Anti-Seizure Medication Side Effects

The information contained in this anti-seizure medication side effects guide is not-all inclusive nor intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice. A physician should be consulted about medication treatment options and any potential risks or side effects.



Brand Name	Medication	Side Effects
Aptiom	Eslicarbazepine acetate	Dizziness, drowsiness, nausea, headache, double vision, vomiting, fatigue, loss of concentration, rash
Ativan	Lorazepam	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
Banzel	Rufinamide	Fatigue, vomiting, nausea, headache, poor coordination, dizziness, double vision
Briviact	Brivaracetam	Dizziness, sleepiness, fatigue, mood changes
CBD	Cannabidiol	Somnolence, decreased appetite, diarrhea, transaminase elevations, malaise, rash, insomnia
Depakene, Stavzor	Valproic acid	Upset stomach, altered bleeding time, liver toxicity, hair loss, weight gain, tremor
Depakote, Depakote ER, Depakote sprinkles	Divalproex sodium	Upset stomach, altered bleeding time, liver toxicity, hair loss, weight gain, tremor
Diamox	Acetazolamide	Appetite loss, frequent urination, drowsiness, confusion, numbness of extremities, kidney stones
Dilantin, Phenytek	Phenytoin	Poor coordination, insomnia, fatigue, nausea, rash, gum overgrowth, hairiness, thickening of features
Epidiolex	Cannabidiol	Somnolence, decreased appetite, diarrhea, transaminase elevations, fatigue, malaise, asthenia
Felbatol	Felbamate	Anorexia, vomiting insomnia, nausea, headache, liver and blood toxicity
Fycompa	Perampanel	Dizziness, headache, fatigue, loss of coordination, irritability, aggressive behavior
Gabitril	Tiagabine	Nausea, dizziness, anxiety, insomnia, fatigue, tremor, difficulty with concentration
HP Acthar Gel	Repository corticotropin injection	Insomnia, weight gain, irritability, fluid retention, increased appetite
Keppra, Keppra XR	Levetiracetam	Behavior changes, irritability, fatigue, dizziness, headache
Klonopin	Clonazepam	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
Lamictal, Lamictal ODT, Lamictal XR	Lamotrigine	Dizziness, headache, blurred vision, clumsiness, fatigue, tremor, nausea, rash, life-threatening skin rash (rare)
Lyrica	Pregabalin	Sleepiness, dizziness, clumsiness, fatigue, tremor, fluid retention, weight gain
Mysoline	Primidone	Clumsiness, dizziness, appetite loss, fatigue, drowsiness, hyperirritability, insomnia, depression, hyperactivity
Neurontin, Gralise, Horizant	Gabapentin	Sleepiness, dizziness, clumsiness, fatigue, twitching, fluid retention, weight gain
Onfi	Clobazam	Fatigue, lethargy, insomnia, unsteadiness, behavioral changes, changes in appetite
Phenobarbital	Phenobarbital	Drowsiness, irritability, restlessness, difficulty concentrating, depression
Sabril	Vigabatrin	Visual issues, abnormal MRIs, fatigue, poor coordination, weight gain, behavioral changes
Sympazan	Clobazam	Constipation, drowsiness, sleepiness, fever, lethargy, drooling
Tegretol	Carbamazepine	Dizziness, drowsiness, blurred vision, nausea, skin rashes, abnormal blood counts (rare)
Topamax, Trokendi XR, Qudexy XR	Topiramate	Confusion, sleepiness, dizziness, clumsiness, difficulty thinking or talking, tingling sensation of the skin, nausea, decreased appetite, kidney stones
Trileptal, Oxtellar XR	Oxcarbazepine	Dizziness, drowsiness, nausea, headache, double vision, vomiting, fatigue, loss of coordination, rash
Tranxene	Clorazepate	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
Valtoco, Diastat Acudial, Valium	Diazepam	Drowsiness, sleepiness, fatigue, poor coordination, unsteadiness, behavior changes
Vimpat	Lacosamide	Dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting, double vision, unsteadiness, fatigue, tremor
Zarontin	Ethosuximide	Appetite loss, nausea, drowsiness, headache, dizziness, fatigue, rash, abnormal blood counts (rare)
Zonegran	Zonisamide	Sleepiness, dizziness, decreased appetite, headache, nausea, irritability, difficulty concentrating, unsteadiness, kidney stones, rash

Anti-seizure medications are associated with various side effects such as those listed in the table above and others. Many adverse effects, such as sleepiness and drowsiness, mental slowing, and "brain fog," can be addressed early on with dosage adjustments. Patients are encouraged to pay attention to these and work alongside their treating neurologist early in treatment to address these and maintain medication compliance. Patients should be informed of other adverse effects, such as allergic rashes and hypersensitivity risk, at the initiation of treatment.

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