

Inappropriate Medications

If you are taking these medications speak with your healthcare provider to determine if they are absolutely necessary. These can contribute to a fall.

Drug Name	Common Name	Serious Potential Side Effects
Barbiturates	Amorbarbital, butabarbital, pentobarbital, Phenobarbital, secobarbital	Clumsiness, unsteadiness, drowsiness, dizziness, memory impairment; potentially addictive
Belladonna alkaloids	Barbidonna, Donnatal	Dry mouth, blurred vision, urinary retention, confusion, memory impairment, drowsiness
Chlorpropamide	Apo-Chlorpropamide, Diabinese	Increased risk of heart attack, increased risk of infection, decreased blood clotting, anemia, prolonged low blood sugar, nausea, diarrhea
Dicyclomine	Bentyl, Bentlyl, Formulex, Spasmoban	Headache, dizziness, heart palpitations, constipation, dry mouth, thirst, urinary hesitancy and retention
Flurazepam	Dalmane, Novo-Flupam, Apo-Flurazepam	Daytime sedation, dizziness, drowsiness, disturbed coordination, headache
Hyoscyamine	Cytospaz, Hyospaz, Anaspaz, Cystospaz, Cystospaz-M, Gastrosed, Hyosol SL, IB-Stat, Levid, Levsin, Levsin Drops, Levsin SL, Levsinex Timecaps, NuLev	Confusion or excitement, heart palpitations, blurred vision, constipation, dry mouth, paralysis of the intestines, urinary hesitancy and retention
Meprobamate	Equanil, Meprospan, Probate, Apo-Meprobate	Clumsiness, unsteadiness, drowsiness, muscle twitches
Meperidine	Demerol	Confusion, dizziness, euphoria, light-headedness, sedation, slowed reactions, seizures, slowed heart rate, cardiac arrest, shock, nausea, vomiting, breathing difficulties, extreme sweating
Pentazocine	Fortral, Talwin, Talwin NX, Fortral Talwin	Dizziness, euphoria, light-headedness, sedation, shock, nausea, vomiting, respiratory problems while sleeping, severe allergic reaction.
Propantheline	Pro-Banthine	Nervousness, drowsiness, confusion, blurred vision, sweating, rapid heartbeat
Trimethobenzamide	Tebamide, T-Gen, Ticon, Tigan, Triban, Trimazide	Drowsiness, coma, seizures

Rarely Appropriate- High Fall Risk

**Taking these medications may increase the possibility of you having a fall.
Speak to your health care provider about alternative treatments.**

Carisoprodol	Soma, Vanadom	Drowsiness, dizziness, decreased blood pressure, asthmatic episodes, swelling leading to airway closure, severe allergic reaction.
Chlordiazepoxide	Librium	Clumsiness; confusion; dizziness; excessive daytime drowsiness; headache; lack of coordination; lightheadedness; unsteadiness; unusual weakness
Chlorzoxazone	Parafon Forte DSC	Dizziness; drowsiness; general body discomfort; lightheadedness; nausea; nervousness
Cyclobenzaprine	Flexeril	Dizziness, drowsiness, seizures, heart palpitations, dry mouth.
Diazepam	Valium, Antenex, Apo-Diazepam, Diastat, Diazemuls, Diazepam Intensol, Ducene, Novo-Dipam, PMS-Diazepam, Vivol	Drowsiness, heart failure, slowed heart rate, increased risk for infection, respiratory depression, respiratory failure, pain, redness and swelling at injection site.
Metaxalone	Skelaxin	Dizziness, drowsiness, headache, irritability, nausea, nervousness, upset stomach, vomiting
Methocarbamol	Robaxin	Blurred vision, confusion, dizziness, double vision, drowsiness, fainting, fever, flushing, headache, indigestion, metallic taste in mouth, muscle incoordination, nasal stuffiness, nausea, pain and itching at the injection site, pink eye, rapid eye twitching, sleeplessness, swelling, vomiting
Propoxyphene	Darvon, Darvon-N, Darvon Pulvules, Doloxene	Dizziness, sedation, nausea, vomiting, respiratory depression

Some Indications for a Fall

These medications can be appropriate in controlled situations. If you are taking these medications please be aware that there is a possibility of them contributing to a fall. Know how they affect you.

Amitriptyline	Apo-Amitriptyline, Endep, Tryptanol, Elavil	Stroke, seizures, coma, low blood pressure, fast heart rate, heart failure, heart palpitations, heat attack, dry mouth, decreased clotting ability, anemia, increased risk for infection, low blood sugar
Chlorpheniramine	Aller-Chlor, Allergy, Chlo-Amine, Chlor-Trimeton, Chlor-Tripolon	Drowsiness, over-stimulation, dry mouth
Cyproheptadine	Periactin	Blurred vision, constipation, decreased appetite, dizziness, drowsiness, dry mouth, throat, or nose, nausea, nervousness, restlessness
Diphenhydramine	Allerdryl, AllerMax Allergy and Cough Formula, AllerMax Caplets, Aller-med, Banophen, Benadryl, Benylin, Bydramine, Compoz, Diphen, Diphenhist, Dormarex 2, Genahist, Hydramine, Nervine Nighttime Sleep-Aid, Nordryl Cough, Sleep-Eze 3, Sominex, Tusstat, Twilite, Uni-Bent Cough.	Drowsiness, sedation, sleepiness, dizziness, incoordination, seizures, dry mouth, nausea, increased risk for infection, anemia, thickening of bronchial secretions, severe allergic reaction with respiratory failure
Dipyridamole	Apo-Dipyridamole FC, Novo-Dipiradol, Persantin SR, Persantine	Dizziness, headache, chest pain, ECG abnormalities, nausea
Disopyramide	Rythmodan, Norpace, Norpace CR, Rythmodan-LA	Agitation, low blood pressure, heart failure, heart beat abnormalities, dry mouth, constipation, urinary hesitancy
Doxepin	Deptran, Novo-Doxepin, Triadapin, Sinequan	Drowsiness, dizziness, seizures, low blood pressure, fast heart rate, blurred vision, dry mouth, constipation, low blood sugar, excessive sweating
Hydroxyzine	Anx, Apo-Hydroxyzine, Atarax, Novo-Hydroxyzin, PMS-Hydroxyzine, Vistaril	Drowsiness, dry mouth
Indomethacin	Apo-Indomethacin, Arthrexin, Indocid, Indocid SR, Indocin,	Headache, pancreatitis, high potassium levels

	Indocin SR, Novo-Methacin	
Methyldopa	Aldopren, Apo-Methyldopa, Dopamet, Hydopa, Nova-Medopa, Nu-Medopa	Decreased mental ability, sedation, headache, low blood pressure, swelling, slowed heart rate, infection of the heart muscle, nasal congestion, dry mouth, pancreatitis, increased risk for infection, liver failure, hepatitis.
Oxybutynin	Ditropan, Ditropan XL, Oxytrol	Heart palpitations, increased heart rate, constipation, dry mouth, urinary hesitancy, urine retention.
Promethazine	Phenadoz, Phenergan	Drowsiness, sedation, dry mouth, increased risk for infection respiratory depression, apnea.
Reserpine		Depression, insomnia, loss of appetite
Ticlopidine	Ticlid	Stroke, diarrhea, anemia, increased risk for infection, pneumonia

Zhan, C., Sangl, J., et al. Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in the Community-Dwelling Elderly: Finding from the 1996 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey.