Classification	Mechanism of Action	Indications	Contraindications	Adverse Effects	Nursing Considerations
Anti-Infective					
Penicillin penicillin V (Betapen) amoxicillin (Amoxil) ampicillin (Omnipen) cloxacillin (Tegopen) PO/IV/IM	Inhibition of cell wall synthesis	Mitral Valve Stenosis Endocarditis Sinusitis Pneumonia Gram-negative bacteria	 Allergy Oral contraceptives (decreases OC efficacy) Kidney failure 	 Rash Pruritis N/V/D Allergic reaction** **Cephalosporins should also be used with caution** 	 Assess for history of allergy Post administration: clients can have an allergic reaction within 0- 30 minutes Pen. V and amoxicillin should be taken with food. All other penicillins should be taken medication with water, 1 hour before or 2 hours after meals Avoid taking with acidic fruit juices Clients must complete full course of treatment Vase with caution in neonates r/t immature kidney function slowing elimination Geriatric Hypernatremia and hyperkalemia are possible, but uncommon
Sulfonamide sulfamethoxazole- trimethoprim (Septra) sulfisoxazole (Generic) PO/IV/IM	Do not directly destroy bacteria; however they interfere with their growth by preventing the synthesis of folic acid (required to make the nucleus of DNA)	Sinusitis Pyelonephritis Meningitis Urinary Tract Infection Otitis Media Gram-negative bacteria Gram-positive bacteria	 Allergy Children under the age of 2 months Renal failure 	 Rash Photosensitivity N/V/D Allergic reaction 	 Assess for history of allergy Post administration: clients can have an allergic reaction within 0- 30 minutes Clients must complete full course of treatment Encourage fluids to produce a urine output of 1,200-1,500mL/day to avoid crystalluria (drug crystals in the urine
Cephalosporin cephalexin (Keflex) cefprozil (Cefzil) cefazolin (Cefazolin) ceftriaxone (Rocephin) PO/IV/IM	Inhibition of cell wall synthesis	Sinusitis Pyelonephritis Meningitis Urinary Tract Infection Skin Infections Gram-negative	 Allergy Alcohol Oral contraceptives (decreases OC efficacy) 	 Rash Pruritis N/V/D Allergic reaction 	 Assess for history of allergy Post administration: clients can have an allergic reaction within 0- 30 minutes Clients must complete full course of treatment ^{Kds} Used cautiously because immature

		bacteria Gram-positive bacteria			kidney function slows elimination Geriatric Dosages must be reduced by the prescriber in the presence of renal impairment
Tetracyclines doxycycline (Vibramycin) minocycline (Minocin) tetracycline (Achromycin) PO/IV	• Inhibition of bacterial protein synthesis	Pyelonephritis Meningitis Urinary Tract Infection Otitis Media Pneumonia Gram-negative bacteria Gram-positive bacteria	 Allergy Pregnancy Not to be given to children under the age of 8 (r/t permanent discoloration of teeth) Oral contraceptives (decreases OC efficacy) 	 N/V/D Overgrowth of nonsusceptible organisms (i.e. Candidiasis) Discoloration of teeth Photosensitivity 	 Avoid taking with antacids, dairy products, iron preparations, or antidiarrheal medications (↓ levels) Avoid exposure to sunlight Clients must complete full course of treatment
Macrolide azithromycin (Zithromax) clarithromycin (Biaxin) erythromycin (Generic) PO	• Inhibition of bacterial protein synthesis	Pyelonephritis Urinary Tract Infection Pneumonia Gram-positive bacteria	 Allergy Warfarin use (increases serum concentration) Liver disease 	 N/V/D Rash Palpitations 	 Clients must complete full course of treatment Avoid taking with fruit juices
