

Common Adverse Anti-TB Drug Reactions

Drug	Adverse Reactions	Monitoring	Comments
Isoniazid INH, H	Hepatitis; peripheral neuropathy; hypersensitivity reactions; drug interactions (phenytoin and carbamazepine)	Liver function tests (LFTs) if known or suspected liver disease or other hepatotoxic drugs used concurrently; clinical assessment for signs of peripheral neuropathy	Hepatitis risk increases with age, alcohol use, & concurrent use of other hepatotoxic drugs. Recommend supplementation with pyridoxine in patients with nutritional deficiency, medical conditions associated with peripheral neuropathy (i.e., diabetes, chronic renal failure/dialysis, HIV) and during pregnancy.
Rifampicin RIF, R	Hepatitis; flu-like illness (usually only with intermittent administration); thrombocytopenia, drug-interactions (many including oral contraceptives and some antiretrovirals*)	Baseline CBC; monitor drug concentrations of interacting medications; LFTs if indicated	Significant interactions with methadone, oral contraceptives, & other drugs. Educate patients about normal discoloration of bodily fluids.
Pyrazinamide PZA, Z	Hepatitis; hyperuricemia; arthralgias; gastrointestinal symptoms very common	Baseline uric acid; LFTs if indicated	Adjust dosing to 3 times weekly when creatinine clearance is <30ml/minute.
Ethambutol EMB, E	Retrobulbar neuritis (dose related)	Baseline and monthly visual acuity test and colour discrimination	Adjust dosing to 3 times weekly when creatinine clearance is <30ml/minute.
Streptomycin SM, S	Vertigo; tinnitus; deafness; renal failure; electrolyte abnormalities	Adjust dose and frequency for renal insufficiency and age >59. Monthly creatinine, electrolytes and vestibular exam; baseline and monthly audiology exam	Contraindicated during pregnancy. Caution in patients with renal, vestibular or auditory impairment.

Note: All drugs may cause rash, nausea, and fever

* For information on managing drug interactions in HIV-related tuberculosis, see www.cdc.gov/tb/tb_hiv_Drugs/default.htm

Source: Modified from Table 12, Caribbean Guidelines for the Prevention, Treatment, Care, and Control of Tuberculosis and TB/HIV, 2010.

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