

PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL WITH MEDICATIONS (Part 1 of 3)

Generic	Brand	Potential Reactions
ALLERGIES/COLD/FLU		
brompheniramine	Dimetapp Cold & Allergy	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose
cetirizine	Zyrtec	
chlorpheniramine	Sudafed Sinus & Allergy, Triaminic Cold & Allergy, Tylenol Allergy Sinus, Tylenol Cold & Flu	
desloratadine	Clarinex	
diphenhydramine	Benadryl	
hydroxyzine	—	
loratadine	Alavert, Claritin, Claritin-D	
ANGINA		
isosorbide	Isordil	Rapid heartbeat, sudden changes in blood pressure, dizziness, fainting
nitroglycerin	Nitrostat, Nitro-Bid	
ANXIETY/EPILEPSY		
alprazolam	Xanax	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose, slowed or difficulty breathing, impaired motor control, unusual behavior, memory problems
buspirone	—	
clonazepam	Klonopin	
chlordiazepoxide	—	
diazepam	Valium	
lorazepam	Ativan	
paroxetine	Paxil	
herbal preparations	Kava Kava	Liver damage, drowsiness
ARTHRITIS		
celecoxib	Celebrex	Ulcers, stomach bleeding, liver damage
diclofenac	—	
naproxen	Naprosyn	
ATTENTION AND CONCENTRATION (ADHD)		
amphetamine/dextroamphetamine	Adderall XR	Dizziness, drowsiness, impaired concentration (methylphenidate, dexamethylphenidate); possible increased risk for heart problems (amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, lisdexamfetamine); liver damage (atomoxetine)
atomoxetine	Strattera	
dexamethylphenidate	Focalin	
dextroamphetamine	Dexedrine	
lisdexamfetamine	Vyvanse	
methylphenidate	Concerta, Ritalin	
BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERPLASIA (BPH)		
doxazosin	Cardura	Dizziness, light headedness, fainting
tamsulosin	Flomax	
terazosin	—	
BLOOD CLOT		
warfarin	Coumadin	Occasional drinking may lead to internal bleeding; heavier drinking also may cause bleeding or may have the opposite effect, resulting in possible blood clots, strokes, or heart attacks
COUGH		
dextromethorpan	Delsym, Robitussin Cough	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose
guaifenesin + codeine	—	
DEPRESSION		
amitriptyline	—	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose, increased feelings of depression or hopelessness (all medications); impaired motor control (mirtazapine); increased alcohol effect (bupropion); liver damage (duloxetine); serious cardiac effects, increased risk of hypertensive crisis (phenelzine, tranylcypromine)
bupropion	Wellbutrin	
citalopram	Celexa	
clomipramine	Anafranil	
desipramine	Norpramin	
desvenlafaxine	Pristiq	
duloxetine	Cymbalta	

(continued)

PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL WITH MEDICATIONS (Part 2 of 3)

Generic	Brand	Potential Reactions
DEPRESSION (continued)		
escitalopram	Lexapro	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose, increased feelings of depression or hopelessness (all medications); impaired motor control (mirtazapine); increased alcohol effect (bupropion); liver damage (duloxetine); serious cardiac effects, increased risk of hypertensive crisis (phenelzine, tranylcypromine)
fluoxetine	Prozac	
fluoxetine/olanzapine	Symbyax	
fluvoxamine	—	
mirtazapine	Remeron	
nefazodone	—	
paroxetine	Paxil	
phenelzine	Nardil	
sertraline	Zoloft	
tranylcypromine	Parnate	
trazodone	—	
venlafaxine	Effexor XR	
herbal preparations	St. John's Wort	
DIABETES		
chlorpropamide	—	Hypoglycemia, flushing reaction (nausea, vomiting, headache, tachycardia, sudden changes in BP); nausea and weakness (metformin)
glipizide	Glucotrol	
glyburide	Diabeta, Glynase	
metformin	Glucophage	
HEARTBURN/GERD		
cimetidine	Tagamet	Rapid heartbeat, sudden changes in blood pressure (metoclopramide), increased alcohol effect
metoclopramide	Reglan	
nizatidine	Axid	
ranitidine	—	
HYPERLIPIDEMIA		
atorvastatin	Lipitor	Liver damage (all medications); increased flushing and itching (niacin)
ezetimibe + simvastatin	Vytorin	
lovastatin	Altoprev	
niacin	Niaspan	
pravastatin	Pravachol	
rosuvastatin	Crestor	
simvastatin	Zocor	
HYPERTENSION		
amlodipine	Norvasc	Dizziness, fainting, drowsiness, cardiac effects (eg, arrhythmia)
benzapril	Lotensin	
clonidine	Catapres	
enalapril	Vaseretic	
hydrochlorothiazide	—	
lisinopril	Prinivil, Zestril	
losartan	Cozaar	
prazosin	Minipress	
quinapril	Accupril	
verapamil	Calan	
INFECTION		
azithromycin	Zithromax	Fast heartbeat, sudden changes in blood pressure, stomach pain, upset stomach, vomiting, headache, or flushing or redness of the face; liver damage (isoniazid, ketoconazole)
cycloserine	Seromycin	
griseofulvin	—	
isoniazid	—	
ketoconazole	—	
metronidazole	Flagyl	
nitrofurantoin	Macrochantin, Macrobid	
tinidazole	Tindamax	

