

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Amitriptyline	Serotonin and noradrenalin (norepinephrine) reuptake inhibitor. Also blocks sodium channels, muscarinic, 5HT _{2A} , 2C, H ₁ , and alpha ₁ receptors	PO: 0.1-0.5 mg/kg/dose qHS Max initial dose: 10 mg May increase by 0.1-0.2 mg/kg/dose q5-7 days Max: 2 mg/kg/day or 150 mg/day	Neuropathic Pain: PO: start with 10 mg qHS. Increase to 25 mg after 3-7 days. Can increase (if needed) by 25 mg q7 days. Max: 150 mg qHS	Anticholinergic, antihistaminergic and antimuscarinic Sedation, delirium, postural hypotension, hyponatremia, urinary retention, dry mouth, blurred vision, mydriasis, tachycardia, arrhythmias, extrasystoles Caution use with other drugs metabolized by CYP2D6
Atropine	Tertiary Amine. Blocks acetylcholine in parasympathetic smooth muscle, secretory glands, and CNS. Muscarinic antagonist Uses: managing oropharyngeal secretions	Buccal: 1% eye drops - 1-4 drops (each drop contains approximately 0.5 mg atropine) under the tongue q2-4h PRN	Subcutaneous: 0.4-0.6mg q4-6h PRN	Antimuscarinic effects (drowsiness, cognitive impairment, delirium, agitation, mydriasis, blurred vision, tachycardia, palpitations, arrhythmias, dry mouth, heartburn, constipation, urinary retention, reduced sweating) At toxic doses: central vagal excitation, respiratory stimulation, agitation, delirium

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Baclofen	Binds to GABA receptors, resulting in hyperpolarization of neurons to relieve muscle spasticity	PO: 0.2-5 mg PO TID. Titrate by 5 mg q3-7days Max: 40-80 mg/day	PO: PO: Start with 5 mg TID. May increase by 5 mg per dose every 3 days based on response/ tolerability. Max: 80 mg/day	Drowsiness, dizziness, fatigue, nausea, vomiting
Bisacodyl	Directly irritates smooth muscles of intestine (colonic intramural plexus) to stimulate peristalsis; promotes water and electrolytes secretions into bowel	PO: 0.3 mg/kg/ dose PO once daily >10 years: 5-10 mg PR once daily Max: 15 mg/dose Rectal: >5 years: 5-10 mg once daily	PO: 5 to 15 mg PO once daily Rectal: 10 mg once daily	Abdominal pain, diarrhoea, ischemic colitis, headaches Tablets may be enterically coated: Do not chew or crush these tablets and do not give within 1 hour of antacids or milk products

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Carbamazepine	Inhibits voltage-gated sodium channels	<p>PO: <6y: Initial dose of 1.7-3.3 mg/kg/dose TID Increase by 2 mg/kg/day over several weeks Usual: 5-6.7 mg/kg/dose Max: 35 mg/kg/day</p> <p>≥6y: Initial: 100-200 mg BID Usual: 200-600 mg/dose Max: 1000 mg/day in 6-12y; 1600 mg/day >12y</p>	<p>Neuropathic pain: PO: start with 200-400 mg/day in 2-4 divided doses. Increase in increments of 200 mg/day as needed over several weeks. Usual maintenance dose: 600-800 mg/day in 2-4 divided doses Max: 1200 mg/day</p> <p>Seizure Control: PO: 50-100mg BID; if necessary, increase by 50-100 mg increments every 1-2 weeks Usual maintenance dose: 800-1200 mg/day (divided BID)</p> <p>Note: Titrate slowly, to avoid Stevens-Johnson Syndrome risk, use modified-release tablets for doses larger than 100 mg</p>	<p>Drowsiness, dizziness, fatigue, blurred vision, constipation, nausea, vomiting, photosensitivity, increased liver function tests, osteopenia</p> <p>Rash (benign or severe including Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis), hypersensitivity syndrome</p> <p>Teratogenicity (especially in 1st trimester)</p>
Cetirizine	Second generation antihistamine. Inhibits histamine (H ₁)	<p>PO: 6 mo-2y: 2.5 mg once daily 2-5y: 2.5-5 mg once daily >5y: 5-10 mg once daily</p>	<p>PO: 5-10 mg once daily Max: 10 mg/day</p>	<p>Drowsiness, fatigue, headache</p>

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Chlorpromazine	Low potency first-generation antipsychotic. Inhibits dopamine receptors, but also alpha-adrenergic, histamine, muscarinic, and serotonin receptors	IV/PO: 0.5-1 mg/kg/dose q6-8h Max: 50 mg/dose	PO: 15-50 mg once daily. Titrate up to 3-4 times daily Max: 200 mg/day	Drowsiness, dizziness, hypotension, tachycardia, blurry vision, dry mouth, constipation, urinary retention extrapyramidal symptoms, hyperprolactinemia (with regular use) Avoid in seizure disorders and delirium. Caution in prolonged QTc Avoid long term use due to risk of tardive dyskinesia Poorly tolerated in elderly
Clonazepam	Benzodiazepine binds to GABA-A receptors which enhances the inhibitory effect on the cortical and limbic systems		PO: Start with 0.5-1.5 mg/day in 1-3 divided doses. May increase in increments of 0.5-1 mg q3-7 days based on response/tolerability to usual maintenance dose of 2-8 mg/day in 1-2 divided doses Max: Dose for anxiety and neuropathic pain 500-1000 mg	Drowsiness, dizziness, ataxia, respiratory depression, hypotension

