

Data table for Figure 41. Selected drugs prescribed to hospice care patients in the last week of life: United States, 2007

<i>Multum Lexicon Plus therapeutic class (common reasons for hospice use)</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>SE</i>
Narcotic analgesic (severe pain)	90.9	0.8
Antiemetic (vomiting or dizziness)	78.6	1.5
Laxative (constipation)	52.6	1.9
Antipsychotic (restlessness, agitation)	36.1	1.8
Diuretic (fluid retention, high blood pressure, cardiac, kidney conditions)	25.5	1.3
Proton pump inhibitor (antiulcer, antiitch)	25.3	1.4
Bronchodilator (breathing difficulties)	24.0	1.3
Antidepressant (depression, pain)	23.4	1.3
Antacid (stomach acid, antiulcer)	17.6	1.2
Antiarrhythmic (heart rhythm disturbances)	15.9	1.1
Corticosteroid (antiinflammatory, pain)	14.2	1.0
Antidiabetic (elevated blood sugar)	10.4	0.8
Antianginal (chest pain)	7.4	0.7
Antihyperlipidemia (elevated cholesterol)	7.1	0.7
Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug (inflammation, mild pain)	6.7	0.7
Baby aspirin or Plavix (clopidogrel) (clot prevention)	3.4	0.5

SE is standard error.

NOTES: Information is collected from the patient's medical record based on the question: "What are the names of all the medications and drugs he/she was taking the 7 days prior to and on the the day of his/her death? Please include any standing routine, or PRN (as needed) medications." Up to 25 medication names could be recorded. Information on dosage, strength, route, and frequency of administration was not recorded. Drug therapeutic class is based on Lexicon Plus, a proprietary database of Cerner Multum, Inc. Lexicon Plus is a comprehensive database of all prescription and some nonprescription drug products available in the U.S. drug market. Up to four classes are assigned to each drug. Data presented here are based on the second-level classification of prescription drugs except as noted: the category for narcotic analgesics is based on the first level, and the category for baby aspirin or Plavix is based on the third level. This analysis is limited to those patients who died while under hospice care.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Home and Hospice Care Survey.