





## UNSAFE MEDICATIONS

### Anesthesia Agents Requiring Caution in Duchenne

The following anesthetic agents are **NOT SAFE** in Duchenne  
Please refer to [parentprojectmd.org/anesthesia](http://parentprojectmd.org/anesthesia) for more information.

**Depolarizing Muscle Relaxants Trigger Rhabdomyolysis:**  
succinylcholine (suxamethonium)

**Inhaled General Anesthetics (avoid if possible):**  
Examples: desflurane, enflurane, halothane, isoflurane, sevoflurane, xenon

## SAFE MEDICATIONS

All of the following medications are considered to be safe to give to people with Duchenne with close monitoring

### Anesthesia/Pain

#### Barbiturates/Intravenous Anesthetics

diazepam, etomidate, ketamine, methohexital, midazolam, propofol, thiopental

#### Inhaled Non-Volatile General Anesthetic

nitrous oxide ("laughing gas")

#### Local Anesthetics

amethocaine, articaine, benzocaine (caution re: methemoglobinemia risk), bupivacaine, etidocaine, lidocaine, levobupivacaine, mepivacaine, procaine, prilocaine, ropivacaine

#### Narcotics (opioids)

alfentanil, fentanyl, hydromorphone, meperidine, methadone, methyldorphine, morphine, naloxone, oxycodone, remifentanil, sufentanil

#### Muscle Relaxants

atracurium, cisatracurium, doxacurium, d-tubocurarine, metocurine, mivacurium, pancuronium, pipecuronium, rocuronium, vecuronium

## Behavioral and Psychiatric Medications

### ADD (with or without hyperactivity)

- **Short-Acting Stimulants:** **Obtain baseline ECG before use.** Examples: dexamethylphenidate, dextroamphetamine and amphetamine, dextroamphetamine, methylphenidate
- **Long-Acting Stimulants:** Examples: amphetamine sulfate, dextroamphetamine, dextroamphetamine and amphetamine, dexamethylphenidate, lisdexamfetamine, methylphenidate
- **Non-Stimulants:** **Use with caution if cardiac anomalies are present; risk of sudden cardiac death; obtain baseline ECG before use.** Examples: atomoxetine, clonidine, guanfacine

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### Depression

- **Serotonin and Noradrenaline Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRI's/SNRI's):** Examples: desvenlafaxine, duloxetine, fluoxetine, sertraline, venlafaxine
- **Norepinephrine-Dopamine Reuptake Inhibitors (NDRIs):** **Elevated blood pressure (hypertension) has been reported with concomitant use of other dopaminergic or non-adrenergic medications.** Examples: bupropion
- **Tricyclic Antidepressants (TCA's):** **Use with caution; TCA's have been implicated in sudden cardiac death and ventricular arrhythmias.** Examples: amitriptyline, amoxapine, clomipramine, desipramine, doxepin, imipramine, nortriptyline, protriptyline, trimipramine
- **Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOI's):** **Rarely used in children due to high incidence of side effects.** Examples: isocarboxazid, phenelzine, selegiline, tranylcypromine

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### Anxiety

Examples: chlordiazepoxide, clonazepam, clorazepate, diazepam, flurazepam, halazepam, lorazepam, midazolam, oxazepam, prazepam, temazepam, triazolam

## Other Commonly Prescribed Medications

### Anticonvulsants

Examples: gabapentin, topiramate

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### Antiviral Medications

Relenza (zanamivir)

**This medication should be used with caution, and is not recommended for use in children with psychiatric comorbidities; there have been reports of hallucinations and symptoms of psychosis in many children and adolescents. Learn more about medical management of the the flu at [parentprojectmd.org/flu](http://parentprojectmd.org/flu).**

## Over the Counter Medications

### Fever Reducers (Antipyretics)

Tylenol (acetaminophen)

### Cough Medication

- Cough syrup **without** Sudafed (pseudoephedrine)
- Cough medicine with cough suppressant only if cough is interfering with sleep
- Cough medication with expectorants may minimize coughing at night
- Cough drops
- Mucinex (guaifenesin) (unless thinned secretions and breathing dysfunction may cause aspiration with increased risk of pneumonia)
- Saline nose drops/spray

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**\*ALWAYS CONSULT WITH PATIENT'S FAMILY OR CAREGIVER IN EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY\***