Fluoroquinolones ciprofloxacin (Cipro) levofloxacin (Levaquin) moxifloxacin (Avelox) PO/IV	 Inhibition of bacterial enzymes→stops DNA synthesis in the cell 	Pyelonephritis Urinary Tract Infection Pneumonia Gram-negative bacteria Gram-positive bacteria	 Liver disease Kidney disease Warfarin use (increases serum concentration) Not to be used in children under the age of 18 (safety has not been established) 	 N/V/D Candidiasis Photosensitivity Tendon injury (tendonitis r/t apoptosis and decreased collagen synthesis in a tendon 	 Clients must complete full course of treatment Encourage fluids to produce a urine output of 1,200-1,500mL/day to avoid crystalluria (drug crystals in the urine) Avoid exposure to sunlight
Aminoglycoside gentamicin sulfate (Gentamicin) tobramicin sulfate (Tobramycin)	• Inhibit cell wall synthesis	VRE Skin infections (folliculitis) Gram-negative bacteria	 Allergy Kidney disease Pregnancy (can cause congenital bilateral deafness in 	 Nephrotoxicity Ototoxicity Skin rash Headache Dizziness 	 Monitor blood levels of the medication Assess for toxicity (i.e. hearing loss/tinnitus, kidney failure) Preferred choice for VRE infections

IV			children if taken during pregnancy)		
Nitroimidazole <i>metronidazole (Flagyl)</i> PO/IV	 Inhibits DNA synthesis of a cell 	C. Diff Bacterial Vaginosis Trichomonas	Alcohol useLiver disease	 Dizziness GI upset Headache Neurotoxicity (seizures) 	 Encourage client to take with food/milk Alcohol should not be consumed during, and for at least 24 hours after last dose
Nitrofuran nitrofurnantoin (MacroBID) PO	 Interferes with the activity of enzymes that regulate bacteria metabolism and disrupts cell wall synthesis 	Urinary Tract Infection	AllergyKidney disease	N/VDizzinessHeadache	 Clients must complete full course of treatment Increase fluids to 1,200-1,500 mL/day
Glycopeptide vancomycin (Vancocin) IV/PO	Binds to the cell wall and produces inhibition of cell wall synthesis	MRSA C. Diff	Kidney diseaseHearing loss	 Ototoxicity Kidney failure Skin rash Hypotension Flushing of the skin 	 Monitor blood levels of the medication Assess for toxicity (i.e. hearing loss, kidney failure) Preferred choice for MRSA infections
Laxatives Stimulant bisacodyl (Dulcolax) senna (Senokot) sennosides (Ex-Lax; USA) PO/PR	 Irritates intestinal smooth muscle + colonic intramural plexus → increased peristalsis Promotes <u>some</u> water into stool 	Constipation	 Allergy Acute abdomen Intestinal obstruction Undiagnosed abdo pain Appendicitis Electrolyte imbalance Renal failure Children < 6 years 	 Diarrhea Abdo cramping Electrolyte imbalances Dizziness 	 Assess fluid and electrolytes Increase dietary fibre (whole grain, bran, fruit, greens) Increase water intake Long-term use (7d+) results in low bowel tone = dependency May interact with milk/juices/antacids
Bulk Forming psyllium (Metamucil) methylcellulose (Entrocel, Citrucel) PO	 Increase size and softness of stool → triggering peristalsis Absorbs water into stool 	Constipation IBS **Has shown to lower LDL in Hypercholesteremia	same	ConstipationAbdo crampingFlatulence	 Assess fluid and electrolytes Increase dietary fibre (whole grain, bran, fruit, greens) Increase water intake Long-term use (7d+) results in low

Emollient docusate sodium (Colace) mineral oil (Fleet* mineral oil enema) *sodium phosphate/Fleet is the more common saline enema* PO/PR	 Lubricates intestinal wall Promotes water and fat into stool 	Constipation Diagnostic preparations (i.e. colonoscopy)	 Others are same Caution in pregnancy 	 Cramping Diarrhea 	 bowel tone = dependency May interact with milk/juices/antacids Usually taken hs; onset = 6-8 hrs (mineral oil) or 24-72 hr (docusate sodium) Assess fluid and electrolytes Increase dietary fibre (whole grain, bran, fruit, greens) Increase water intake Long-term use (7d+) results in low bowel tone = dependency Safe in pregnancy docusate should not be taken within 2 hrs of mineral oil r/t ↑mineral oil absorbed by the body May interact with milk/juices/antacids
