



Categories of Medications for APRVT Skills List

Class	Examples	Special Considerations
Opioids, short acting	Fentanyl, remifentanyl	Often via CRI rather than bolus
Opioids, longer acting	Morphine, hydromorphone, oxymorphone, methadone	Adverse events include vomiting, respiratory depression, bradycardia; in cats only, hydromorphone may cause hyperthermia
Partial mu-opioid agonist, kappa-opioid antagonist	Buprenorphine	Less effective than full opioid agonists for analgesia
Partial kappa-opioid agonist, mixed agonist/antagonist at mu-opioid receptor	Butorphanol	Short acting; less effective than full opioid agonists for analgesia
Opioid and serotonin affecting agent	Tramadol	Oral formulation only; bitter taste
NSAIDs	Carprofen, meloxicam, deracoxib, Firocoxib, robenacoxib	Caution in animals with impaired renal, hepatic function; read data sheet carefully
Opioid/N-acetyl-para-aminophenol (APAP)	Codeine/acetaminophen	Do not use in felines; can cause constipation or tolerance in chronic use
Local anesthetic agents	Lidocaine, bupivacaine	Useful for numerous local blocks and epidural; lidocaine may be administered via IV; must be careful with toxicity levels in cats
α 2-adrenergic agonists	Medetomidine, dexmedetomidine, xylazine	Healthy patients only
NMDA antagonist	Ketamine	Dissociative anesthesia with analgesia; analgesic at subanesthetic doses
Anesthetic	Nitrous oxide	Analgesic carrier gas used in combination with oxygen for inhalant anesthesia; do not exceed two-thirds N ₂ O by volume
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Anticonvulsant	Gabapentin	Licensed for chronic pain management in humans
NMDA receptor antagonist	Amantadine	Amantadine is not expected to provide analgesic effects as a sole therapy, but may enhance the analgesic effects of NSAIDs, opioids, or gabapentin



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Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCA's)	Amitriptyline	As a class, TCA's are the most effective medications for neuropathic pain in humans
SS(N)RI's	Duloxetine, venlafaxine	Has a chronic pain label in humans
Maropitant	Cerenia	Blockade of Substance-P to the NK-1 receptor
Bisphosphonates	Administered by IV infusion	Exerts anti-osteoclast activity and can contribute to pain relief in dogs with bone cancer
Corticosteroids	Glucocorticoid	Glucocorticoids may have beneficial effects to reduce edema associated with CNS neoplasia.
Glucosamine and Chondroitin	nutritional supplements	Current literature does not support the use of glucosamine and chondroitin supplements for the control of osteoarthritis pain in dogs.
Polysulfated Glycosaminoglycans	Adequan	Used in the control of signs associated with noninfectious degenerative and/or traumatic arthritis of canine synovial joints
Anticonvulsant	Pregablin	An FDA-approved anticonvulsant and an analgesic for diabetic neuropathy, postherpetic, and fibromyalgia pain in humans
Bedinvetmab (canine) Frunevetmab (feline)	Librela Solensia	An FDA approved monoclonal anti-body therapy for dogs and cats. The molecule is designed to recognize and attach to a protein called nerve growth factor (NGF) that is involved in the regulation of pain
Bupivacaine liposome injectable suspension	Nocita	Relief of pain in dogs following CCL surgery and as a peripheral nerve block to provide regional postoperative analgesia following onychectomy in cats