Med classifications- why the med is ordered, based on the diagnosis: reason/purpose/use

Amphetamine - Cerebral stimulant

**Analgesic** - Pain relief

Antacid - Prevents or relieves gastric distress

**Antianxiety** (Benzodiazepines) - Prevents or relieves anxiety

**Antiarrhythmic** (Heart Rhythm Regulators) - Prevents or relieves irregular heartbeat

Antibiotic - Resolves infection

Anticoagulant - Prevents blood clotting

**Anticonvulsan**t (Antiepileptics) - Prevents or controls seizures

**Antidepressant** - Prevents or relieves the symptoms of depression

Antidiabetic - Controls diabetes, decreases blood sugar

Antidiarrheal - Controls diarrhea Antiemetic - Controls nausea and vomiting

Antihistamine - Relieves allergic symptoms

Antihyperlipidemic – Decreases Cholesterol and Triglycerides

**Antihypertensive** - Controls high blood pressure

Anti-inflammatory: Steroid or NSAID - Decreases inflammation, swelling, pain Steroid - Naturally occurring hormone

NSAID - (Non Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug) – A synthetic anti-inflammatory drug

Anti-ovulant - Prevents ovulation, birth control medication

Antipruritic - Relieves itching

**Antipsychotic** (Neuroleptics)- Controls symptoms of psychotic diseases such as schizophrenia

Antipyretic - Reduces fever

**Antitussive** (Cough Suppressant) - Relieves **dry** cough

Bronchodilator - Prevents or relieves respiratory distress

Decongestant - Relieves congestion

Diuretic - Relieves fluid retention

Electrolyte Supplement - Replaces depleted body chemicals

Emetic - Causes vomiting

**Expectorant** - Loosens mucous secretions with a **wet** cough, so they can be coughed up

Hormonal Replacements - Replaces hormones in the body

Hypnotic (Sedative) - Causes sleep

Laxative (Cathartic) - Causes bowel movement

Miotic - Causes constriction of the pupil of the eye

Muscle Relaxant - Relaxes skeletal muscle

**Psychotropic** - Any mind altering drug, i.e., antipsychotic, antidepressant, anti-anxiety, hypnotics

Stool Softener – Draws fluid into the GI tract to soften stool

Sulfa Drugs- Treats urinary tract infection

Vaccine - Prevents disease

**Vasodilator -** Relaxes and dilates blood vessels

Vitamin Supplement - Replaces vitamins