

# PATIENT INFORMATION FOR MEDICATIONS COMMONLY USED IN THE HOSPITAL

## DRUG CLASS

### ANTIBIOTICS:

- Amoxicillin
- Ampicillin
- Azithromycin (Zithromax)
- Cefazolin (Kefzol)
- Cefepime (Maxipime)
- Cefoxitin (Mefoxin)
- Ceftriaxone (Rocephin)
- Ciprofloxacin (Cipro)
- Clindamycin (Cleocin)
- Doxycycline
- Levofloxacin (Levaquin)
- Metronidazole (Flagyl)
- Piperacillin/tazobactam (Zosyn)
- Vancomycin

## COMMON USES

### Treat various infections such as:

- Bloodstream infections
- Pneumonia
- Urinary tract infections
- Skin and soft tissue infections

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Itching
- Nausea/vomiting
- Skin rash
- Yeast infections

### Severe:

- C. diff infections
- Difficulty in breathing
- Severe diarrhea
- Severe rash, hives, blisters
- Shortness of breath



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### **BETA BLOCKERS:**

- Atenolol (Tenormin)
- Bisoprolol (Zebeta)
- Carvedilol (Coreg)
- Labetolol (Trandate)
- Metoprolol succinate (Toprol)
- Metoprolol tartrate (Lopressor)
- Nebivolol(Bystolic)
- Propranol (Inderal)
- Sotalol (Betapace)

## COMMON USES

### **Treatment of the following:**

- Abnormal heart rhythm (e.g. atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter)
- Angina (chest pain)
- Heart failure
- High blood pressure
- Reduces the risk of serious problems caused by a heart attack

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### **Mild/Moderate:**

- Mild dizziness, drowsiness, and/or tiredness
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Skin rash/itching
- Unusual dreams

### **Severe:**

- Hives
- Lightheadedness, dizziness, or fainting
- Low blood pressure
- Low blood sugar
- Rapid weight gain
- Slow, fast, pounding, or uneven heartbeat
- Swelling in hands, ankles, or feet
- Swollen tongue or throat
- Trouble breathing, cold sweats, and bluish-colored skin
- Worsening chest pain



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### CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS:

- Amlodipine (Norvasc)
- Diltiazem (Cardizem)
- Felodipine (Plendil)
- Nicardipine (Cardene)
- Nifedipine (Procardia)
- Verapamil (Calan)

## COMMON USES

- Lowers the risk of strokes and heart attacks
- Treats high blood pressure and chest pain (angina)
- Treats abnormal heart rhythms (e.g. atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter)

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Cough, runny or stuffy nose, sore throat
- Flushing
- Hearing loss
- Lack or loss of strength
- Mild skin rash or itching
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach upset
- Sweating
- Trouble sleeping
- Unusual dreams

### Severe:

- Burning or itching at injection site
- Fast or irregular heartbeat
- Feeling faint, dizzy, or lightheaded
- Low blood pressure
- Low heart rate
- Rapid weight gain
- Severe skin rash or itching, hives
- Swelling in face, lips, or throat
- Swelling in hands, ankles, or feet
- Worsening chest pain



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### ACE INHIBITORS:

- Benazepril (Lotensin)
- Captopril (Capoten)
- Enalapril (Vasotec)
- Fosinopril (Monopril)
- Lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril)
- Quinapril (Accupril)

### ANGIOTENSIN

### RECEPTOR BLOCKERS:

- Candesartan (Atacand)
- Irbesartan (Avapro)
- Losartan (Cozaar)
- Olmesartan (Benicar)
- Telmisartan (Micardis)
- Valsartan (Diovan)

## COMMON USES

- Lowers risk of serious problems caused by heart attack
- Treat high blood pressure
- Treat heart failure

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Cough (ACE inhibitors)
- Dizziness
- Fatigue, tiredness
- Headache
- Increased potassium levels
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Numbness or tingling in hands, feet or lips
- Skin rash or itching

### Severe:

- Kidney toxicity (decreased urination, increased creatinine)
- Liver toxicity (yellowish skin/eyes, dark-colored urine, pale stools)
- Low blood pressure
- Severe skin rash, hives
- Severe stomach pain
- Tongue/throat swelling, trouble breathing



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### CORTICOSTEROIDS:

- Dexamethasone (Decadron)
- Fludrocortisone (Florinef)
- Hydrocortisone (Solu-Cortef)
- Methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol)
- Prednisone
- Prednisolone

## COMMON USES

- Reduce inflammation/swelling associated with various medical conditions (rash, COPD, pneumonia, asthma, etc)

