

# Nursing Pharmacology Cheat Sheet

| Drug Class     | Medication Name         | Common Uses               | Typical Dosage             | Common Side Effects  | Special Nursing Considerations                           |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Analgesics     | Acetaminophen (Tylenol) | Pain, Fever               | 325-650 mg every 4-6 hours | Nausea, Rash         | Monitor liver function with prolonged use                |
|                | Ibuprofen (Advil)       | Pain, Inflammation, Fever | 200-400 mg every 4-6 hours | GI upset, Dizziness  | Assess for signs of GI bleeding, renal function          |
| Antibiotics    | Amoxicillin             | Bacterial Infections      | 500 mg every 8 hours       | Diarrhea, Rash       | Check for allergic reactions, monitor for superinfection |
|                | Ciprofloxacin           | Bacterial Infections      | 250-500 mg every 12 hours  | GI upset, Tendonitis | Monitor for tendon pain, avoid in pregnancy              |
| Anticoagulants | Warfarin (Coumadin)     | Blood Clots               | 2-10 mg daily              | Bleeding, Bruising   | Monitor INR, educate on vitamin K intake                 |

|                   |                     |                                 |                  |                                      |  |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
|                   | Heparin             | Blood Clots                     | Dosage varies    | Bleeding, Thrombocytopenia           | Monitor aPTT, platelet count, signs of bleeding    |
| Antihypertensives | Lisinopril          | High Blood Pressure             | 10-40 mg daily   | Cough, Hyperkalemia                  | Monitor BP, renal function, potassium levels       |
|                   | Amlodipine          | High Blood Pressure, Angina     | 5-10 mg daily    | Edema, Fatigue                       | Monitor BP, assess for peripheral edema            |
| Diuretics         | Furosemide (Lasix)  | Edema, Hypertension             | 20-80 mg daily   | Electrolyte imbalance, Dehydration   | Monitor electrolytes, renal function, fluid status |
|                   | Hydrochlorothiazide | Edema, Hypertension             | 12.5-50 mg daily | Electrolyte imbalance, Dizziness     | Monitor BP, electrolytes, signs of dehydration     |
| Antidepressants   | Sertraline (Zoloft) | Depression, Anxiety             | 50-200 mg daily  | Sexual dysfunction, Insomnia         | Monitor for mood changes, suicidal ideation        |
|                   | Fluoxetine (Prozac) | Depression, OCD                 | 20-60 mg daily   | Nausea, Nervousness                  | Monitor for serotonin syndrome, mood changes       |
| Antipsychotics    | Risperidone         | Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder | 1-6 mg daily     | Weight gain, Extrapiramidal symptoms | Monitor for metabolic changes, movement disorders  |

|                          |                      |                                     |                  |                        |  |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|
|                          | Olanzapine (Zyprexa) | Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder     | 5-20 mg daily    | Sedation, Weight gain  | Monitor blood glucose, lipid profile             |
| Beta Blockers            | Metoprolol           | Hypertension, Angina, Heart Failure | 25-100 mg daily  | Fatigue, Bradycardia   | Monitor heart rate, BP, signs of heart failure   |
|                          | Propranolol          | Hypertension, Anxiety, Migraine     | 40-320 mg daily  | Dizziness, Hypotension | Monitor BP, heart rate, respiratory status       |
| Calcium Channel Blockers | Diltiazem            | Hypertension, Angina, Arrhythmias   | 120-360 mg daily | Edema, Constipation    | Monitor BP, heart rate, signs of heart failure   |
|                          | Nifedipine           | Hypertension, Angina                | 30-90 mg daily   | Headache, Flushing     | Monitor BP, assess for edema, reflex tachycardia |

**Notes:**