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Clonidine	Non-selective stimulation of alpha-2 adrenergic receptors in the brainstem, resulting in decreased sympathetic outflow and peripheral resistance	PO: 1-2 mcg/kg/dose q4-6h. Titrate to effect Max: 4 mcg/kg/dose or 200 mcg/dose or 10 mcg/kg/day or 800 mcg/day	PO: Start with 100 mcg BID. Increase in increments of 100 mcg/day at weekly intervals. Usual dose: 200-600 mcg/day in 2 divided doses Max: 2400 mcg/day (manufacturer); but generally >800 mcg/day (clinical practice)	Dizziness, hypotension, bradycardia, drowsiness, headache, rebound hypertension (with abrupt discontinuation of consistent use)
Codeine	Full opioid agonist: binds to opioid receptors in CNS, causing inhibition of ascending pain pathways, altering the perception of and response to pain; causes cough suppression by direct central action in the medulla; produces generalized CNS depression	Should not be used in children < 12 years of age. Only consider if lack of other options available or other medications are contraindicated. Additionally, avoid in patients with increased risk of respiratory depression Children > 12 yrs: PO/ Subcutaneous: 0.5-1 mg/kg/dose q3-6h PRN Max: 60 mg/dose, 240 mg/day	Pain: PO: Start with 15-60 mg every 4 hours PRN Max: 360 mg/day; patient with prior opioid exposure may require higher initial doses Cough: PO: 30-60 mg QID	Drowsiness, dizziness, constipation, respiratory depression

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Desipramine	Serotonin and noradrenalin (norepinephrine) reuptake inhibitor. Also blocks sodium channels, muscarinic, 5HT _{2A} , 2C, H ₁ , and alpha ₁ receptors		PO: Start with 12.5-25 mg once or twice daily. Increase dose q2-7 days based on response/ tolerability up to 150 mg/day	Anticholinergic, antihistaminergic and antimuscarinic Sedation, delirium, postural hypotension, hyponatremia, urinary retention, dry mouth, blurred vision, mydriasis, tachycardia, arrhythmias, extrasystoles Caution use with other drugs metabolized by CYP _{2D6}
Dexamethasone	Long-acting corticosteroid with minimal mineralocorticoid effect. Reduces downstream effects of inflammatory mediators. Antiemetic mechanism not completely known	IV/PO: 0.25-0.6 mg/kg/dose q6-24h Max: 16 mg/day See separate sections for specific dosing in cough, nausea/vomiting, malignant spinal cord compression, and superior vena cava syndrome	PO/ Subcutaneous High dose: 8 mg Low dose: 2-6 mg BID or once daily	Abdominal pain, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, hyperglycemia, hypertension, bradycardia, insomnia, acute psychiatric reactions (psychosis), increased liver function tests Long-term risks include adrenal suppression, osteonecrosis, osteoporosis, immunosuppression

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Dextromethorphan	Activates sigma opioid receptors on the medullary cough centre, resulting in suppression of the cough reflex	PO: 6-11y: 10 mg q4h PRN Max: 60 mg/day ≥12y: 20 mg q4hr PRN Max: 120 mg/day	PO: 15-30 mg q4-8h Max: 120 mg/day	Drowsiness, nausea Weak evidence to support routine use in children. Not recommended in <6 years old.
Diazepam	Long-acting benzodiazepine. Binds to GABA-A receptors which enhances the inhibitory effect on the cortical and limbic systems	IV/IO/ Subcutaneous: 0.3 mg/kg/dose Max: 5 mg in <5y; 10 mg in ≥5y	IV/ Subcutaneous/ PR: 5-10 mg q3-4h PRN Max: 30 mg/dose	Drowsiness, dizziness, hypotension, respiratory depression, paradoxical excitation (especially in children) Caution use in patients with hepatic dysfunction and high risk of respiratory depression
Diclofenac	Reversibly inhibits COX-1 and -2 enzymes resulting in decreased formation of prostaglandin precursors to exert antipyretic, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory effect	PO: 0.7-1 mg/kg/dose TID PRN OR 1-1.5 mg/kg/dose BID PRN Max: 50 mg/dose PR: 0.5-1 mg/kg/dose BID-TID PRN Max: 50 mg/dose, 100 mg/day	PO/ Subcutaneous: 50 mg q8-12h (Immediate release formulation) OR 75 mg q12h (Sustained release formulation) PR: 50-100 mg q8h	Abdominal pain, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, edema, hypertension, thrombotic events (e.g. stroke), prolonged bleeding, renal dysfunction Use with caution in patients with cardiac, hepatic, or renal impairment, and asthma

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Dimenhydrinate	Inhibits histamine (H1) receptor	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous/ PR: 0.5-1.25 mg/kg/dose q6h PRN Max: 50 mg/dose, 300 mg/day	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous/ PR: 50 mg q4-8h CSCI : 150 mg per 24 hours	Drowsiness, dry mouth, blurred vision, constipation, paradoxical excitation and insomnia (especially in children)
Diphenhydramine	First generation antihistamine. Inhibits histamine (H1) receptors	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.5-1 mg/kg/dose q6-8h PRN Max: 50 mg/dose	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 25-50 mg q4-8h PRN	Drowsiness, dry mouth, blurred vision, constipation, paradoxical excitation and insomnia (especially in children)
Domperidone	Increases gastric motility and emptying by inhibiting peripheral dopamine receptors	PO: 0.4-0.8 mg/kg/dose TID or 0.3-0.6 mg/kg/dose QID Max: 10 mg/dose	PO: 10 mg TID-QID	Headache, dry mouth, abdominal cramping, hyperprolactinemia, QTc prolongation, cardiovascular events Avoid in co-existing cardiac disease, moderate or severe liver dysfunction, significant electrolyte abnormalities, or on QTc prolonging drugs QTc prolongation risk >30 mg/day

