

# Postgraduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice

## Commonly used and high risk drugs list

This list includes drugs that are commonly used in clinical practice and high risk drugs that may be used less commonly. It is intended to be used as a guide to the drugs and drug classes that a pharmacist is expected to know about in detail as a basis for practice during the Diploma. Knowledge of these drugs may be assessed throughout the programme but may be a focus of the assessments particularly during the first 18 months of the programme. It is not an exhaustive or exclusive list and practitioners should also be familiar with drugs they deal with in their day to day work and be able to work from first principles for drugs not on the list.

*Practitioners are expected to be familiar with all aspects of the drugs and drug groups on this list including: mechanism of action; pharmacology; pharmacokinetics; pharmaceutical aspects; adverse effects, contraindications and interactions; usual doses and routes of administration; place in therapy; and, monitoring requirements.*

### 1. Gastrointestinal system

Bowel cleansing preparations (e.g. Picolax®, Klean Prep®)  
Glycerine suppositories  
Docusate sodium  
Gaviscon  
H2-receptor antagonists (e.g. cimetidine, ranitidine)  
Lactulose  
Loperamide  
Movicol®  
Phosphate enema  
PPIs (e.g. omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole)  
Senna

### 2. Cardiovascular system

ACE inhibitors (e.g. ramipril, lisinopril, enalapril)  
Adrenaline/epinephrine  
Amiodarone  
Angiotensin 2 receptor blockers (e.g. losartan, irbesartan, candesartan)  
**Anticoagulants (e.g. warfarin)**  
Antiplatelets (e.g. aspirin, dipyridamole)  
Beta blockers (e.g. atenolol, carvedilol, bisoprolol, metoprolol, propranolol)  
Calcium channel blockers (e.g. amlodipine, diltiazem, felodipine, nifedipine, verapamil)  
Clopidogrel  
Digoxin  
Doxazocin  
Heparin  
LMW heparins (e.g. dalteparin, enoxaparin)

Loop diuretics (e.g. furosemide, bumetanide)  
Nicorandil  
Nitrates (e.g. isosorbide mononitrate, GTN)  
Spironolactone  
Statins (e.g. simvastatin, atorvastatin, pravastatin)  
Thiazide diuretics (e.g. bendroflumethiazide, indapamide)

### 3. Respiratory system

Antimuscarinic bronchodilators (e.g. ipratropium, tiotropium)  
Beta 2 agonists (e.g. salbutamol, salmeterol)  
Carbocisteine  
Inhaled steroids (e.g. betamethasone, budesonide, fluticasone)  
Oxygen  
Theophylline (& Aminophylline)

### 4. Central Nervous system

Antiemetic D2 antagonists (e.g. metoclopramide, domperidone)  
Anti-histamines (e.g. cetirizine, chlorpheniramine, loratidine)  
Atypical antipsychotics (e.g. quetiapine, olanzapine)  
Benzodiazepines (e.g. diazepam, lorazepam, midazolam, temazepam)  
Buprenorphine  
Carbamazepine  
Chlordiazepoxide  
Chlorpromazine  
Clozapine  
Co-dydramol/co-codamol

Cyclizine  
Dihydrocodeine/codeine  
Dosulepin  
Fentanyl  
Gabapentin  
Haloperidol  
Hyoscine  
Lamotrigine  
Levodopa (co-careldopa, co-beneldopa)  
Lithium  
Methadone  
Nicotine  
Ondansetron  
Opioid analgesics (e.g. diamorphine, morphine)  
Oxycodone  
Paracetamol  
Phenobarbitone  
Phenytoin  
Prochlorperazine  
Risperidone  
Sodium valproate  
SSRIs (e.g. citalopram, fluoxetine, sertraline)  
Sumatriptan  
Tramadol  
Tricyclic antidepressants (e.g. amitriptyline, dosulepin)  
Zopiclone

### 5. Infections

Aciclovir  
Amphotericin  
Carbapenems (e.g. imipenem)  
Cephalosporins (1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3rd generation. e.g. cefalexin, ceftriaxone, cefuroxime)  
Chloroquine  
Ciprofloxacin

Doxycycline  
Gentamicin  
Ketoconazole  
*Macrolides (e.g. clarithromycin, erythromycin)*  
Metronidazole  
Nystatin  
*Penicillins (e.g. amoxicillin, co-amoxiclav, flucloxacillin, benzylpenicillin, phenoxymethylpenicillin, Tazocin®)*  
Rifampicin  
Trimethoprim  
Vancomycin

#### **6. Endocrine system**

*Corticosteroids (e.g. dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, prednisolone)*  
Gliclazide  
Insulin  
Levothyronine & Levothyroxine  
Metformin  
Pioglitazone  
Rosiglitazone

#### **7. Obstetrics, gynaecology and urinary tract disorders**

*Alpha 1 blockers (e.g. alfuzosin, tamsulosin)*  
Ethinylestradiol  
Norethisterone  
Progesterone  
Sildenafil

#### **8. Malignant disease & immunosuppression**

Cytarabine  
*Oral cytotoxics (e.g. chlorambucil, methotrexate)*  
*Vinca alkaloids (e.g. vincristine)*

#### **9. Nutrition & blood**

Glucose  
Calcium & Vitamin D  
Ferrous sulphate  
Folic acid  
Magnesium sulphate  
Potassium chloride  
Sodium chloride  
Thiamine/Pabrinex®  
Vitamins

#### **10. Musculoskeletal & joint diseases**

Allopurinol  
*Bisphosphonates (e.g. alendronate)*  
*NSAIDs (e.g. diclofenac, ibuprofen)*

#### **11. Eye**

Acetylcholine  
Chloramphenicol  
Latanoprost  
Timolol

#### **12. Ear, nose & oropharynx**

#### **13. Skin**

#### **14. Immunological products & Vaccines**

*Common childhood & travel vaccinations*

#### **15. Anaesthesia**

Isoflurane  
Lignocaine  
Midazolam  
Naloxone  
Suxamethonium