

Antihelminthic

- Drugs used to treat parasitic worm infections: helminthic infections
- Drug treatment is very specific
- It is very important to identify the causative worm
- Done by finding the parasite ova or larvae in feces, urine, blood, sputum, or tissue.



Classification of Antihelmintic Drugs

Against Nematodes- Albendazole, Mebendazole, Pyrantel Pamoate, Levimasole, Piperazine, Ivermectin, Diethylcarbamazine, Thiabendazole, Doxycycline

Against trematodes

Metrifonate, Oxamniquine, Bithionol, Triclabendazole

Against Cestodes

Niclosamide

Against trematodes and Cestodes- Praziquantel

Dose: BD daily for 3 days for hookworm and roundworm infestations.

Uses:

1. Ascariasis, hook worm, pin worm infections
2. Hydatid disease-BD for 1 month
3. Neurocysticercosis- along with corticosteroids
4. Cutaneous larvae migrans-400mg for 3 days
5. Visceral larvae migrans-
6. Toxocariasis
7. Giardiasis and trichiniasis
8. Empirical treatment-Persistent eosinophilia

CONTRA

- **Contraindication & Precautions:** Hepatic disease, breast feeding women, pregnant women, use cautiously in children younger than 2yrs of age.
- **Adverse effect:** Abdominal pain, nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting, drowsiness, headache, dizziness, elevated liver enzyme level.
- **Nursing Responsibilities.**
 1. **Nurse** should teach the patient and family members to wash hands well, use disposable towels to dry hands and keep hands away from mouth.
 2. **Nurse** should teach the patient and family members to wash personal article including sheets and other food preparation articles, utensils etc. Use disposable towels to dry hands and keep hands away from mouth.

Nursing Responsibilities.

3. **Nurse** should advise the patient to complete the full course of therapy and not to discontinue the drugs when symptoms subside.
4. **Nurse** should be aware that purgative to facilitate to bowel movements may follow the administration of these drugs.
5. **Nurse** should advise the patient.