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Epinephrine	Stimulates alpha, beta-adrenergic receptors resulting in relaxation of smooth muscle of bronchial tree		<p>Anaphylaxis: IM: 0.3-0.5 mg q5 minutes PRN up to 3 doses</p> <p>Asthma/reversible bronchospasm: Subcutaneous 0.3-0.5 mg q20minutes PRN (max 3 doses) or Nebulized: 5 mg over 10-15 minutes; may repeat q3h PRN</p> <p>Topical: (for bleeding malignant wounds): Apply epinephrine (1 mg/mL) soaked gauze topically and cover with dressing</p>	Hypertension, pulmonary edema
Famotidine	Competitively inhibits histamine (H ₂) receptors of the gastric parietal cells to inhibit gastric acid secretion	<p>PO: 0.5-1 mg/kg/dose q12-24h Max: 40 mg/dose</p> <p>IV: 0.25-0.5 mg/kg/dose q12-24h Max: 20 mg/dose</p>	<p>PO/IV: 10-20 mg BID PRN Max: 40 mg/day</p> <p>Onset: within 1 hour Duration: 10-12 hours (PO, IV)</p>	Headache, constipation, diarrhoea
Fentanyl (transdermal patch)	Full opioid agonist binding to mu opioid receptors within CNS, increasing pain threshold, altering pain reception and inhibiting ascending pain pathways		To determine dose, calculate patient's 24-hour OME requirement. With OME, use dose conversion table to convert to appropriate fentanyl transdermal dose (45 mg/day OME = 12 mcg/h fentanyl)	Constipation, nausea/vomiting, sedation, drowsiness, delirium, urinary retention, syncope, myoclonus, respiratory depression

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Furosemide	Inhibits reabsorption of sodium and chloride in the proximal and distal tubules and ascending loop of Henle, leading to increased excretion of sodium and water	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.5-2 mg/kg/dose q6-24h. Titrated by 1-2 mg/kg/dose to achieve desired response. Max: 6 mg/kg/dose or 80 mg/dose	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: Start with 20-80 mg daily-BID. Then titrate PRN to effective dose Max: effective single dose: 80-200 mg depending on renal function Max total daily dose: 600 mg/day	Hypotension, hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia, hypocalcemia, hyperuricemia, alkalosis, acute kidney injury, reversible tinnitus
Gabapentin	Structurally similar to GABA. Inhibits voltage-gated calcium channels to modulate the release of excitatory neurotransmitters involved in nociception and elipetogenesis	PO: 5 mg/kg/dose daily x 3 days, then increase to BID, then TID, titrate up every 3-5 days Max initial dose: 300 mg Usual dosing range 15-60 mg/kg/day Max: 3600 mg/day	PO: Start with 100-300 mg TID. Increase dose based on response/ tolerability to target dose of 300-1200 mg PO TID. Max: 3600 mg/day	Drowsiness,, dizziness, ataxia, fatigue, nausea, constipation Separate from antacids by at least 2 hours
Glycerin	Osmotic laxative. Draws fluid into colon by increasing osmotic pressure to stimulate evacuation	PR: <2y: Tip of paediatric suppository (-0.25-3 g) 2-6y: 1 paediatric suppository (1-2 g) >6y: 1 adult suppository (>2 g)	PR: 1 suppository. Suppository should be retained for 15 minutes	Abdominal cramping, tenesmus, mild rectal irritation Avoid suppositories in patients with severely reduced WBC or platelet counts due to risk of bleeding or infection

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Glycopyrronium/glycopyrrolate	Competitively inhibits muscarinic receptors in smooth muscle, secretory glands, and the central nervous system	PO: 40-100 mcg/kg/dose q6-8h Max: 3000 mcg/dose IV/ Subcutaneous: 4-10 mcg/kg/dose q3-4h Max: 200 mcg/dose	IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.2-0.4 mg q4-6h CSCI: 0.6-1.2 mg per 24 hours	Does not cross blood brain barrier; CNS adverse effects may be minimized
Guaifenesin	Expectorant. Reduces the viscosity of respiratory mucus to facilitate removal by natural processes	PO: 6-11y: 100-200 mg q4h PRN Max: 1200 mg/day ≥12y: 200-400 mg q4h PRN Max: 2400 mg/day	PO: 200-400 mg q4h PRN Max: 2.4 g/day	Nausea, vomiting Weak evidence to support routine use in children. Not recommended in <6 years old
Haloperidol	Inhibits postsynaptic dopamine (D ₂) receptors	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous/ IM: 0.01-0.05 mg/kg/dose q6-24h Max: 0.5 mg/kg/day or 30 mg/day See sections for specific dosing in nausea/vomiting and delirium	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous/ IM: 0.5-5 mg q8h CSCI: 1.5-5 mg 24 hours	Sedation, hypotension, extrapyramidal symptoms (e.g. dystonia), prolonged QTc interval, delirium, hyperprolactinemia (with regular use) Caution use in patients with epilepsy and receiving QTc prolonging drugs, metoclopramide (increased risk of EPS) PO haloperidol is 60-70% bioavailable, consider reducing Subcutaneous, IV, IM dose by 30%.

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Hydrochlorothiazide	Inhibits sodium reabsorption in the distal tubules, leading to increased excretion of sodium and water (as well as potassium and hydrogen)	PO: 1-2 mg/kg/dose BID Max: 100 mg/day	PO: Start with 25-50 mg daily or BID Increase dose as needed based on response and tolerability Max: 200 mg/day.	Hyponatremia, hypokalemia, hypomagnesemia, photosensitivity, gout
Hydroxyzine	First generation antihistamine. Inhibits histamine (H ₁) receptors	PO: 0.5-0.7 mg/kg/dose TID-QID Max: 2 mg/kg/day or 100 mg/day	PO: 10-25 mg TID-QID. May increase dose in 10-25 mg increments at weekly intervals based on response/tolerability Max: 200 mg/day	Drowsiness, dizziness, dry mouth, blurred vision, constipation
Hyoscine BUTYL-bromide (Buscopan®)	Same as atropine	IV/ Subcutaneous: <5y: 0.3 mg/kg/dose q6-8h 5-12y: 5-10 mg q6-8h ≥12y: 10-20 mg q6-8h	IV/ Subcutaneous: 20 mg STAT then repeat 20 mg q4-6h CSCI: 60-120 mg/24h	*Does not cross blood-brain-barrier (BBB) (Use TALLman lettering to avoid confusion with hydrobromide)
Hyoscine HYDRO-bromide	Same as atropine	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 5-6 mcg/kg/dose q6-8h Max: 300 mcg/dose Transdermal: ½ patch (12-17 kg) or 1 patch (≥17 kg) topically q48-72hrs	IV/ Subcutaneous: 400-600mcg q4-6h Transdermal: 1 patch topically q48-72hrs	Can be sedating Avoid in end-stage renal failure (increased risk of delirium)

