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Kanamycin. Bactericidal aminoglycoside antibiotic with actions and spectrum similar to NEOMYCIN, but less ototoxic. Used in gram-negative septicaemia, with monitoring of blood levels, particularly in renal failure. Potentiates neuromuscular blockade.

Kaolin. Adsorbent. Used externally as a dusting powder and by mouth as treatment for diarrhoea where it increases faecal bulk and slows passage through the gut. Once thought to have specific adsorbent effect for poisonous substances but it is now known that the adsorbent effect is a general one.

Ketamine (m). Parenteral anaesthetic with analgesic properties in subanaesthetic doses. Rapid onset of action, but may cause psychotic symptoms, including hallucinations, the frequency of which can be reduced by giving DIAZEPAM or DROPERIDOL. Contraindicated in patients with high blood pressure or known psychosis.

Ketoconazole. Used to treat internal and external fungal infections. Adverse effects include nausea, rashes, and jaundice.

Ketoprofen. Anti-inflammatory/analgesic, with actions, uses and adverse effects similar to IBUPROFEN.

Ketorolac. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic with actions similar to IBUPROFEN. Used intramuscularly or orally to relieve post-operative pain. May cause pain at injection site, drowsiness, sweating and gastro-intestinal symptoms. Dose and duration of use restricted because of severity of gastro-intestinal effects, asthma and anaphylaxis.

Ketotifen. Preventative treatment for asthma. Has the actions of an antihistamine, similar to PROMETHAZINE and also blocks allergic mechanisms by a mechanism similar to SODIUM CROMOGLYCATE. Adverse effects include dry mouth, dizziness, and sedation.