Saline Laxative magnesium sulfate (Epsom Salts) magnesium citrate (Citro-Mag) magnesium hydroxide (Milk of magnesia/MOM; Diovol) sodium phosphate (Fleet) PO (liquid or tablet)	 Increases osmotic retention of fluid Increases peristalsis 	Constipation Diagnostic preparations (i.e. colonoscopy)	 same Children < 2 years 	 ↓ BP Diarrhea Abdo cramping Electrolyte imbalances Muscle cramping Dizziness 	 30 min – 3 hr onset Assess fluid and electrolytes Increase dietary fibre(whole grain, bran, fruit, greens) Increase water intake Long-term use (7d+) results in low bowel tone = dependency Safe in pregnancy May interact with milk/juices/antacids
Hyperosmotic glycerin (Glycerin supp.) Lactulose (APO- Lactulose) sorbitol polyethylene glycol; PEG (Restoralax, PegLyte)	 Increases stool water content Promotes peristalsis **Lactulose can be used to decrease serum ammonia; seen in portal systemic encephalopathy** 	Constipation Diagnostic preparations (i.e. colonoscopy)	 same Diabetes (lactulose contains lactose) 	 ↓ BP Diarrhea Abdo cramping Electrolyte imbalances Belching & flatulence 	 Assess fluid and electrolytes Increase dietary fibre(whole grain, bran, fruit, greens) Increase water intake Long-term use (7d+) results in low bowel tone = dependency Safe in pregnancy May interact with milk/juices/antacids

РО					
Diabetes	•				
Insulin <u>Rapid Acting</u> <u>NovoRapid</u> <u>Humalog</u> <u>Short Acting</u> <u>Humulin R</u> <u>Novolin ge Toronto</u> <u>Intermediate Acting</u> <u>Novolin ge NPH</u> <u>Long Acting</u> <u>Lantus</u> IV/SC	 Insulin is a hormone Acts on β cells in pancreas Helps to metabolize proteins, fats and carbohydrates Helps to store glucose in the liver Moves glucose from blood to cells 	Type 1 Diabetes Type 2 Diabetes	 Allergy Hypoglycemia Corticosteroids (increases glucose) Diuretics (increases glucose) Birth control (increases glucose) 	• Hypoglycemia	 Insulins differ in onset and duration of action Insulin can not be given orally; must be given subcutaneously or IV (regular insulin) Insulin can be stored at room temperature or in the fridge Injection sites can not be used more than once a month (must move at least ½ inch from previous site) Effective management requires a consistent schedule of meals, snacks, exercise, injections and blood glucose monitoring Geriatric Impaired vision may result in inaccurate dosages
Sulfonylureas glyburide (Diabeta) gliclazide (Diamicron) glimepiride (Amaryl) PO	 Stimulate the pancreas to produce more insulin (therefore ineffective if β- cells of the pancreas can no longer function) 	Type 2 Diabetes	 same Alcohol (lowers glucose) 	 Hypoglycemia Weight gain Hemolytic anemia Nausea 	 Should <u>not</u> be taken at bedtime Should be taken no more than 30 minutes prior to eating Meals and snacks should be taken routinely
Biguanides <i>metformin</i> (Glucophage) PO	 Acts by decreasing the hepatic production of glucose (gluconeogenesis) Helps to decrease intestinal absorption of glucose Helps to improve insulin receptor sensitivity Does <u>not</u> increase insulin secretion, thus does not cause hypoglycemia 	Type 2 Diabetes	 Allergy Hypoglycemia Some antacids Iodine containing contrast mediums 	 Diarrhea Nausea Metallic taste in mouth Anorexia 	 Must be taken with meals Must stop medication 48 hours prior to iodine radiological studies

Thiazolidinediones pioglitazone (Actos) rosiglitazone (Avandia) PO	 Helps to enhance the sensitivity of insulin receptors Helps to stimulate glucose storage Inhibits glucose production in the liver 	Type 2 Diabetes	AllergyHypoglycemia	 Edema Weight gain Liver failure 	• Can be taken with or without food
Meglitinides repaglinide (GlucoNorm) nateglinide (Starlix)	 Stimulates the pancreas to produce more insulin (therefore ineffective if β- cells of the pancreas can no longer function) 	Type 2 Diabetes	 Antifungal medications (lowers glucose) Nonsteroidal anti- inflammatory medications (NSAIDS) (lowers glucose) Anti-seizure medications (increases glucose) 	 Hypoglycem ia Headache Dizziness 	 Must be taken 0 to 30 minutes before meals If a meal is skipped, the dose should be skipped. If a meal added, then a dose should be added
