

## Common drugs used on Manvers ward.

### Drugs for abnormal heart rhythms

Amiodarone, Flecainide, Digoxin

Helps to control heart rhythm/rate.

Different types work in different ways but they all generally work by slowing the heart rate to return it to a normal rhythm.

### Anticoagulants

Warfarin, Heparin

Prevent the formation of fibrin and prevent harmful blood clots. Prevents stroke.

Often used in people with AF or artificial valves to reduce the risk of blood clot formation.

### Beta Blockers

Bisoprolol, Atenolol, Metoprolol,

Prevent the heart from beating too quickly and too forcefully by slowing it down.

This increase the amount of blood pumped with each beat and therefore the heart does not have to work so hard.

They also help to reduce the frequency of angina attacks, Control BP, help treat abnormal heart rhythms, reduce the risk of more MI's and treat heart failure.

### Calcium channel blockers.

Diltiazem, Verapamil, Amlodipine, Nifedipine.

These reduce the amount of calcium entering the muscle cells of the arteries causing them to relax and widen therefore the heart doesn't have to work so hard.

Helps reduce angina attacks and abnormal heart rhythms. Also used in hypertension.

### Anti-platelets

Asprin, Clopidogrel, Ticagrelor, Dipyridamole, Prasugrel

Make the blood less stick and reduce the risk of clot formation. They also reduce the risk of MI's

### Cholesterol lowering medications

Atorvastatin, Simvastatin, Ezetimibe

Reduce the levels of cholesterol in the blood therefore lowers the risk of coronary heart disease.

Nitrates.

GTN, ISMN

Relaxes the muscles in the wall of the arteries and veins making them wider. This improves the amount of oxygen rich blood that gets to the heart. Helps reduce angina. Also used in HF.

Potassium channel blockers

Nicorandil

Relaxes the wall of the coronary arteries, improving blood flow to the heart. Helps prevent angina.

ACE Inhibitors.

Ramipril, lisinopril Enalapril

Reduces the activity of the angiotensin converting enzyme. This enzyme has a narrowing effect on blood vessels which in turn increases BP. ACE inhibitors work by relaxing and widening blood vessels which increases blood flow to the heart.

Used in HF, post MI and low BP.

Angiotensin II antagonists

Candesartan, Losartan, Valsartan

Prevent the action of the hormone angiotensin and therefore relaxes blood vessels and blood flows with more ease.

Often used if cannot tolerate ACE.

Diuretics

Furosemide, Bendroflumethazide, bumetanide, metolazone, Spironolactone.

Increase kidney output, Remove excess water from the body which in turn reduces the workload of the heart.

(BHF, 2011)