

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

Generic	Brand	Potential Reactions
<b>ALLERGIES/COLD/FLU</b>		
brompheniramine	<b>Dimetapp Cold &amp; Allergy</b>	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose
cetirizine	<b>Zyrtec</b>	
chlorpheniramine	<b>Sudafed Sinus &amp; Allergy, Triaminic Cold &amp; Allergy, Tylenol Allergy Sinus, Tylenol Cold &amp; Flu</b>	
desloratadine	<b>Clarinex</b>	
diphenhydramine	<b>Benadryl</b>	
hydroxyzine	—	
loratadine	<b>Alavert, Claritin, Claritin-D</b>	
<b>ANGINA</b>		
isosorbide	<b>Isordil</b>	Rapid heartbeat, sudden changes in blood pressure, dizziness, fainting
nitroglycerin	<b>Nitrostat, Nitro-Bid</b>	
<b>ANXIETY/EPILEPSY</b>		
alprazolam	<b>Xanax</b>	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose, slowed or difficulty breathing, impaired motor control, unusual behavior, memory problems
buspirone	—	
clonazepam	<b>Klonopin</b>	
chlordiazepoxide	—	
diazepam	<b>Valium</b>	
lorazepam	<b>Ativan</b>	
paroxetine	<b>Paxil</b>	
herbal preparations	<b>Kava Kava</b>	Liver damage, drowsiness
<b>ARTHRITIS</b>		
celecoxib	<b>Celebrex</b>	Ulcers, stomach bleeding, liver damage
diclofenac	<b>Voltaren</b>	
naproxen	<b>Naprosyn</b>	
<b>ATTENTION AND CONCENTRATION (ADHD)</b>		
amphetamine/dextroamphetamine	<b>Adderall XR</b>	Dizziness, drowsiness, impaired concentration (methylphenidate, dexamethylphenidate); possible increased risk for heart problems (amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, lisdexamfetamine); liver damage (atomoxetine)
atomoxetine	<b>Strattera</b>	
dexamethylphenidate	<b>Focalin</b>	
dextroamphetamine	<b>Dexedrine</b>	
lisdexamfetamine	<b>Vyvanse</b>	
methylphenidate	<b>Concerta, Ritalin</b>	
<b>BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERPLASIA (BPH)</b>		
doxazosin	<b>Cardura</b>	Dizziness, light headedness, fainting
tamsulosin	<b>Flomax</b>	
terazosin	—	
<b>BLOOD CLOT</b>		
warfarin	<b>Coumadin</b>	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
<b>COUGH</b>		
dextromethorpan	<b>Delsym, Robitussin Cough</b>	Drowsiness, dizziness, increased risk for overdose
guaifenesin + codeine	—	
<b>DEPRESSION</b>		
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	<b>Wellbutrin</b>	
citalopram	<b>Celexa</b>	
clomipramine	<b>Anafranil</b>	
desipramine	<b>Norpramin</b>	
desvenlafaxine	<b>Pristiq</b>	
duloxetine	<b>Cymbalta</b>	

(continued)

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

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

(continued)

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

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

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](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](http://www.eMPR.com) and/or contact company for full drug labeling.