Drug Class: Alpha-Adrenergic Receptor Antagonists

Prototype Med	tamsulosin (Flomax)
Other Meds	silodosin (Rapaflo)
	alfuzosin (Urixatral)
	terazosin (Hytrin)
	doxazosin (Cardura)

Tamsulosin and silodosin act specifically on the prostate gland.
Action: Antagonizes the alpha adrenergic receptors causing relaxation of smooth muscle in the prostate gland and in the outlet of the bladder.

Therapeutic Use

Treatment of benign prostatic hypertrophy

Adverse Drug Reactionsdverse Drug Reactions**

Reduced ejaculate volume, ejaculation failure, retrograde ejaculation (tamsulosin and silodosin)

Headache and dizziness

Hypotension, fainting, (nonselective alpha blockers, not tamsulosin)

Nursing Interventions

Tell clients about the possibility of altered ejaculation.

Monitor for headache.

Treat with mild analgesic.

Monitor blood pressure.

Report changes in B/P and HR.

Administration

Take orally once a day.

Take at the same time each day, 30 min after the same meal (such as breakfast).

Swallow the capsules whole; do not crush or chew them.

Patient Education

Expect decreases in ejaculate volume and ejaculation failure.

Report headache not relieved with an over-the-counter analgesic.

Have blood pressure checked regularly.

Rise slowly from a reclining or sitting position. Report dizziness or fainting.

Do not engage in dangerous activities if dizziness occurs or tends to recur.

Advise client this drug will need to be taken lifelong.

Contraindications

Concurrent use of erectile dysfunction drugs such as sildenafil (Viagra)

Females, children

Precautions

Renal impairment

History of syncope

Hypotension

Interactions

Drugs that lower blood pressure can increase hypotensive effects of nonselective alpha blockers.

Erythromycin, itraconazole (Sporanox), nefazodone (Serzone), and HIV protease inhibitors increase levels of nonselective alpha blockers.

Cimetidine (Tagamet) may worsen orthostatic hypotension.

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