

Sodium Channel Blocker			Patient Education
Amlodipine (Norvasc) Diltiazem (Cardizem, Tiazac) Felodipine (Plendil) Nifedipine (Adalat, Procardia) Nimodipine (Nimotop) Nisoldipine (Sular) Verapamil (Calan, Verelan)	Interrupts the movement of calcium into the cells of the heart and blood vessels. May decrease the heart's pumping strength and relax blood vessels.	Used to treat high blood pressure, chest pain (angina) caused by reduced blood supply to the heart muscle and some arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythms).	Monitor for B/P, arrhythmias, CNS side effects, can cause heart failure
Beta Blockers			
Acebutolol (Sectral) Atenolol (Tenormin) Betaxolol (Kerlone) Bisoprolol/hydrochlorothiazide (Ziac) Bisoprolol (Zebeta) Metoprolol (Lopressor, Toprol XL) Nadolol (Corgard) Propranolol (Inderal) Sotalol (Betapace)	Decreases the heart rate and force of contraction, which lowers blood pressure and makes the heart beat more slowly and with less force.	Used to lower blood pressure. Used for cardiac arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythms) Used to treat chest pain (angina) Used to help prevent future heart attacks in patients who have had a heart attack.	Monitor B/P, careful changing positions, do not administer if HR less than 60, Systolic B/P less than 100,
Calcium Channel Blocker			
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ACE			
Benazepril (Lotensin) Captopril (Capoten) Enalapril (Vasotec) Fosinopril (Monopril) Lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril) Moexipril (Univasc) Perindopril (Aceon) Quinapril (Accupril) Ramipril (Altace) Trandolapril (Mavik)	Expands blood vessels and decreases resistance by lowering levels of angiotensin II. Allows blood to flow more easily and makes the heart's work easier or more efficient.	Used to treat or improve symptoms of cardiovascular conditions including high blood pressure and heart failure.	Report dry cough, monitor B/P
ARB			
Azilsartan (Edarbi) Candesartan (Atacand) Eprosartan (Teveten) Irbesartan (Avapro) Losartan (Cozaar) Olmesartan (Benicar) Telmisartan (Micardis) Valsartan (Diovan)	Rather than lowering levels of angiotensin II (as ACE inhibitors do) angiotensin II receptor blockers prevent this chemical from having any effect on the heart	Used to treat or improve symptoms of cardiovascular conditions including high blood pressure and heart failure.	Teach avoid food high in K+, monitor B/P

	and blood vessels. This keeps blood pressure from rising.		
Anticoagulants			
Apixaban (Eliquis) Dabigatran (Pradaxa) Edoxaban (Savaysa) Heparin (various) Rivaroxaban (Xarelto) Warfarin (Coumadin)	Decreases the clotting (coagulating) ability of the blood. Sometimes called blood thinners, although they do not actually thin the blood. They do NOT dissolve existing blood clots. Used to treat certain blood vessel, heart and lung conditions.	Helps to prevent harmful clots from forming in the blood vessels. May prevent the clots from becoming larger and causing more serious problems. Often prescribed to prevent first or recurrent stroke.	Teach bleeding precautions, needed lab monitoring
Antiplatelet Agents and Dual Antiplatelet Therapy (DAPT)			
Aspirin Clopidogrel (Plavix) Dipyridamole (Persantine) Prasugrel (Effient) Ticagrelor (Brilinta)	Keeps blood clots from forming by preventing blood platelets from sticking together.	Helps prevent clotting in patients who have had a heart attack, unstable angina, ischemic strokes, TIA (transient ischemic attacks) and other forms of cardiovascular disease. Can also be prescribed preventively when plaque buildup is evident but there is not yet a major blockage in the artery. Certain patients will be prescribed aspirin combined with another antiplatelet drug – also known as dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT).	Teach bleeding precautions
Cholesterol-Lowering Medications			
Statins: Atorvastatin (Lipitor), Fluvastatin (Lescol), Lovastatin (Mevacor), Pitavastatin (Livalo), Pravastatin (Pravachol), Rosuvastatin (Crestor), Simvastatin (Zocor) Nicotinic acids: Niacin Cholesterol absorption	Various medications can lower blood cholesterol levels, but drugs other than statins are usually only used for patients in whom statins are not effective or who	They work in the body in different ways. Some affect the liver, some work in the intestines and some interrupt the formation of cholesterol from	Used to lower LDL ("bad") cholesterol.

inhibitor: Ezetimibe (Zetia) Combination statin and cholesterol absorption inhibitors: Ezetimibe/Simvastatin (Vytorin)	have serious side effects from statin therapy.	circulating in the blood.	
Digitalis			
Digoxin (Lanoxin)	Increases the force of the heart's contractions. Can be beneficial in treating heart failure and irregular heartbeats.	Used to relieve heart failure symptoms, especially when the patient isn't responding to other standard treatments including ACE inhibitors, ARBs and diuretics. Also slows certain types of irregular heartbeat (arrhythmias), particularly atrial fibrillation.	check apical pulse prior to giving hold if less than 60
Diuretics			
Acetazolamide (Diamox) Amiloride (Midamor) Bumetanide (Bumex) Chlorothiazide (Diuril) Chlorthalidone (Hygroton) Furosemide (Lasix) Hydro-chlorothiazide (Esidrix, Hydrodiuril) Indapamide (Lozol) Metolazone (Zaroxolyn) Spironolactone (Aldactone) Torsemide (Demadex)	Causes the body to rid itself of excess fluids and sodium through urination. Helps to reduce the heart's workload. Also decreases the buildup of fluid in the lungs and other parts of the body, such as the ankles and legs. Different diuretics remove fluid at varied rates and through different methods.	Used to help lower blood pressure. Used to help reduce swelling (edema) from excess buildup of fluid in the body	Monitor I/O, for orthostatic hypotension, monitor electrolytes
Vasodilators/nitrates			
Isosorbide dinitrate (Isordil) Isosorbide mononitrate (Imdur) Hydralazine (Apresoline) Nitroglycerin (Nitro Bid, Nitro Stat) Minoxidil	Relaxes blood vessels and decreases blood pressure. A category of vasodilators called nitrates increases the supply of blood and oxygen to the heart while reducing its workload which can ease chest pain (angina). Nitroglycerin is available as a pill to	Used to ease chest pain (angina)	Monitor b/p, ask if taking sildenafil, tadalafil, vardenafil

	be swallowed or absorbed under the tongue (sublingual), a spray, and as a topical application (cream).		