

Medication Names

Prototype Med	desmopressin (DDAVP)
	Stimate
	Minirin

Other Meds	vasopressin (Pitressin)
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Vasopressin is short acting

Action: causes the reabsorption of water, as opposed to the excretion of water, and it decreases urine volume.

Therapeutic Use

Diabetes insipidus

NOTE: For detailed information about the use of desmopressin to treat hemo- philia, see the Hematologic System module

Adverse Drug Reactions

Fluid retention (leading to water intoxication), hyponatremia

Vasoconstriction (vasopressin, not desmopressin)

Seizures

Nursing Interventions

Monitor for headache, confusion, or other signs of water intoxication.

Monitor fluid intake and output.

Monitor serum sodium levels.

Restrict fluid intake when appropriate.

Recommend diuretic therapy for moderate and severe fluid retention.

Interactions

Carbamazepine (Tegretol) and chlorpropamide (Diabinese) increase antidiuretic action.

Other vasopressors and lithium (Lithobid) decrease antidiuretic action.

Loop diuretics

Glucocorticoids

SSRIs, NSAIDs, thiazide diuretics

Administration

Administer orally, intranasally, subcutaneously, sublingually, or IV.

Spray the nasal form high into the nasal cavity but not into the throat. Blow nose before.

Monitor blood pressure, intake and output, urine and plasma osmolality, and creatinine clearance

With IV vasopressin, monitor the IV insertion site, as extravasation can lead to gangrene

Expect lifelong therapy

Patient Education

Report pounding headache, sleepiness, fluid retention, weight gain, and edema.

Limit fluid intake during therapy.

Record fluid intake and output daily

Report chest pain or pressure

Contraindications

Vasopressin

Coronary artery disease

Poor peripheral circulation

Chronic nephritis

Desmopressin

Electrolyte imbalances (oral form)

Renal failure

Nephrogenic diabetes insipidus

Precautions

Older adults

Cardiovascular disease

Hypertension

History of hyponatremia

Severe heart failure

History of thromboembolic events

