

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: *Medication*

STUDENT NAME _____

MEDICATION Potassium Citrate

REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER 44

CATEGORY CLASS Priority assessment of hypokalemia

PURPOSE OF MEDICATION

Expected Pharmacological Action

Administration of Potassium-sparing diuretics such as spironolactone or amiloride.

Therapeutic Use

To replace potassium levels in blood and prevent its loss.

Complications

Respiratory Failure

Cardiac Arrest

Medication Administration

Oral administration in form of liquid or solution.

Contraindications/Precautions

Hypersensitivity, conditions such as Addison's disease, Extreme water loss from the body, diabetic ketoacidosis, kidney impairment, infections of urinary tract and genitals, esophageal compression, gastrointestinal bleeding, severe heart failure and high levels of potassium in blood. Uncontrolled DM, renal insufficiency and concomitant potassium-sparing agents.

Nursing Interventions

Monitoring and maintaining adequate urine output. Observing the client for diminished breath sounds and shallow ineffective respirations. Monitoring cardiac rhythm and applying prompt intervention if needed. Assess the client for phlebitis. Monitoring muscle weakness, oxygen saturation levels, bowel sounds and abdominal distention.

Interactions

Potassium chloride, drospirenone, spironolactone, Intravenous potassium phosphates, triamterene and potassium acid phosphate.

Client Education

Educate and encourage the client to consume foods rich in potassium. Enlighten the client on ways of preventing a decrease in potassium levels through excessive use of laxatives and diuretics. a

Evaluation of Medication Effectiveness

Measuring levels of potassium in blood to check whether they improved or not. Potassium levels of between 3.5-5.5 mmEq/dl would indicate effectiveness of the medication.