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Ibuprofen	Reversibly inhibits COX-1 and -2 enzymes resulting in decreased formation of prostaglandin precursors to exert antipyretic, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory effect	PO: 5-10 mg/kg/dose q6-8h PRN Max: 40 mg/kg/day or 2400 mg/day	PO: 200-800 mg q8h Max: 2400 mg/day	Abdominal pain, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, edema, hypertension, thrombotic events (e.g. stroke), prolonged bleeding, renal dysfunction Use with caution in patients with cardiac, hepatic, or renal impairment, and asthma
Ketamine* (WHO)	Non-competitive NMDA receptor antagonist. Provides general/procedural anesthesia, analgesia Of note, spontaneous respiration and airway tone maintained	PO: 5-10 mg/kg/dose IV: 0.5-2 mg/kg/dose May administer 0.5-1 mg/kg/dose IV q5-15 mins as required IN: 3-6 mg/kg/dose CSCI: 100-1200 mcg/kg/hr Onset: 30-60 sec (IV), 5-10 min (IN), 15-30 min (PO) Duration: 5-10 min (IV), up to 60 min for analgesia (IN), 60 min or greater (PO)	Analgesic adjuvant: PO: start with 10-25 mg q8h. Titrate in steps of 10-25 mg Max: 200 mg PO q6h. CSCI: 100 mg over 24 hours. Increase after 24 hours to 300 mg CSCI over 24 hours and further increase to 500 mg CSCI over 24 hours if ineffective	Oropharyngeal secretions, laryngospasm, increased blood pressure, emergence reaction (including agitation, confusion, and delirium)

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Ketorolac	NSAID. Reversibly inhibits COX-1 and -2 enzymes resulting in decreased formation of prostaglandin precursors to exert antipyretic, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory effects	<p>PO: 1 mg/kg/dose q4-6h PRN Max: 10 mg/dose</p> <p>IV: 0.2-0.5 mg/kg/dose q6-8h PRN Max: 30 mg/dose</p> <p>Usual duration of therapy is 48-72h, max of 5 days to minimize risk of adverse effects</p>	<p>PO: 20 mg once, followed by 10-30 mg q4-6h PRN Max: 120 mg/day, max duration: 5 days total</p> <p>IV: 15 mg once or 15 mg q6h PRN Max: 60 mg/day; max duration: 5 days total</p>	<p>Abdominal pain, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, GI ulceration and bleeding, edema, hypertension, thrombotic events (e.g. stroke), prolonged bleeding, renal dysfunction</p> <p>Use with caution in patients with cardiac, hepatic, or renal impairment, and asthma</p>
Lamotrigine (WHO)	Anticonvulsant inhibits release of excitatory glutamate and inhibits voltage-sensitive sodium channels, which stabilizes neuronal membranes		<p>PO: Start with 25 mg daily x 2 weeks, then 50 mg/day in 1-2 divided doses x 2 weeks, then increase daily dose by 50 mg q1-2 weeks to max 400 mg/day in 1-2 divided doses</p>	<p>Caution with concurrent medications which inhibit lamotrigine metabolism, warranting more gradual, lower and slower dose titration (50% of typical titration dosing regimen)</p> <p>Rash (if develops, discontinue lamotrigine)</p>

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Levomepromazine (Methotrimeprazine)	A phenothiazine that antagonizes dopamine, serotonin, histamine and muscarinic receptors, giving rise to antipsychotic, antiemetic, anxiolytic, analgesic and sedative	PO: 0.125-0.5 mg/kg/day divided BID to TID IV: 0.0625-0.125 mg/kg/day divided BID to QID Max: 0.5 mg/kg/dose, 50 mg/dose	PO: 6.25 mg/day divided TID May increase based on response/tolerability Subcutaneous: 6.25 mg/day daily or BID CSCI: 6-250 mg/day	Sedation, anticholinergic effects (dry mouth, urinary retention), orthostatic hypotension, extrapyramidal effects
Lidocaine	Class Ib antiarrhythmic. Blocks sodium channels thereby blocking the initiation and conduction of nerve impulses resulting in local anaesthesia	Subcutaneous infiltration: Up to 4.5 mg/kg/dose (0.9 mL/kg of lidocaine 0.5%, or 0.45 mL/kg of lidocaine 1% or 0.225 mL/kg lidocaine 2%) Max: 300 mg Not to be administered in intervals of less than 2 hours	IV/ Subcutaneous: 5-12.5 mg/kg over 120 minutes q2 weeks OR IV/ Subcutaneous: continuous infusion 0.5-2 mg/kg/hr	Pain, redness and burning at the injection site, edema, respiratory depression Increased risk of methemoglobinemia in patients with G6PD deficiency Use with caution in patients with cardiac failure Dose adjustment required in hepatic or renal impairment

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Loperamide	Binds to the mu opioid receptors in the intestinal muscles thereby inhibiting peristalsis and increasing gut transit time in order to reduce fecal volume, increase viscosity and decrease fluid and electrolyte depletion	<p>PO: 2-5 yrs: 1 mg after first loose stool, 1 mg/dose after each subsequent loose stool Max: 3 mg/day</p> <p>6-8 yrs: 2 mg after first loose stool, 1 mg/dose after each subsequent loose stool Max: 4 mg/day</p> <p>8-11 yrs: 2 mg after first loose stool, 1 mg/dose after each subsequent loose stool Max: 6 mg/day</p> <p>≥12yrs: 4 mg after first loose stool, 2 mg/dose after each subsequent loose stool Max: 16 mg/day</p>	<p>PO: 4 mg, followed by 2 mg after each loose stool Max: 16 mg/day</p> <p>For diarrhoea persisting >24 hours, administer 2 mg q2h Continue until 12 hours have passed without a loose bowel movement</p>	<p>Abdominal cramping and discomfort, constipation, nausea, vomiting, sedation</p> <p>Should be avoided in children with acute gastroenteritis in order to not delay the passage of infectious agents</p>
Lorazepam	Benzodiazepine. Binds to benzodiazepine receptors of postsynaptic GABA chloride channel neurons resulting in the enhanced inhibitory effect of GABA	<p>PO/SL/IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.025 - 0.05 mg/kg/dose q4-8h PRN Max: 2 mg/dose</p> <p>Note: for seizures, 0.1 mg/kg/dose Max: 4 mg/dose</p>	<p>For status epilepticus: IV/ Subcutaneous/ SL: usual dose of 4 mg (range of 2-8 mg) STAT then repeat dose q10-20 minutes until controlled</p>	<p>Drowsiness, respiratory depression (especially in combination with opioids), psychomotor impairment, hypotension, habit-forming potential</p> <p>Risk of propylene glycol toxicity with repeated dosing in renal impairment</p>

