

Medications for MG Patients to Use with Caution

The following document is not comprehensive and these drugs may affect each person differently. Check with your neurologist/healthcare providers before surgery and before adding or stopping medications.

KEY

- (1) Contraindicated. Avoid in MG patients, even if disease is controlled.
- (2) Likely to worsen MG. Systemic administration should only be done in a hospital where ventilation support is available.
- (3) May worsen MG. Usually is well tolerated but use with caution.
- (4) Have caused problems in rare cases. Usually not a problem for the majority of MG patients.
- (5) Have been shown to cause an autoimmune temporary form of MG.

ANESTHETICS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Inhalation Anesthetics	2	Forane, etc.	Isoflurane, etc.	
Local Anesthetics	3	Xylocaine, Novocaine, Sensorcaine, etc.	Cocaine, Lidocaine, Proparacaine, Bupivacaine, Procaine, etc.	

*Patients should always consult with their physician before surgery and make anesthesiologist aware of your MG diagnosis.

ANTIBIOTICS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Aminoglycosides	2	Gentak, Garamycin, Nebcin, AMikin, Tobrex, Tobrosal	Gentamicin, Amikacin, Tobramycin, Neomycin, Streptomycin, Kanamycin, Paromycin	<i>Eye preparations may exacerbate ophthalmic myasthenia</i>
Aminoquinolone, Cinchona Alkaloid	3	Plaquenil, Qualaquin, Aralen, etc.	Hydroxychloroquine, Quinine, Chloroquine etc.	<i>These are antimalarials, but may be used for other indications</i>
Anti-retroviral	3	Ritonavir		

Carbopenems	4	Primaxin	Imipenem	
Fluoroquinolones Do Not Take – Black Box Warning for Myasthenia Gravis	1	Cipro, Avelox, Levaquin, Gatiflo, Baxdela, Noroxin, Floxin, etc.	Ciprofloxacin, Levofloxacin, Gatifloxacin, Norfloxacin, Ofloxacin, Moxifloxacin, Delafloxacin, etc.	<i>Ear preparations generally considered safe</i>
Glycopeptides	2	Vancocin	Vancomycin	
Ketolide	1	Ketek, Ketek pak	Telithromycin	<i>Taken off market 3/2016</i>
Lincosamide	2	Cleocin	Clindamycin	
Macrolides	3	Ery-Tab, Z-Pak, Zithromax, Biaxin, etc.	Erythromycin, Azithromycin, Clarithromycin, etc.	
Penicillins	4	Principen, Amoxil, Veetids, etc.	Ampicillin, Amoxicillin, Penicillin VK, Penicillin G, etc.	<i>Little evidence of any other penicillin causing problems</i>
Polypeptides	2	AK-Tracin, Mycin, etc.	Bacitracin, Polymyxin, Colistin, Colistimethate	<i>Safe as topicals</i>
Sulfonamides	4	Bactrim, Septra, etc.	Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim, etc.	
Tetracyclines	3	Minocin, Doryx, Oraxyl, etc.	Minocycline, Doxycycline, Tetracycline, etc.	
Other	3	Macrobid, Flagyl	Nitrofurantoin, Metronidazole	

ANTI-EPILEPTICS (SEIZURE MEDICATIONS)

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Barbiturates	4	Phenobarbitone, Pentobarbital, etc.	Phenobarbital, Pentobarbital, etc.	
Dibenzapine Carboxamide	4	Tegretol, Carbatrol	Carbamazepine	
Hydantoin	3	Dilantin, Cerebryx	Phenytoin, Fosphenytoin	
Oxazolidinedione	5	Tridione	Trimethadione	
Succinimide	4	Zarontin	Ethosuximide	
Other	3	Neurontin	Gabapentin	

CARDIOVASCULAR DRUGS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Alpha Blockers	5	Aldomet	Alpha Methldopa	
Beta Blockers	3	Tenormin, Toprol, Lopressor, Inderal, Trandat, Normodyne, etc.	Atenolol, Labetolol, Metoprolol,	<i>Oral, parenteral and ophthalmic preparations</i>

			Sotalol, Propranolol, etc.	
Calcium Channel Blockers	3	Isoptin, Norvasc, Calan, Plendil, Rendil, Adalat, Procardia, etc.	Verapamil, Amlodipine, Nicardipine, Felodipine, Nifedipine, etc.	<i>Verapamil is the worst drug in this class but all should be used with caution</i>
Class 1 Antiarrhythmics	2	Procanbid, Quinaglute, Propenstyl, Xylocaine, etc.	Procainamide, Quinidine, Lidocaine, etc.	<i>Avoid use if possible unless arrhythmia is an emergency and there's no alternative</i>
Statins	3	Lipitor, Zocor, etc.	Atorvastatin, Simvastatin, etc.	
Other	2	Arfonad	Trimethaphan	

