).	
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • constipation. • loss of appetite. • headache. • decreased sex drive. • difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep. • flushing. • changes in ability to taste and smell. • changes in amount of saliva. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the EKG continuously during IV amiodarone infusion and initiation of PO therapy. • Monitor your patient's respiratory status carefully. • Patients taking amiodarone long-term should get regular chest x-rays and pulmonary function tests. 	

Diltiazem (Cardizem)

Classification:	Indication:
Calcium channel blocker	Treat atrial arrhythmia, hypertension, paroxysmal

	supraventricular tachycardia, and chronic stable angina.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dizziness or lightheadedness. • flushing. • headache. • weakness. • slow heartbeat. • vomiting. • diarrhea. • constipation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor patient carefully (BP, cardiac rhythm, and output) while drug is being titrated to therapeutic dose; dosage may be increased more rapidly in hospitalized patients under close supervision. • Monitor BP carefully if patient is on concurrent doses of nitrates.

Adenosine (Adenocard, Adenoscan)	
Classification:	Indication:
Class V antiarrhythmic agent	as an adjunct to thallium-201 in myocardial perfusion scintigraphy in patients unable to adequately exercise. It is

	also indicated to convert sinus rhythm of paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia.
Side effects/ adverse reactions:	Nursing Considerations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chest discomfort. • difficult or labored breathing. • lightheadedness or dizziness. • throat, neck, or jaw discomfort. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous ECG printout during and immediately after administration IS ESSENTIAL. • Where practical record blood pressure prior to first dose. • Continuous cardio-respiratory monitoring. • Monitor and assess patient response to therapy. • Observe for signs of adverse effects and arrhythmias.

Digoxin (Lanoxin)	
Classification:	Indication:
Cardiac glycoside	For the treatment of mild to moderate heart failure in adult patients. To increase myocardial contraction in children

	<p>diagnosed with heart failure. To maintain control ventricular rate in adult patients diagnosed with chronic atrial fibrillation.</p>
<p>Side effects/ adverse reactions:</p>	<p>Nursing Considerations:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeling dizzy. If digoxin makes you feel dizzy, lie down so that you do not faint, then sit until you feel better. ... • Feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting) ... • Diarrhoea. ... • Changes in your vision (including blurred vision and not being able to look at bright light) ... • Skin rashes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach patient about signs and symptoms of toxicity. • Importance of keeping appointments to have drug level, electrolytes, and liver/renal function levels drawn. • Consuming foods rich in potassium, if also taking drugs that waste potassium (potatoes, pork, oranges, tomatoes, avocados, spinach, bananas) • How to measure heart rate before taking the medication and when to call the MD.