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Megestrol Acetate	Synthetic derivative of progesterone. Mechanism for appetite stimulation unknown	PO: 7.5-10 mg/kg/day daily to BID Max: 15 mg/kg/day, 800 mg/day	PO: 160-800 mg PO once daily If initial response poor, can double dose after 2 weeks	Skin rash, impotence, hypertension, nausea/vomiting, flatulence
Methadone* *requires additional expert training and supervision	Synthetic opioid agonist that binds to the mu receptor thereby inhibiting ascending pain pathways, altering the perception of and response to pain. Also has NMDA receptor antagonism	Opioid naïve: <6 mo: PO: 0.05 mg/kg/dose q4-8h PRN >6 mo: PO: 0.1-0.2 mg/kg/dose q4-8h PRN Usual Max: 5-10 mg/dose Titrate to effect to max 30 mg/dose Onset: 10-20 min (IV), 30-60 min (PO) Duration: 4-8h (PO) but can increase with repeat exposure	Opioid naïve: PO: start with methadone 2.5-5 mg q8-12h. May increase dose by 2.5 mg per dose no more often than q5-7 days (gradual titration) or by 2.5-5 mg per dose q3 days (faster titration, monitored). Once stable dose is reached, the dosing interval may be extended to q8-12h or longer Some guidelines note dose increases should not be >10 mg/day Q5-7 days Opioid-tolerant: There are several proposed ratios for converting OME to PO methadone (refer to conversion tables). Total PO methadone dose should be divided to reflect intended schedule.	QT prolongation, cardiac dysrhythmias, CNS depression, respiratory depression, hypotension, sweating, constipation Associated with significant variability in absorption, metabolism and analgesic potency. Accumulation occurs with repeated dosing secondary to long half life, which can contribute to significant sedation and respiratory depression Potential for many drug-drug interactions

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			<p>Patients who have not taken opioid for 1-2 weeks should be considered opioid naïve</p> <p>The higher the daily OME, the more potent methadone is. Starting dose should not exceed 30-40 mg/day, even in patients on high doses of other opioids</p>	
<p>Metoclopramide</p>	<p>Antagonist of dopamine and serotonin receptors in the chemoreceptor trigger zone of the CNS. It also increases GI motility and accelerated gastric emptying by promoting increased acetylcholine release</p>	<p>PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.1-0.2 mg/kg/dose q6-8h Max: 10 mg/dose, 0.5 mg/kg/day</p>	<p>PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 5-10 mg TID-QID given before meals</p> <p>CSCI: 30-60 mg/24hrs</p>	<p>Extrapyramidal symptoms (dystonia, akathisia, parkinsonism, tardive dyskinesia), drowsiness, restlessness, diarrhoea</p> <p>Avoid using in combination with other drugs that can cause EPS</p> <p>Avoid in complete bowel obstruction</p>

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Midazolam	Benzodiazepine. Binds to benzodiazepine receptors of postsynaptic GABA chloride channel neurons resulting in the enhanced inhibitory effect of GABA	<p>IV: 0.025-0.1 mg/kg/dose Max: 10 mg</p> <p>IN: 0.2-0.5 mg/kg/dose Max: 10 mg, 5 mg per nostril</p> <p>PO: 0.25-0.5 mg/kg/dose Max: 20 mg</p> <p>CSCI: 25-500 mcg/kg/hr</p>	<p>Palliative sedation: specialist level intervention</p> <p>IV/ Subcutaneous: 2.5-5 mg q5-15 minutes PRN Usual dose: 0.25-5 mg. If infusion, start with 0.25-1 mg/hr, titrate for symptom management</p> <p>CSCI: usual dose range is 0.5-5 mg/hr. (Can increase to 10mg/hr in some patients. However, consider adding another sedative medication to the CSCI if ineffective)</p> <p>Status epilepticus: IV/ Subcutaneous/ IM: 10 mg x 1 over 2 mins or 0.2 mg/kg x 1, repeat after 10-20 minutes if seizure persists Max: 10 mg per dose</p> <p>If refractory, follow with continuous IV/ Subcutaneous infusion at 0.05-2 mg/kg/hr</p>	<p>Drowsiness, respiratory depression (especially in combination with opioids), psychomotor impairment, hypotension, habit-forming potential</p> <p>Intranasal administration can cause burning sensation</p> <p>Rapid tolerance (48-72h) with continuous infusion resulting in higher dosage requirements</p>

