

# ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: Medication

STUDENT NAME Danielle Rode VNB

MEDICATION Levothyroxine REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY CLASS Thyroid prep.

## PURPOSE OF MEDICATION

### Expected Pharmacological Action

Replacement of supplementation to endogenous to thyroid hormones

### Therapeutic Use

- Replacement in hypothyroidism to restore normal hormonal balance
- Suppression of thyroid cancer

### Complications

CNS: headache, insomnia, irritability. CV: angina pectoris, arrhythmias, tachycardia GI: abdominal cramps, diarrhea, vomiting

### Medication Administration

- 50 mcg as a single dose to start may begin 2-3 wk by 25mcg/day;
- Usual dose is 75-125 mcg/day (1.5 mcg/kg/day)

### Contraindications/Precautions

Hypersensitivity, Recent MI, Hyperthyroidism cardiovascular disease (initiate therapy w/lower doses). Severe renal insufficiency, uncorrected adrenocortical disorders

### Nursing Interventions

Assess apical pulse/BP prior to & during therapy. Assess for tachyarrhythmias & chest pains

Children monitor: weight, height, psychomotor development

### Interactions

Bile acid sequestrants and orlistatp absorption of orally administered thyroid preparations.

### Client Education

Educate patient that medication will not cure hypothyroidism, therapy is lifelong.

### Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness

Levo PO: unknown 1-3 week  
Levo IV: 6-8 hr / 24 hr