

Table 7-2: Agents to Relieve Constipation

Drug Class	Drug and Dosage
Stimulant Laxatives	Bisacodyl: 5 to 10 mg orally
	Casanthranol: 1 to 2 capsules or tablespoons (syrup) 1 to 2 times daily
	Senna: 17.2 mg at bedtime
Osmotic Laxatives	Lactulose: 15 to 30 ml twice daily (may be administered orally or rectally)
	Sorbitol: 70% solution 15 to 30 ml twice daily (may be administered orally or rectally)
Emollient Laxatives (stool softeners)	Docusate: 200 to 800 mg/day in 2 divided doses
Combination Agents	Docusate (50mg) <i>plus</i> senna (8.6mg) tablets: 2 to 4 tablets once or twice daily