

DRUG THERAPY IN LIVER DISEASE

Prescribing in liver disease

1. Prescribe drugs to a minimum.
2. Prefer drugs that do not need hepatic metabolism for elimination.
3. Give the lowest effective dose of a drug.
4. Avoid prodrugs that need hepatic metabolism for activation.
5. Avoid hepatotoxic drugs.

Drugs to be avoided in liver diseases

ACE inhibitors	Diuretics	Methyldopa
Amiodarone	Doxycycline	Minocycline
Anticoagulants	Erythromycin	Oestrogens
Antihistaminics	Ether	Oral contraceptives
Aspirin	Fluphenazine	Prednisolone
Carbamazepine	Halothane	Progesterones
Chlorpheniramine	Isoflurane	Pyrazinamide
Chloramphenicol	Isoniazid	Quinolones
Clarithromycin	Lignocaine	Rifampicin
Contraceptives	MAO inhibitors	Sodium valproate
Dextromethorphan	Metformin	Sulphonylureas
		Suxamethonium

Drugs to be avoided in severe liver disease

Abacavir	Efavirenz	Mefloquine
Antipsychotics	Ergometrine	Nitroprusside
Bupivacaine	Ergotamine	Ofloxacin
Clomiphene	Iopanoic acid	Sodium nitroprusside
Clomipramine	Ketoconazole	Tricyclic antidepressants
Cotrimoxazole	Lopinavir with ritonavir	Warfarin

Drugs which require a decrease in dose

Allopurinol	Diphenhydramine	Pancuronium
Alprazolam	Doxorubicin	Paracetamol
Amiloride	Famotidine	Pefloxacin
Aminophylline	Fentanyl	Pethidine
Amitriptyline	Frusemide	Phenindione
Amphotericin-B	Glibenclamide	Phenytoin
Atenolol	Heparin	Propranolol
Azathioprine	Hydralazine	Propyl thiouracil
Ceftriaxone	Indinavir	Quinidine
Cimetidine	Lincomycin	Ranitidine
Clindamycin	Lorazepam	Rifampicin
Codeine	Methadone	Sulphonylureas
Cyclophosphamide	Metoclopramide	Theophylline
Cyclosporin	Metoprolol	Thiopentone
Cytarabine	Metronidazole	Valproic acid
Dacarbazine	Mexiletine	Vancomycin
Daunorubicin	Nifedipine	Verapamil
Diazepam	Ofloxacin	Vinblastine
Didanosine	Omeprazole	Vincristine
		Warfarin

Drugs that can precipitate hepatic coma

Anxiolytics	Hypnotics	Frusemide
Phenobarbitone	Promethazine	Opioids