Respiratory					
Antitussive <u>Non-opioid</u> dextromethorphan (Benylin/Buckleys/Rob itussin) <u>Opioid</u> Hydrocodone/Codeine PO	Suppress cough reflex by numbing stretch receptors in resp. tract → cough reflex not initiated <u>or</u> Suppress the cough reflex; medulla	Cough (<u>nonproductive</u> <u>only!</u>) URTI (viral and bacterial	 Allergy Opioid dependency Children <6 years of age Risk for respiratory depression 	Drowsiness/sedation Dizziness N/V Constipation (opioids)	 Adequate respiratory assessment Avoid driving, operating heavy machinery Push fluid intake
Decongestants <u>Adrenergic Agonist</u> pseudoephedrine (Sudafed) oxymetazoline (Vicks/Dristan/Dimeta pp) xylometazoline (Otrivin/Triaminic) <u>Corticosteroid</u> budesonide	 Vasoconstriction of arterioles of nasal mucosa Anti-inflammatory effect 	Allergies URTI (viral and bacterial) Rhinitis Sinusitis	 Allergy HTN Diabetes Hyperthyroidism 	 Mucosal dryness/irritation Palpitations Insomnia Tremors 	 Potential for rebound congestion (rhinitis medicamentosa); if used >5 days → nasal passage damage Avoid caffeine Report fever, productive cough, etc. lasting >5-7d

(Pulmicort/Symbicort) mometasone furoate (Nasonex) PO/INH					
Antihistamine (H1) diphenhydramine (Benadryl) cetirizine (Reactine) loratadine (Claritin) PO/IV/IM	 Compete with histamine for specific receptor sites **Remember: Histamine causes constriction of smooth muscles, increased body secretions, and vasodilatation** 	Rhinitis Anaphylaxis Allergies in general	 Glaucoma Pregnancy Heart disease Kidney disease 	 Drowsiness (side effect) Anticholinergic effects Tachycardia Restlessness Dilated pupils Decreased salivation Urinary retention 	 May experience paradoxical excitement Geriatric May cause confusion, dizziness, and hypotension Geriatric diphenhydramine is sometimes used as a sleeping aid for occasional use Avoid driving and use of heavy machinery
Beta-adrenergic Agonist (β2-Agonist) salbutamol (Ventolin) salmeterol (Serevent) terbutaline (Bricanyl) PO/INH	 Dilates airways by stimulating β2-adrenergic receptors in lung tissue (bronchodilation) 	Asthma Bronchitis COPD	 Allergy Cardiac dysrhythmia Hypertension (medications cause vasoconstriction) ^{Kda} Under the age of 6 is limited Beta-blocker use (inhibits bronchodilation) 	 Tachycardia Insomnia Tremors Hyperglycemia 	 Preferred medication for acute respiratory symptoms Cardiac and respiratory assessments Hold breath for 5-10 seconds post inhalation Use a spacer or 'Aero chamber' for administration Wait 2 minutes between inhalations Rinse mouth after inhalation (metallic taste)
Anticholinergic <i>ipratropium bromide</i> <i>(Atrovent)</i> INH	Block ACh (acetylcholine) receptors to prevent bronchoconstricti on **Rememeber—ACh comes from the PSNS and causes bronchial constriction**	Asthma Bronchitis COPD	 Allergy Not recommended in children under the age of 12 	 Anticholinergic effects Tachycardia Restlessness Dilated pupils Decreased salivation Urinary retention 	 Do not use medication to terminate an acute attack Hold breath for 5-10 seconds post inhalation Use a spacer or 'Aero chamber' for administration Wait 2 minutes between inhalations Rinse mouth after inhalation
Corticosteroids cortisone (Cortistan) hydrocortisone (Cortef)	 Medications work in the same manner as naturally occurring steroid hormones 	Addison's Disease Asthma Inflammatory Bowel Disease	 Allergy Cataracts Glaucoma Peptic ulcer disease 	 Impaired wound healing Masking of infections 	 (decrease absorption & increase excretion of calcium) Long-term use may cause Cushing's disease/syndrome