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Confusion
- Difficulty sleeping
- Headache
- Impaired skin healing/thinning of skin
- Increased urination or thirst
- Muscle weakness or cramps
- Skin rash, itching
- Weight gain

### Severe:

- Bone loss (osteoporosis)
- Hallucinations, depression
- Increased blood glucose
- Increased risk of infections
- Increased white blood cells (leukocytosis)
- Stomach problems, pain, or bloody/black stools
- Swelling in hands, arms, legs or feet



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### GENERAL PAIN MEDICATIONS:

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol)

### NON-STEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS (NSAIDs):

- Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil)
- Meloxicam (Mobic)
- Naproxen (Naprosyn, Aleve)

### OPIOIDS:

- Codeine + Acetaminophen (Tylenol with Codeine)
- Fentanyl (Duragesic)
- Hydrocodone + Acetaminophen (Norco, Vicodin, Lortab, etc)
- Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)
- Morphine
- Oxycodone + Acetaminophen (Percocet)
- Oxycodone (Oxycontin)

## COMMON USES

- Reduce fever (acetaminophen, NSAIDs)
- Reduce inflammation (NSAIDs)
- Treatment of pain (mild, moderate, and severe)

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Confusion (opioids)
- Dizziness, lightheadedness
- Nausea (opioids), vomiting, constipation (opioids), diarrhea
- Skin rash, itching
- Weakness

### Severe:

- Extreme dizziness, drowsiness, weakness, slow heartbeat (opioids)
- Heart attack or stroke - chest pain, trouble breathing, unusual sweating, arm pain, etc. (NSAIDs)
- High blood pressure (NSAIDs)
- Kidney toxicity - problems with urination (NSAIDs)
- Liver toxicity - yellowish skin/eyes, dark-colored urine, pale stools (acetaminophen)
- Major bleeding (stomach, rectum, urine, bowel, head, etc.) – severe headache, stomach pain, black/bloody stools, bloody urine, coughing or vomiting up blood, etc. (NSAIDs)
- Respiratory depression, shortness of breath, difficulty in breathing (opioids)
- Risk of addiction, misuse, or overdose (opioids)
- Severe skin rash, hives
- Swelling in hands, ankles, or feet
- Vision problems (color changes, trouble seeing, blind spots)



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### ANTICOAGULANTS:

- Apixaban (Eliquis)
- Dabigatran (Pradaxa)
- Enoxaparin (Lovenox)
- Fondaparinux (Arixtra)
- Heparin
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)
- Warfarin (Coumadin)

## COMMON USES

- “Blood Thinner”
- Prevent blood clots from forming in legs and/or lungs due to lack of mobility or surgery
- Prevent blood clots/stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation
- Prevent more blood clots (recurrence) from forming in patients with deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Minor bleeding (nose bleeds, gums, menstrual, etc.)
- Nausea, vomiting, indigestion, stomach pain
- Skin rash or itching

### Severe:

- Chest pain, trouble breathing
- Dizziness, fainting, lightheadedness, headache
- Joint pain or swelling
- Low platelets (increased risk of bleeding)
- Liver toxicity (yellowish skin/eyes, dark-colored urine, pale stools)
- Major bleeding (stomach, rectum, urine, bowel, head, etc) – severe headache, stomach pain, black/bloody stools, bloody urine, coughing or vomiting up blood, etc)
- Numbness, tingling, or muscle weakness in legs or feet
- Purple toes syndrome (warfarin)
- Severe skin rash, hives



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### ANTI-ANXIETY MEDICATIONS:

- Alprazolam (Xanax)
- Clonazepam (Klonopin)
- Diazepam (Valium)
- Lorazepam (Ativan)
- Midazolam (Versed)
- Temazepam (Restoril)
- Zolpidem (Ambien)

## SLEEPING MEDICATIONS

- Temazepam (Restoril)
- Zolpidem (Ambien)

## COMMON USES

- Treat anxiety or anxiety with depression
- Treat insomnia (trouble falling to sleep or staying asleep)
- Treat seizure disorders

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Blurred vision
- Dizziness, sedation, trouble concentrating
- Headache
- Irritability, agitation, nervousness
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation
- Skin rash or itching
- Tiredness, sleepiness
- Unsteadiness, increased risk of falls

### Severe:

- Confusion, delirium, hallucinations
- Loss of consciousness
- Problems with coordination or memory
- Severe depression
- Severe drowsiness or weakness
- Severe muscle weakness or trouble walking/standing
- Severe skin rash, hives
- Slow heartbeat
- Trouble breathing



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### GASTROINTESTINAL MEDICATIONS:

