Class	Adverse Effects	Notes and Alternatives	
Analgesics:  • Meperidine (Demerol)  • Codeine	Meperidine: Confusion, convulsions, tremors, myoclonus Codeine: Pro-drug with cytochrome P450 enzyme conversion to morphine that can vary between patients leading to variable levels of morphine and unpredictable half-life.	Acetaminophen (<4gm/day), tramadol, trisalicylate, morphine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, hydromorphone ( <i>Dilaudid</i> )	
Antihistamines: Brompheniramine (Bromfed)  Cetirizine (Zyrtec)  Dimenhydrinate Dramamine)  Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)  Hydroxyzine (Vistaril, Atarax)  Loratadine (Claritin)  Meclizine (Antivert)	Anti-cholinergic, highly sedating, delirium, cognitive decrease, especially in first generation antihistamines.	Consider use of loratadine or cetirizine. Although anticholinergic side effects can still b seen.	
Antispasmodics  • Scopolamine	Highly anticholinergic	Avoid	
Benzodiazepines, anxiolytics: Short Acting:  Alprazolam (Xanax)  Estazolam (ProSom and Eurodin)  Lorazepam(Ativan)  Oxazepam (Alepam and Medopam)  Temazepam(Restoril and Normison)  Triazolam  Long acting:  Clorazepate  Chlordiazepoxide  Chlordiazepoxide amitriptyline  Clidinium-chlordiazepoxide  Clonazepam  Diazepam (Valium)  Flurazepam(Dalmane)	Increased risk of cognitive impairment, delirium, falls, fractures, and motor vehicle accidents in older adults	Avoid for treatment of insomnia, agitation or delirium.  If necessary, consider lorazepam or oxazepam (lowest dose, shortest duration of therapy possible)	
Histamine-2 receptor antagonists	May have anti-cholinergic effects such as antihistamines. Also, may alter cytochrome P450 pathway.	Proton pump inhibitors. Consider omeprazole ( <i>Prilosec</i> ) and lansoprazole ( <i>Prevacid</i> )	
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAIDs):  Ibuprofen Indomethacin Ketorolac (Toradol) Naproxen (Aleve) Piroxicam (Feldene)	Increases risk of GI bleeding/peptic ulcer disease in geriatric patients. Concurrent oral or parenteral corticosteroids, anticoagulants, or antiplatelet agents also increase risk.	Acetaminophen (<4gm/day), tramadol, trisalicylate, morphine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, hydromorphone ( <i>Dilaudid</i> )	