methylprednisolone (Medrol) prednisone (Winpred) dexamethasone (Decadron) fluticasone (Flovent) PO/IV/IM/TOPICAL/I NH	 Gonadocorticoids: (androgens) contribute to onset of puberty Mineralocorticoids: recall function of aldosterone Glucocorticoids: (cortisol) Increase blood glucose by inhibiting insulin secretion and promoting gluconeogenesis Breakdown lipids and proteins Suppress the inflammatory response 	Rhinitis Pruritis Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Hodgkin's Disease Leukemias Sinusitis	 Psychiatric problems Systemic infection 	 Hypokalemia Peptic ulcers Edema Sodium/fluid retention Nausea Anxiety Weight gain Heart failure Increased intraocular pressure Fragile skin Candidiasis (inhaler use) 	 Oral glucocorticoids should be given in the morning to decrease amount of adrenal suppression Oral glucocorticoids should be given with milk or food to decrease GI upset Growth retardation is possible. Thus, smaller doses should be considered and accurate weekly height and weight must be documented Geriatric Corticosteroids often aggravate other conditions (i.e. hypertension, CHF, diabetes, infection) Rinse mouth after inhaled use to prevent candidiasis
Xanthines theophylline (Theo- Dur) aminophylline (Somophylline) PO/IV	 Influence CNS to affect mood Causes bronchodilation Acts on the CNS medulla to enhance respiratory drive 	Asthma Bronchitis COPD	 Allergy Cardiac dysrhythmi Seizure disorders Antibiotic use (increases serum levels of xanthine) Caffeine 	a • N/V a • Anorexia • Cardiac dysrhythmia	 Limit caffeine intake Report s/s of toxicity (anorexia, N/V, hypotension, seizure) Limit cigarette smoking (reduces therapeutic effect of xanthines) Between 6 months and 16 years of age may need increased doses r/t rapid metabolization Under the age of 6 months have prolonged elimination r/t immature liver Geriatric Very unpredictable r/t drug interactions, renal and hepatic impairment
Antileukotrines montelukast sodium (Singulair) zafirlukast (Accolate) PO	 Prevent smooth muscle contraction of the bronchi Decreases mucus secretion Decreases 	Asthma	 Allergy Allergy to lactose (inactive ingredient in antileukotriness Liver disease 	 N/D Headache Liver failure 	 Monitor liver function tests (especially during early course of treatment) Do not use medication to terminate an acute attack

	inflammation in lungs by preventing mobilization and migration of WBCs into the lungs				
Cardiovascular Anticoagulants Heparin	 Prevents thrombus formation 	Venous Thrombosis Pulmonary	AllergyActive internal	Thrombocytopenia (↓ platelet count)	 Prophylaxis use only (they do not work on clots that have already
Heparin dalteparin (Fragmin)(LMWH) enoxaprin (Lovenox)(LMWH) warfarin (Coumadin) PO/IV/IM/SC	 Inhibits clotting factors in intrinsic pathway (Xa, IX, X, XI, XII & VIII) Inhibits prothrombin to thrombin & fibrinogen to fibrin 	Embolism Atrial Fibrillation CVA Thrombosis MI	 Active internal bleeding Severe hypertension Bleeding disorders ASA/NSAIDS (↑ anticoagulant effect) Trauma Intracranial hemorrhage 	 Bleeding HematuriaNausea Local irritation (preferably injected SC into abdomen) 	 work on clots that have already formed) Monitor blood work, values such as aPTT (heparin use) and INR (warfarin use) Check for bleeding especially in gums and stool Heparin (20 min onset) usually starts therapy, followed by Warfarin (36h onset) <u>Vitamin K</u> is used to reverse effects of warfarin toxicity <u>Protamine sulfate</u> is used to reverse heparin effects K^{da} Heparin containing benzyl alcohol must not be given to neonates (fatal reactions have been reported) K^{da} When warfarin is used, all care providers should be informed to avoid unnecessary physical trauma Geriatric More likely to experience bleeding complications Geriatric dalteparin and enoxaparin can cause renal failure