

Drugs Linked to Dementia



The Anticholinergic Cognitive Burden (ACB) Scale, which was developed by scientists at the Aging Brain Program of the Indiana University Center for Aging Research, ranks both prescription and over-the-counter drugs with a score of 1 to 3, according to their anticholinergic effect.

To use the scale, look to see if a medication you are taking is listed in one of the three categories...

Possible anticholinergics include those listed with a score of 1... **definite anticholinergics** include those listed with a score of 2 or 3.

To determine your risk...

- Each definite anticholinergic may increase the risk for cognitive impairment by 46% over six years.
- For each one-point increase in the total ACB score, a decline in the Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) score of 0.33 points over two years has been suggested.
- Additionally, each one-point increase in the ACB total score has been correlated with a 26% increase in the risk for early death.

If you are taking a medication that appears on the ACB Scale, ask your physician whether there is a suitable alternative medication or treatment approach available.

Drugs with ACB Score of 1

GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME
Alimemazine.....	Theralen™
Alverine.....	Spasmonal™
Alprazolam.....	Xanax™
Aripiprazole.....	Abilify™
Asenapine.....	Saphris™
Atenolol.....	Tenormin™
Bupropion.....	Wellbutrin™, Zyban™
Captopril.....	Capoten™
Cetirizine.....	Zyrtec™
Chlorthalidone.....	Diuril™, Hygroton™
Cimetidine.....	Tagamet™
Clidinium.....	Librax™
Clorazepate.....	Tranxene™
Codeine.....	Contin™
Colchicine.....	Colcrys™
Desloratadine.....	Clarinex™
Diazepam.....	Valium™
Digoxin.....	Lanoxin™
Dipyridamole.....	Persantine™
Disopyramide.....	Norpace™
Fentanyl.....	Duragesic™, Actiq™
Furosemide.....	Lasix™
Fluvoxamine.....	Luvox™
Haloperidol.....	Haldol™
Hydralazine.....	Apresoline™
Hydrocortisone.....	Cortef™, Cortaid™
Iloperidone.....	Fanapt™
Isosorbide.....	Isordil™, Ismo™
Levocetirizine.....	Xyzal™
Loperamide.....	Immodium™, others
Loratadine.....	Claritin™
Metoprolol.....	Lopressor™, Toprol™
Morphine.....	MS Contin™, Avinza™
Nifedipine.....	Procardia™, Adalat™
Paliperidone.....	Invega™
Prednisone.....	Deltasone™, Sterapred™
Quinidine.....	Quinaglute™
Ranitidine.....	Zantac™
Risperidone.....	Risperdal™
Theophylline.....	Theodur™, Uniphyll™
Trazodone.....	Desyrel™
Triamterene.....	Dyrenium™
Venlafaxine.....	Effexor™
Warfarin.....	Coumadin™

Drugs with ACB Score of 2

GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME
Amantadine.....	Symmetrel™
Belladonna.....	Multiple
Carbamazepine.....	Tegretol™
Cyclobenzaprine.....	Flexeril™
Cyproheptadine.....	Periactin™
Loxapine.....	Loxitane™
Meperidine.....	Demerol™
Methotrimeprazine.....	Levoprome™
Molindone.....	Moban™
Nefopam.....	Nefogesic™
Oxcarbazepine.....	Trileptal™
Pimozide.....	Orap™

Drugs with ACB Score of 3

GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME
Amitriptyline.....	Elavil™
Amoxapine.....	Asendin™
Atropine.....	Sal-Tropine™
Benzotropine.....	Cogentin™
Brompheniramine.....	Dimetapp™
Carbinoxamine.....	Histex™, Carbihist™
Chlorpheniramine.....	Chlor-Trimeton™
Chlorpromazine.....	Thorazine™
Clemastine.....	Tavist™
Clomipramine.....	Anafranil™
Clozapine.....	Clozaril™
Darifenacin.....	Enablex™
Desipramine.....	Norpramin™
Dicyclomine.....	Bentyl™
Dimenhydrinate.....	Dramamine™, others
Diphenhydramine.....	Benadryl™, others
Doxepin.....	Sinequan™
Doxylamine.....	Unisom™, others
Fesoterodine.....	Toviaz™
Flavoxate.....	Urispas™
Hydroxyzine.....	Atarax™, Vistaril™
Hyoscyamine.....	Anaspaz™, Levsin™
Imipramine.....	Tofranil™
Meclizine.....	Antivert™
Methocarbamol.....	Robaxin™
Nortriptyline.....	Pamelor™
Olanzapine.....	Zyprexa™
Orphenadrine.....	Norflex™
Oxybutynin.....	Ditropan™
Paroxetine.....	Paxil™
Perphenazine.....	Trilafon™
Promethazine.....	Phenergan™
Propantheline.....	Pro-Banthine™
Propiverine.....	Detrunorm™
Quetiapine.....	Seroquel™
Scopolamine.....	Transderm Scop™
Solifenacin.....	Vesicare™
Thioridazine.....	Mellaril™
Tolterodine.....	Detrol™
Trifluoperazine.....	Stelazine™
Trihexyphenidyl.....	Artane™
Trimipramine.....	Surmontil™
Trospium.....	Sanctura™

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