

## Master the Essentials: Nervous System Medications—cont'd

Class	Use	Side Effects	Contraindications and Precautions	Interactions	Example
<b>TCAs (tricyclic antidepressants)</b>	Depression	Dry mouth, increased appetite, weight gain, blurred vision, drowsiness, dizziness, constipation, urinary retention, postural hypotension, irregular heart rhythms, headache	Pregnancy and lactation; cardiac, kidney, liver, and GI disorders; glaucoma; obesity; seizures	Alcohol, CNS drugs, MAOIs	doxepin (Sinequan), imipramine (Tofranil), nortriptyline
<b>SSRIs</b>	Depression, panic disorders, OCD, bulimia, anxiety disorders, PTSD, PMDD	Sexual dysfunction, anorexia, diarrhea, sweating, insomnia, anxiety, nervousness, tremor, fatigue, dizziness, drowsiness, headache	Pregnancy and lactation; patients with thoughts of suicide, diabetes, bipolar disorders, eating disorders	CNS drugs, MAOIs, anticoagulants, beta blockers, antiarrhythmics	Fluoxetine (Prozac), sertraline (Zoloft), paroxetine (Paxil), citalopram (Celexa)
<b>SNRIs</b>	Depression	Nausea, constipation, dizziness, drowsiness, anorexia, excessive diaphoresis, dry mouth, weight gain	Patients using MAOIs or IV methylene blue, hypersensitivity to any ingredients of medication, may cause worsening of depression and suicidal ideation, may increase blood pressure, may increase risk for bleeding events	Alcohol, MAOIs, triptans, anticoagulants, antihistamines, Theophylline, ketoconazole	desvenlafaxine (Pristiq), duloxetine (Cymbalta), venlafaxine (Effexor)
<b>Lithium</b>	Bipolar disorder (manic-depressive disorder)	GI distress, hypotension, cardiac irregularities, polyuria, tremors, thyroid problems	Seizure disorders; Parkinson's disease; CV, kidney, and thyroid diseases; dehydration, pregnancy, lactation	NSAIDs, diuretics, ACE inhibitors, sodium salts	Lithium citrate
<b>Antipsychotics</b>	Schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, severe behavioral and conduct disorders in children, nausea and vomiting, severe hiccups	ECG changes, hypotension, agitation, dizziness, sedation, drowsiness, dystonia, headache, constipation, dry mouth, photosensitivity, nausea	Known hypersensitivity, cardiac arrhythmias, seizure disorder, thyroid disease, renal or hepatic impairment	Anticholinergics, CNS depressants, alcohol, beta blockers, caffeine, antidepressants, lithium	Clozapine (Clopine), phenothiazine (Mellaril), chlorpromazine (Thorazine)