- Aluminum/magnesium hydroxide (Maalox, Mylanta)
- Esomeprazole (Nexium)
- Famotidine (Pepcid)
- Omeprazole (Prilosec)
- Ondansetron (Zofran)
- Pantoprazole (Protonix)
- Prochlorperazine (Compazine)
- Promethazine (Phenergan)
- Sucralfate (Carafate)

## COMMON USES

- Treat gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)
- Treat gastrointestinal upset and heartburn
- Treat high levels of acid in stomach (Zollinger-Ellison syndrome)
- Treat nausea/vomiting
- Treat or prevent peptic ulcer disease (stomach ulcers)

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Abdominal pain, flatulence (gas)
- Dizziness, lightheadedness, tiredness
- Headache
- Low magnesium levels
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation
- Skin rash or itching

### Severe:

- Abnormal heart rhythms (ondansetron)
- Fast or pounding heartbeat
- Fever, chills, cough, sore throat, body aches
- Increased risk of Clostridium difficile colitis (infectious diarrhea)
- Liver toxicity (yellowish skin/eyes, dark-colored urine, pale stools)
- Low platelets (increased risk of bleeding)
- Muscle spasms or cramps
- Severe skin rash, hives



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### AGENTS FOR IRREGULAR HEART RHYTHMS (ANTIARRHYTHMICS):

- Amiodarone (Cordarone)
- Dronedarone (Multaq)

## COMMON USES

- Treat life-threatening heart rhythm problems (arrhythmias) such as ventricular tachycardia or fibrillation
- Treat other abnormal heart rhythms such as atrial fibrillation

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, loss of appetite
- Photosensitivity (sensitivity to sunlight, blurred vision, seeing halos) – amiodarone
- Skin rash, itching
- Tiredness, fatigue, loss of strength
- Weight gain

### Severe:

- Chest pain
- Fast, slow or pounding heartbeat
- Liver toxicity (yellowish skin/eyes, dark-colored urine, pale stools)
- Renal toxicity (increased serum creatinine) – dronedarone
- Respiratory toxicity (pulmonary fibrosis, pneumonitis) – amiodarone
- Severe headache
- Severe skin rash, hives
- Shortness of breath, cold sweat, or bluish-colored skin (amiodarone)
- Slow heart beats or slow heart rhythms
- Swelling in neck (goiter)/thyroid problems – amiodarone
- Swelling/numbness/tingling/burning in hands, ankles, or feet



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### INSULINS:

- Insulin aspart (Novolog)
- Insulin aspart mix 70/30 (Novolog 70/30)
- Insulin detemir (Levemir)
- Insulin glargine (Lantus)
- Insulin isophane NPH (Humulin N, Novolin N)
- Insulin lispro (Humalog)
- Insulin lispro mix 75/25 (Humalog 75/25)
- Insulin mix 70/30 (Humulin 70/30, Novolin 70/30)
- Insulin regular (Humulin R, Novolin R)

## COMMON USES

- Treat high blood glucose due to diabetes mellitus
- Treat high blood glucose due to other conditions such as corticosteroid therapy, parenteral nutrition or sepsis

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Depression, anxiety, mood changes
- Mood changes
- Nausea, vomiting
- Nervousness, agitation
- Redness/pain/itching/swelling at site of injection
- Skin rash, itching
- Tingling in hands, feet, lips or tongue
- Weight gain

### Severe:

- Hunger, trembling
- Low blood sugar (blurred vision, fast or pounding heartbeat, increased sweating, dizziness, drowsiness, lightheadedness, fainting, problems with speech/balance/walking, tremors/shaking)
- Low potassium levels
- Severe skin rash, hives
- Trouble breathing



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### DIURETICS (LOOP):

- Bumetanide (Bumex)
- Furosemide (Lasix)
- Torsemide (Demadex)

## COMMON USES

- Eliminate excessive fluid associated with congestive heart failure, liver disease, and/or kidney disease
- Treat high blood pressure in combination with other medications

## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

### Mild/Moderate:

- Headache
- Mild dizziness
- Nausea, vomiting, constipation, diarrhea

### Severe:

- Allergic reaction: rash, hives, itching, shortness of breath, cough, wheezing, swelling of face, lips, or tongue, unusual hoarseness, trouble talking
- Confusion, extreme thirst or hunger, breath that smells like fruit
- Dark urine, upset stomach/pain, yellow skin/eyes
- Extreme stomach pain, back pain, or vomiting
- Fluid/electrolyte problems: mood changes, confusion, muscle pain or weakness, very bad dizziness of passing out, fast heartbeat, extreme thirst, feeling tired or weak, inability to pass urine, dry mouth/eyes
- Unexplained bruising or bleeding



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