RN Medication Classification Colour Coded Legend

Caring Safely at Home
palliative care education for caregivers

Symptom	Medication Classification	Examples	Colour
Pain / Breathlessness	Narcotics	Fentanyl Hydromorphone Methadone Morphine Oxycodone	Blue
Restlessness Anxiety	Tranquillisers	Clonazepam Midazolam	Orange
Drying secretions	Anticholinergics	Glycopyrrolate Hyoscine Butylbromide Hyoscine Hydrobromide	Green
Nausea Restlessness	Major Tranquillisers	Haloperidol Levomepromazine	Salmon
Nausea	Antiemetics	Metoclopramide	Salmon
Severe neuropathic pain	Induction Agents	Ketamine	Yellow
Variety	All other classifications	Dexamethasone Ketorolac Normal Saline	White

Reference: Adapted from Australian/New Zealand Standard – 'User-applied labels for use on syringes containing drugs used during anaesthesia,' 2001

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