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Morphine	Binds to opioid receptors thereby inhibiting ascending pain pathways, altering the perception of and response to pain	<p>Opioid-naïve patients: <6 mo of age: PO/SL: 0.05-0.1 mg/kg/dose q3-4h PRN IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.025-0.05 mg/kg/dose q2-4h PRN</p> <p>>6 mo of age: PO/SL: 0.2-0.3 mg/kg/dose q4-6h PRN, usual max starting dose of 10-15 mg IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.05-0.1 mg/kg/dose q2-4h PRN, usual max starting dose of 2-5 mg</p> <p>Continuous IV or Subcutaneous Infusion: Start at 20-40 mcg/kg/hr and increase incrementally by 10 mcg/kg/hr, usual maximum infusion of 100 mcg/kg/hr</p> <p>Dyspnoea: IV/ Subcutaneous: 0.05mg/kg q4h PRN OR PO 0.1 mg/kg q4h PRN</p>	<p>Pain: Opioid-naïve: PO: start with morphine 5-10 mg q4h PRN IV: 2-5 mg q1-4h PRN. Adjust dose based on response/ tolerability</p> <p>Dyspnoea: PO: 2.5 mg q4h OR IV/ Subcutaneous: 1-1.5 mg q4h. If severe dyspnoea, consider morphine IV/ Subcutaneous: 5 mg q5-10 minutes PRN</p>	<p>Drowsiness, constipation, pruritus, respiratory depression, psychomotor impairment, hypotension, habit-forming potential</p> <p>Have the potential to cause withdrawal syndrome if abruptly discontinued in patients maintained on therapy for a week or more. Gradual taper required when morphine discontinued</p> <p>Adjust dose in renal impairment due to reduced clearance of and accumulation of neurotoxic metabolite</p> <p>Doses for dyspnoea are generally 50% less than those for pain, in opioid naïve patients</p>

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Naproxen	NSAID. Reversibly inhibits COX-1 and -2 enzymes resulting in decreased formation of prostaglandin precursors to exert antipyretic, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory effects	PO/PR: 5-10 mg/kg/dose q12h Max: 1000 mg/day	PO/PR: 250-500 mg q12h PRN or 250 mg q6-8h PRN Max: 1 g/day	Abdominal pain, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, edema, hypertension, thrombotic events (e.g. stroke), prolonged bleeding, renal dysfunction Administer with food to decrease GI adverse effects Use with caution in patients with cardiac, hepatic, or renal impairment, and asthma Avoid concomitant administration with other NSAIDs
Octreotide	Octreotide is a somatostatin analogue which inhibits secretion of gastrin, insulin, glucagon, growth hormone. This in turn reduces splanchnic blood flow as well as intestinal secretions and gastrointestinal motility	Diarrhoea: IV/ Subcutaneous: 1-10 mcg/kg/dose q8-12h Continuous IV or Subcutaneous infusion: 24-48 mcg/kg/hr	Chemotherapy associated diarrhoea: IV/ Subcutaneous: Low grade/ uncomplicated: 100-150 mcg TID Severe/ complicated: 100-150 mcg TID, may increase to 500-2000 mcg Variceal haemorrhage: IV: 50 mcg bolus, followed by 50 mcg/hr by continuous IV infusion	Abdominal pain, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, hyperglycemia, hypertension, diaphoresis, injection site pain

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
			Malignant bowel obstruction: IV/ Subcutaneous: 200-900 mcg/day in 2-3 divided doses or by CSCI	
Olanzapine	Atypical antipsychotic. Although the actual mechanism is unclear, it likely exerts an antagonistic effect by binding to serotonin and dopamine receptors	PO: 2.5-5 mg daily Titrated by 2.5-5 mg/week Max: 15-20 mg/day Acute agitation: IM: <10 yrs: 1.5-5 mg >10 yrs: 5-10 mg Repeated doses: 5-10 mg 2 hours after first dose and third dose 4 hours after second dose	Nausea/vomiting: PO: 2.5-10 mg daily or BID x 3 days Hyperactive delirium/agitation: PO: 1.25-5 mg once daily PRN. Titrated daily based on response in 2.5-5 mg increments up to 20 mg/day IM: 2.5-5 mg once daily or PRN Max: 20 mg/day	Somnolence, dizziness, orthostatic hypotension, anticholinergic effects, weight gain, hyperglycemia Avoid administering IM olanzapine within one hour of a parenteral benzodiazepine due to potential for respiratory depression and death Cigarette smoke can increase clearance of drug by up to 40%
Omeprazole	Proton pump inhibitor. Inhibits the H ⁺ /K ⁺ ATP pump of parietal cells resulting in the suppression of gastric acid secretion	PO: 0.7-3.5 mg/kg/dose daily or 0.35-1.25 mg/kg/dose BID Max: 3.5 mg/kg/dose or 40 mg/day	PO: 20-40 mg once to twice daily	Diarrhoea, nausea, headache

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Ondansetron (on WHO)	5-HT ₃ receptor antagonist that blocks binding of serotonin on vagal nerve terminals of the GI tract and in chemoreceptor trigger zones in the brain	PO/IV: 0.15-0.2 mg/kg/dose q8-12h Max: 8 mg/dose Single-dose regimen for chemotherapy- or radiation-induced nausea/vomiting: PO: 8-14 kg: 2 mg 15-30 kg: 4 mg >30 kg: 8 mg	PO/IV/ Subcutaneous: 4-8 mg q8-12h CSCI: 16-24 mg per 24 hours Max: 24 mg/day	Headache, constipation, dizziness Potential for QT prolongation - avoid in patients with congenital long QT syndrome, caution when administering in conjunction with other QT prolonging medications
Oxycodone	Binds to opioid receptors thereby inhibiting ascending pain pathways, altering the perception of and response to pain	PO: 0.1-0.2 mg/kg/dose q4-6h PRN Max: 10-20 mg/dose Onset: 10-15 min Duration: 3-6hr	PO: Opioid naïve: start with 2-10 mg q4-6h PRN. Adjust dose based on response. Usual dose: 5-15 mg PO q4-6h PRN	CNS depression, constipation, hypotension, respiratory depression, nausea, vomiting Conversion from oxycodone may require some precaution due to potential of variable polymorphism and different active metabolites produced

