

Commonly used medications in Australian emergency medicine

- Generic notation is strongly preferred to trade names
- Most common medications are analgesics, antibiotics, antiemetics and fluids.

Class of drug/Use	Generic name	Brand names
Analgesics		
Simple analgesics	Paracetamol	Panadol
Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs)	Diclofenac Ibuprofen Parecoxib	Voltaren Nurofen, Brufen Dynastat
Opiates	Oxycodone Paracetamol + codeine Morphine Pethidine Fentanyl Tramadol	Endone, Oxycotin Panadeine, Panadeine Forte
Local anaesthetics	Lignocaine Bupivacaine EMLA (topical)	Angel
Other	Amitriptyline (neuropathic pain) Chlorpromazine (migraine) Pregabalin (intractable pain)	Endep Largactil Lyrica
Cardiovascular system (CVS)		
Chest pain/Ischaemic heart disease (IHD)	Aspirin Glyceryl trinitrate Heparin Enoxaparin Clopidogrel Warfarin/Coumadin	Cartia GTN Clexane Plavix, Coplavix
Antiarrhythmics	Metoprolol Digoxin Amiodarone Verapamil Adenosine Flecainide Sotalol	Betaloc Lanoxin Cordarone Diltiazem Sotacor
Antihypertensive agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Many</i> • <i>Multiple names</i> • <i>Patients will already be on these</i> • <i>Rarely initiated in the ED</i> 	Amlodipine Atenolol	

Class of drug/Use	Generic name	Brand names
Diuretics	Frusemide Spironolactone	Lasix Aldactone
Others	Potassium Magnesium	Slow K
Respiratory System		
Pneumonia <i>Antibiotics</i>	Benzympenicillin Erythromycin Doxycycline Roxithromycin Azithromycin Ceftriaxone Bactrim Amoxicillin Ampicillin Amoxicillin/clavulanate	Amoxil Augmentin
Asthma/COPD	Prednisolone Hydrocortisone Salbutamol Ipratropium	Ventolin Atrovent
Gastrointestinal System (GIT)		
Antibiotics	Metronidazole Gentamicin	Flagyl
Antiemetics	Ondansetron Metoclopramide Prochlorperazine	Zofran Maxolon Stemetil
Antispasmodics	Hyoscine Butylbromide	Buscopan
Laxatives	Coloxyl and senna Lactulose Movicol Fleet enema	
Others	Octreotide Omeprazole Pantoprazole Ranitidine Mylanta Mylanta + xylocaine viscus	Losec Somac Zantac Pink lady

Class of drug/Use	Generic name	Brand names
Central Nervous System (CNS)		
Antiepileptics/sedatives	Sodium valproate Phenytoin Carbamazepine Midazolam Diazepam Temazepam Alprazolam Multiple newer agents – rarely used	Epilim Tegretol Valium Temaze
Parkinson Disease	Madopar Sinemet	
Migraine	Sumatriptan	Immigran
Haematology		
Bleeding reversal/therapy	Vitamin K FFP (fresh frozen plasma) Prothrombinex/PTX Red blood cells (RBC)	Packed cells
Anticoagulants (see CVS medications)		
Oncology		
Neutropenic sepsis	Ceftazadine Cefepime Tazocin Timentin	
Steroids	Dexamethasone	
Anaesthetic agents		
Sedatives	Propofol Ketamine Thiopentone	
Paralysing agents	Suxamethonium Rocuronium Vecuronium Pancuronium	
Nephrology (Renal)		
	Tamsulosin Trimethoprim Sodium Bicarbonate Calcium gluconate Resonium Ural	Flomaxtra Triprim

Class of drug/Use	Generic name	Brand names
Skin		
Antibiotics	Flucloxacillin Cephazolin Cephalexin Vancomycin	
Various steroid creams		
ENT		
Drops	Sofradex	
Endocrinology		
Diabetes	Insulin Metformin Gliclazide Glucose	Actrapid, Humulin, Lantus, Novomix, Protaphane Diaformin
Thyroid	Carbimazole Thyroxine	
Eyes		
Drops	Flourescein Amethocaine Chloramphenicol Tropicamide	
Psychiatry		
	Lithium Olanzapine Quetiapine	Zyprexa Seroquel
Resuscitation drugs (not already covered)		
	Adrenaline (epinephrine) Noradrenaline (norepinephrine) Sodium Bicarbonate Atropine	
Fluids		
	Normal saline 5% dextrose Hartman's Albumin	
Other antimicrobials		
Antivirals Famciclovir Acyclovir	Famciclovir Valaciclovir Acyclovir	Famvir Valtrex
Common Paediatric medications		
	Paracetamol syrup Painstop syrup Ibuprofen syrup Prednisolone syrup Promethazine	Nurofen Rediprid Phenergan

Medications and dosing documentation

Medications can be given via many **different routes**. Here is a list of the various methods:

Route	
PO	Per oral (by mouth)
PR	Per rectum
Topical	For creams or drops for eyes, applied topically
S/L	Sublingual (under the tongue)
Buccal	In the buccal mucosa
I/N	Intra-nasal (for example Fentanyl)
IMI	Intramuscular injection
IV	Intravenous
S/C	Sub-cutaneous
Neb	Nebulised
IO	Intraosseous

Terminology for dosing

Terminology for dosing is important to know and you need to be familiar with the common abbreviations:

Dosing Frequency	Time
OD	Once daily
Mane	Morning
BD	Twice daily
Midi	At Midday
TDS	Three times a day
QID	Four times a day
Q 4 hours	Every 4 hours
Q 3 hours	Every 3 hours
Nocte	At Night
PRN	As needed
2/24	Over 2 hours (eg for a bag of fluids being administered IV)
4/24	Over 4 hours
STAT	Urgently

Medications are given in different doses depending on the type of drug and dose required.

Dose	mcg	microgram	Fentanyl 25mcg
	Mg	milligram	Ibuprofen 400mg
	gm	gram	Paracetamol 1gm
	L	Litre	N/saline 1L

Other terms

NBM = nil by mouth.

Tx = Treatment

Rx = Prescription or *prescribed* medications.

(Tx and Rx are sometimes used inter-changeably but have slightly different meanings).