



Myasthenia
Alliance Australia

Disclaimer:

This is a short, incomplete list of medications that can worsen symptoms in patients suffering from myasthenia gravis (MG).

This list is designed as an aid to assist guiding therapeutic decisions for MG patients and their doctors.

Important: The effect of these drugs on MG symptoms is variable from patient to patient. ALL the drugs listed CAN be used in patients with MG with appropriate caution and in the appropriate clinical setting. If a drug appears on this list, this does NOT signify that it can never be used in MG patients. If a drug does NOT appear, this does NOT signify that it is safe to use in all MG patients.

Further information can be sourced at:

www.myasthenia.org/portals/0/draft_medications_and_myasthenia_gravis_for_MGFA_website_8%2010%2012.pdf



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Alliance Australia

The Alliance collaborates with and supports the work undertaken by the State Associations.

The Australian Myasthenic Association in NSW Inc.
Telephone: (02) 4283 2815
www.myasthenia.org.au

Myasthenia Gravis Association of Queensland Inc.
Freecall: 1800 802 568
www.mgaq.org.au

**Drugs to be
used with
caution in
Myasthenia
Gravis**

Drugs are colour coded:

Where **BOLD** type is used
Potential severe effect
Use with caution

RED

Drug has direct effect on the neuromuscular junction as part of its mechanism of action.

ORANGE

Drug has potential toxic effects on the neuromuscular junction or muscle tissue. Drug has been found to worsen MG symptoms in case studies or animal studies.

GREEN

Drug may worsen MG symptoms in some patients.

PURPLE

Drugs that can cause MG, but are mostly safe for patients with MG.

Drugs with direct effect on neuromuscular junction:

- **Botulinum toxin**
- **General anesthetic agents**
- **Neuromuscular blockade**
- High blood concentration of Magnesium (intravenous administration, renal failure)

Antibiotics:

- **Aminoglycosides (i.e. gentamicin, tobramycin)**
- Clindamycin, lincomycin
- Other antibiotics

Cardiovascular drugs:

- **Quinidine**
- Beta-blockers (i.e. propranolol)
- Calcium channel blockers (i.e. verapamil)
- Statins (i.e. atorvastatin)

Antiepileptics:

- **Phenytoin**
- Other anticonvulsants

Painkillers/Sedating drugs:

- Opiates (i.e. morphine, oxycodone)
- Benzodiazepine (i.e. diazepam, temazepam)

Corticosteroids:

- **Prednisone (particularly, high-dose initial use)**

Psychiatric drugs:

- Lithium

Vaccines:

- Dead vaccines
- **Live vaccinations might be contraindicated in immunosuppressed patients.**

Drugs that can cause MG:

- D-Penicillamine
- Interferons
- Immunotherapy (i.e. nivolumab, stem cell transplantation, Interferons)