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Pantoprazole	Proton pump inhibitor. Inhibits the H ⁺ /K ⁺ ATP pump of parietal cells resulting in the suppression of gastric acid secretion	<p>PO/IV: 1-1.5 mg/kg/dose q24h Max: 40 mg/day</p> <p>GI bleed: IV: 5-15 kg: 2 mg/kg/dose x 1 then 0.2 mg/kg/hr infusion >15-40 kg: 1.8 mg/kg/dose x 1 and then 0.18 mg/kg/hr infusion >40 kg: 80 mg/dose x 1 then 8 mg/hr infusion Max: 80 mg/dose Max rate: 8 mg/hr Max infusion duration: 72 hours</p>	<p>PO/IV: 40 mg once daily. In patients with refractory or recurrent disease, may increase the dose to 40 mg BID</p> <p>Upper GI bleed: IV: 80 mg bolus, followed by 8 mg/hr infusion x 72 hours prior to endoscopy. If no endoscopy performed within 12 hours, 80 mg bolus, followed by 40 mg q12h</p> <p>Where IV PPIs are unavailable, high-dose oral PPI therapy may be a reasonable alternative – consider using pantoprazole 40 mg PO BID if IV not available</p>	Diarrhoea, nausea, headache, hypomagnesemia, vitamin B12 deficiency, enteric infections (gastroenteritis, C. difficile associated diarrhoea)

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Phenytoin	Anticonvulsant. Promotes the efflux of sodium ions from motor cortex neurons thereby stabilizing the neuronal membranes and inhibiting the spread of seizure activity	<p>IV/IO: Loading dose: 20 mg/kg (max: 1500 mg/dose) Repeat dosing (for seizures lasting >10 mins): 5-10 mg/kg/dose</p> <p>Dilute in 0.9% NaCl only. Insoluble precipitates form in D₅W</p> <p>Administer at 1-3 mg/kg/min to a maximum of 50 mg/min</p> <p>Maintenance dose: PO: 4-10 mg/kg/day divided q8-12h; adjust dose based on response/serum concentrations Max: 300 mg/day</p>	<p>IV/IO: Loading dose: 20 mg/kg. Repeat dosing of 5-10 mg/kg 10 mins after loading dose; max total loading dose: 30 mg/kg. OR PO: Loading dose: 1 g divided into 3 doses (400 mg, 300 mg, 300 mg) administered at 2-hour intervals; begin maintenance dose 24 hours after first loading dose</p> <p>Maintenance dose: PO: 100 mg PO TID-QID; adjust dose based on response/serum concentrations</p> <p>To ensure optimal absorption, individual oral doses should not exceed 400 mg</p> <p>Therapeutic total phenytoin trough concentration: 40-80 umol/L</p> <p>Therapeutic free phenytoin trough concentration: 4-8 umol/L</p>	<p>Drowsiness, hypotension, bradycardia, cardiac arrhythmias, thrombocytopenia, pancytopenia</p> <p>Phenytoin toxicity: Dose related: drowsiness, confusion, nystagmus, ataxia, slurred speech, nausea, unusual behaviour, mental changes, coma (>200 umol/L) Non-dose related: hirsutism, acne, gingival hyperplasia, folate deficiency, osteomalacia, hypersensitivity reactions (including Steven's Johnson syndrome), SLE</p>

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Paracetamol (Acetaminophen)	<p>Activates descending serotonergic inhibitory pain pathways, has effects in opioid and cannabinoid systems</p> <p>Antipyrexial mechanism: inhibits heat-regulating centre in hypothalamus</p>	<p>PO: 10-15 mg/kg/dose q4-6h PRN Max: 75 mg/kg/day or 4000 mg/day</p> <p>PR: 10-20 mg/kg/dose q4-6h PRN Max: 80 mg/kg/dose or 4000 mg/day</p> <p>Oral drops (but not suspension) may be administered PR</p>	<p>PO: 325-1000 mg q4-6h Max: 4000 mg/day (those at risk of hepatotoxicity, existing hepatic impairment, or advanced age – do not exceed 2000-3000 mg/day)</p>	<p>PO: skin rashes</p> <p>Most likely with IV formulation: dyspepsia, nausea, vomiting</p>
Phenobarbital	<p>Barbiturate. Prolongs the opening of chloride ion channels in postsynaptic neuronal membranes thereby causing hyperpolarization and inhibitions of nerve impulse propagation</p>	<p>Seizures: IV/IO: Loading dose: 20 mg/kg/dose Mixed in NS or D5W, infused over 20 minutes Max: 1000 mg/dose Repeat dosing (for seizures lasting >10 mins): 5-10 mg/kg/dose</p> <p>Maintenance: PO/IV: 3-6 mg/kg/day divided daily to BID (max 200 mg/day)</p> <p>Administer over a minimum of 20 minutes and do not exceed 1 mg/kg/min to a max of 30 mg/min</p>	<p>Seizures: IV/IO 10-20 mg/kg IV (infused at 50-100 mg/min); if necessary, may repeat once after 10 minutes with an additional 5-10 mg/kg</p> <p>Dose: PO/IV: 2 mg/kg/day PO/IV in divided doses</p> <p>Sedation: IV/PO/IM: 30-120 mg/day in 2-3 divided doses. Higher doses can be used in sedation: please refer to other sources</p>	<p>Sedation, ataxia, respiratory depression, hypotension, bradycardia, hyperactivity in children (paradoxical reaction), nystagmus</p>

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Phyto-menadione (Vitamin K)	Synthetic lipid-soluble form of vitamin K1. Promotes liver synthesis of clotting factors II, VII, IX and X	<p>Deficiency: IV/ Subcutaneous: 1-2 mg once</p> <p>Significant bleed: IV/ Subcutaneous: 5 mg once</p> <p>Acute fulminant hepatic failure: IV/ Subcutaneous: Infant (<1yrs): 1-2 mg Child: 5-10 mg</p>	<p>Vitamin K deficiency coagulopathy: PO/IV: 10 mg once; may repeat after 48-72 hours if coagulopathy persists</p> <p>Warfarin reversal, severe bleeding: PO/IV: 2.5-10 mg based on INR. Measure INR after 12-48 hours (PO) or 6-12 hours (IV)</p> <p>Note: high doses of vitamin K (e.g. >10-15 mg) may cause warfarin resistance for ≥ 1 week</p>	<p>Local injection site reaction (pain, swelling), hypotension, flushing</p> <p>Potential for hypersensitivity reactions with IV and IM administration – administer at a max rate of 1 mg/min</p>
Risperidone	Atypical antipsychotic that exerts an antagonistic effect on serotonin and dopamine receptor	<p>PO: 0.25-0.5 mg daily or BID Titrate by 0.5-1 mg every 3-5 days Max: 3 mg/day</p>	<p>PO: Start with 1-2 mg/day in 1-2 divided doses; may increase by 1-2 mg/day at intervals ≥ 24 hours to usual dose range 2-6 mg/day. In general, assess full effect for ≥ 1 week before dose titration Max: 6-8 mg/day</p>	Somnolence, orthostatic hypotension, anticholinergic effects, weight gain, extrapyramidal symptoms, hyperprolactinemia, neuroleptic malignant syndrome