(continued)

PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL WITH MEDICATIONS (Part 3 of 3)

Generic	Brand	Potential Reactions
INSOMNIA		
diphenhydramine	Sominex	Drowsiness, sleepiness, dizziness, slowed or difficulty breathing, impaired motor control, unusual behavior, memory problems
doxylamine	Unisom	
estazolam	—	
eszopiclone	Lunesta	
temazepam	Restoril	
zolpidem	Ambien	
herbal preparations	Chamomile, Valerian, Lavender	Increased drowsiness
MUSCLE PAIN		
carisoprodol	Soma	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk of seizures, increased risk for overdose, slowed or difficulty breathing, impaired motor control, unusual behavior, memory problems
cyclobenzaprine	—	
NAUSEA		
dimenhydrinate	Dramamine	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose
meclizine	—	
promethazine	—	
PAIN/FEVER/INFLAMMATION/MIGRAINE		
acetaminophen	Tylenol	Upset stomach, bleeding, ulcers, rapid heartbeat; liver damage (acetaminophen)
acetaminophen + aspirin	Excedrin	
ibuprofen	Advil, Motrin	
naproxen	Aleve	
butalbital + codeine	Fiorinal with Codeine	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose, slowed or difficulty breathing, impaired motor control, unusual behavior, memory problems
hydrocodone	—	
meperidine	—	
oxycodone	Percocet	
PSYCHOSIS/MOOD DISORDERS		
aripiprazole	Abilify	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose, increased feelings of depression or hopelessness (all medications); impaired motor control (quetiapine)
clozapine	Clozaril	
olanzapine	Zyprexa	
paliperidone	Invega	
quetiapine	Seroquel	
risperidone	Risperdal	
ziprasidone	Geodon	
lithium	Lithobid	Drowsiness, dizziness, tremors, increased risk for restlessness/impaired motor control, loss of appetite, stomach upset, irregular bowel movement, joint or muscle pain, depression; liver damage (valproic acid)
valproic acid	Depakote	
SEIZURE		
carbamazepine	Tegretol	Drowsiness, dizziness (all medications); increased risk of seizures (levetiracetam, phenytoin); unusual behavior, mental health changes, suicidal thoughts (topiramate)
clonazepam	Klonopin	
gabapentin	Horizant, Neurontin	
lamotrigine	Lamictal	
levetiracetam	Keppra	
oxcarbazepine	Trileptal	
pregabalin	Lyrica	
phenobarbital	—	
phenytoin	Dilantin	
topiramate	Topamax	
REFERENCES		

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Harmful Interactions: Mixing Alcohol with Medicines. NIH Publication No. 13-5329. https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/medicine/Harmful_Interactions.pdf. Published 2003. Revised 2014. Accessed March 13, 2018.

Not an inclusive list of medications that may interact with alcohol. Please see drug monograph at www.eMPR.com and/or contact company for full drug labeling.

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