**Additionally, diuretics may cause low potassium as a side effect, which could cause muscle weakness. Patients should have their potassium levels monitored regularly.*

EYE DROPS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Anticholinesterase	3	Phospholine Iodide	Ecothiophate	
Beta Blockers	3	Betoptic, Tenopt, etc.	Betaxolol, Timolol, etc.	
Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitor	3	Diamox	Acetazolamide	
Local Anesthetic	3	Parcaine, etc.	Proparacaine, Bupivacaine, etc.	

NEUROMUSCULAR BLOCKING MEDICATIONS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
All Neuromuscular Blocking Drugs	2	Quelicin, Anectine, etc.	Succinylcholine, etc.	<i>Only use if ventilation, etc. is available. Both polarizing and depolarizing classes are included</i>

PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATIONS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Anti-manic	3	Eskalith	Lithium	

Benzodiazepines	4	Xanax, Valium, Ativan, etc.	Alprazolam, Diazepam, lorazepam, etc.	
Butyrophenones	3	Haldol, Inapsine, Orap	Haloperidol, Droperidol, Pimozide	
Phenothiazine	3	Largactil, Thorazine, Prolixin, Compazine, Trilafon, etc.	Chlorpromazine, Fluphenazine, Perphenazine, Prochlorperazine, Sparine, etc.	
Tricyclics	3	Elavil, Pamelor, Tofranil, etc.	Amitriptyline, Nortriptyline, Imipramine	
Other	3	Dexedrine	Amphetamine	

SUPPLEMENTS

CLASS	KEY	GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME	NOTES
Magnesium	3	St. John's Wort, bottled water, vitamins to boost immune system functions		<i>Dosages of magnesium in regular vitamins is okay because we need a small amount of magnesium every day</i>

**All drugs that are respiratory depressants or sedatives and hypnotics should be used with caution in patients with myasthenia. Hematologists/Oncologists should be aware of a MG diagnosis before chemotherapy is initiated.*

MISCELLANEOUS

CLASS	KEY	BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME	NOTES
Antacids and Laxatives	3	Mylanta, Maalox, Citroma, Tagamet	Magnesium hydroxide, Magnesium citrate	<i>Only antacids or laxatives containing magnesium are a problem</i>
Antiarthritic	2	Cuprimine	D-penicillamine	<i>Should not be used without discussion with neuromuscular specialist</i>
Chemotherapeutic agents	2	Cisplatin, Platin, Fludarabine	Cisplatinum, Fludara	

Corticosteroids	3	Deltasone, Decadron, etc.	Prednisone, Dexamethasone, etc.	<i>Can be used to treat myasthenia</i>
Immunological Agent	5	Intron A, Interleukin	Interferon Alpha	
Musculoskeletal agent	2	Botox Dysport	Botulinum Toxin Type A	<i>Should not be used without discussion with neuromuscular specialist</i>
Narcotics	3	Morphine, Demerol, Fentanyl, MS Contin, etc.	Meperidine, Duragesic, etc.	<i>If there is a respiratory compromise</i>
Other neurological agents	4	Rilutek, Copaxone	Riluzole, Glatiramer	

DRUGS COMMONLY USED IN DENTISTRY

Analgesics

SAFE	USE WITH CAUTION	RELATIVELY CONTRAINDICATED
Acetaminophen	Morphine & Derivatives	
NSAIDS	Narcotics	
Aspirin		

Antibiotics

SAFE	USE WITH CAUTION	RELATIVELY CONTRAINDICATED
Penicillin & Derivatives	Metronidazole	Erythromycin
	Tetracycline	Gentamicin
	Vancomycin	Neomycin
		Polymyxin B
		Bacitracin
		Clindamycin

Anxiolytics/Sedatives/Hypnotics

SAFE	USE WITH CAUTION	RELATIVELY CONTRAINDICATED
N2O/O2 sedation	Benzodiazepines	
	Hypnotics	
	Barbiturates	

Local Anesthetics

SAFE	USE WITH CAUTION	RELATIVELY CONTRAINDICATED
		Procaine
	Lidocaine	
	Mepivacaine	

	Bupivacaine	
	Prilocaine	

Other

SAFE	USE WITH CAUTION	RELATIVELY CONTRAINDICATED
	Corticosteroids	