

Pharmacologic Action — Narcotic agonist-analgesic of opiate receptors; inhibits ascending pain pathways, thus altering response to pain; increases pain threshold; produces analgesia, respiratory depression, and sedation

Indications — Management of acute pain

Contraindications — Hypersensitivity

WARNING: Should be used with caution in the elderly and in patients with hypotension, suspected gastrointestinal obstruction, head injury, and concomitant CNS depressants

Glucagon

Name — GlucaGen®, Glucagon Emergency Kit®, GlucaGen HypoKit®

Class — Hypoglycemia antidotes, glucose-elevating agents, other antidotes (e.g., beta-blocker or calcium channel blocker overdose)

Pharmacologic Action — Insulin antagonist. Stimulates cAMP synthesis to accelerate hepatic glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis. Glucagon also relaxes smooth muscles of GI tract

Indications — For the management of hypoglycemic patients as well as patients suffering symptomatic bradycardia after beta blocker or calcium channel blocker overdose

Contraindications — Hypersensitivity, pheochromocytoma, insulinoma

WARNING: Nausea and vomiting are common adverse effects following the administration of glucagon

Haloperidol

Name — Haldol®, Haldol Decanoate®, Haloperidol LA®, Peridol®

Class — First generation antipsychotic

Pharmacologic Action — Antagonizes dopamine-1 and dopamine-2 receptors in brain; depresses reticular activating system and inhibits release of hypothalamic and hypophyseal hormones

Indications — For the management of acute psychosis or agitated/violent behavior refractory to non-pharmacologic interventions

Contraindications — Documented hypersensitivity, Severe CNS depression (including coma), neuroleptic malignant syndrome, poorly controlled seizure disorder, Parkinson's disease

WARNING: Risk of sudden death, torsades de pointes, and prolonged QT interval from off-label IV administration of higher than recommended dose. Continuous cardiac monitoring is required if administering IV

Helium Gas Mixture

Name — Heliox®

Class — Optional method of oxygen delivery

Pharmacology — Less resistant than atmospheric air which may reduce the patient's work of breathing by increasing tendency to laminar flow and reducing resistance to turbulent flow

Indications — Persistent or severe bronchospasm in non-intubated patients with obstructive airway disease or pediatric patients with croup that is unresponsive to all other evidence-based medical interventions.

Contraindications — None

Hydralazine

Name — No listed brand name

Class — Vasodilator

Pharmacology — Direct vasodilator at the level of arterioles, with little effect on veins. Decreases systemic resistance.

Indications — Severe hypertension with pre-eclampsia symptoms