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Sennosides	Stimulant laxative that stimulates peristaltic activity in the intestine by irritating the luminal sensory nerve endings thereby stimulating colonic motility	PO: Note: based on 8.6 mg tablet <2 years: ½ tablet qHS-BID 2-5 years: ½ to 1 tablet qHS-BID 6-12 years: 1 to 1½ tablet qHS-BID ≥12 years: 2-3 tablets qHS-BID	PO: Start with 12-24 mg qHS; may titrate dose based on response/tolerability. Max: 36 mg TID	Abdominal cramping, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting Avoid in bowel obstruction (perforation risk)
Tramadol	Synthetic opioid agonist that weakly binds to opioid receptors thereby inhibiting ascending pain pathways, altering the perception of and response to pain. Also inhibits norepinephrine and serotonin, which are involved in inhibitory pain pathways	DO NOT USE in children, unless no other opioids available Risk due to high variation in liver metabolism and risk of serious harm PO: 1 - 2 mg/kg/dose q4 - 6h PRN Max: 100 mg/dose, 8 mg/kg/day or 400 mg/day	PO: Start with 50 mg q4-6h PRN. Increase dose as needed and tolerated to 50-100 mg PO q4-6h Max: 400 mg/day	Drowsiness, constipation, nausea, respiratory depression, habit-forming potential, lowers seizure threshold, serotonin syndrome (with concomitant CYP 2D6/3A4 inhibitors and other serotonergic agents) Has the potential to cause withdrawal syndrome if abruptly discontinued in patients maintained on therapy for a week or more. Gradual taper required when morphine discontinued

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
<p>Tranexamic Acid</p>	<p>Antifibrinolytic agent. Binds to lysine binding sites on plasminogen, inhibiting plasmin formation and inhibition of fibrinolysis</p>	<p>PO: 25 mg/kg/dose q8h Max: 1500 mg/dose</p> <p>IV: 10 mg/kg/dose q6-8h Max: 1000 mg/dose</p> <p>IV Loading: 15 mg/kg/dose IV Infusion: 1.5-2 mg/kg/h Max: 125 mg/hr, total of 1000 mg over 8 hours</p> <p>Administer IV doses over 5-10 mins (max 100 mg/min) to reduce risk of hypotension</p>	<p>IV: 1 g (or 10-15 mg/kg) IV once. Administer at a rate not to exceed 100 mg/min (generally over 10-20 minutes). Followed by 1 g over next 8 hours as continuous infusion</p> <p>Hemoptysis: Nebulized: 500 mg (use injectable solution) TID for up to 5 days</p> <p>Topical: soak cotton in 5 mL of 100 mg/mL injectable solution and apply to wound OR apply 500-1000 mg to the wound and apply with pressure for 10-20 minutes</p>	<p>Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, vision changes, thromboembolic events (DVT, PE), seizures</p>

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Trazodone	Antidepressant. Serotonin reuptake inhibitor that also blocks alpha-1 adrenergic and histamine receptors. Often used off-label as a sleep aid	<p>Insomnia:</p> <p>PO: 1-2 mg/kg/dose</p> <p>Max: 25-50 mg qHS</p> <p>May increase by 25 mg every 2 weeks to maximum of 100 mg/dose</p>	<p>Insomnia:</p> <p>PO: start with 12.5-50 mg qHS. May consider increasing dose based on response/ tolerability up to 200 mg PO qHS</p> <p>Insomnia in patients with depression:</p> <p>PO: 50-300 mg PO qHS. May titrate doses up to 600 mg/day which have been evaluated, but evidence of greater benefit is uncertain and side effects may be greater</p>	<p>Drowsiness, fatigue, dizziness, syncope, nausea, vomiting, dry mouth, blurred vision</p> <p>Avoid abrupt discontinuation to minimize rebound insomnia and withdrawal symptoms – wean over several weeks</p>

Drug Name	Mechanism of Action	Paediatric Dosing (Titration)	Adult Dosing (Titration)	Adverse Reactions
Valproic Acid	Anticonvulsant. Although the actual mechanism is unclear, it likely increases the availability of GABA in the brain thereby exerting an inhibitory effect. It also blocks sodium channels thereby suppressing neuronal firing	<p>Seizures: Loading dose: IV/IO: 30 mg/kg (max: 3000 mg/dose)</p> <p>Repeat dosing (for seizures lasting >10 minutes): 10 mg/kg/dose</p> <p>Administer over 5 minutes for status epilepticus</p> <p>Maintenance therapy: PO: 15 mg/kg/day q8-24h. Titrate by 5-10 mg/kg/day weekly to a maximum of 30-60 mg/kg/day divided BID to QID</p>	<p>Seizures: IV/IO: loading dose: 20-40 mg/kg administered at a rate up to 10 mg/kg/min (max dose: 3 g)</p> <p>Maintenance: PO: 150-200 mg BID, increase by 150-200 mg at 3-7 day intervals until optimal clinical response and/or therapeutic levels are achieved</p> <p>Max: 2500 mg/day or 60 mg/kg/day</p> <p>Within 3-4 days of initiation or dose adjustment, trough concentrations should be drawn just before next dose. Therapeutic trough level: 350-700 umol/L</p>	Dizziness, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, thrombocytopenia, tremors, alopecia, hepatotoxicity, hyperammonemia, encephalopathy