

Digestive System - Common Medications

Antacids

<p><u>Uses:</u> Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD), heartburn, upset stomach, and acid indigestion</p> <p><u>Side effects:</u> Constipation (Ca²⁺) and/or loose stools (Mg)</p> <p><u>Drug Interactions:</u> Decreased absorption of certain medications; separate administration by 2-4 hrs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quinolone & Tetracycline antibiotics • Iron Products • Azole Antifungals 	Main Ingredient	Brand	Available Formulations
	Calcium	Tums	Tablet
	Magnesium	Milk of Magnesia	Suspension
	Aluminum	AlternaGel	Suspension
	Magnesium + (Aluminum or Calcium) Combination	Maalox, Mylanta	Suspension
Sodium Bicarbonate + Aspirin + Citric Acid	Alka-Seltzer	Dissolvable Tablets Chewable Gummies	

Histamine-Receptor Antagonists (H₂RAs): "-idine"

<p><u>Uses:</u> GERD, heartburn, upset stomach, and acid indigestion</p> <p><u>Side Effects:</u> Caution in elderly – risk of worsening dementia and confusion (avoid cimetidine completely – CYP3A4 inhibitor)</p> <p><u>Drug Interactions:</u> Anticholinergics, iron products, azole antifungals, renal dose adjustments are required</p>	Generic (Brand)	Available Formulations
	Famotidine (Pepcid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Suspension ▪ Intravenous Solution
	Ranitidine (Zantac)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Capsule ▪ Oral Solution ▪ Intravenous Solution
	Nizatidine (Axid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Capsule ▪ Oral Solution
	Cimetidine (Tagamet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet

Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs): "-prazole"

<p><u>Uses:</u> GERD, duodenal and gastric ulcers, erosive esophagitis, and stress ulcer prophylaxis</p> <p><u>Side Effects:</u> C. diff infection, fracture, pneumonia, hypomagnesemia, headaches, and nausea</p> <p><u>Drug Interactions:</u> Clopidogrel (Plavix), iron products, and azole antifungals</p>	Generic (Brand)	Available Formulations
	Omeprazole (Prilosec)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Capsule ▪ Suspension
	Pantoprazole (Protonix)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Intravenous Solution
	Lansoprazole (Prevacid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disintegrating Tablet ▪ Capsule ▪ Suspension
	Dexlansoprazole (Dexilant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capsule
	Esomeprazole (Nexium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capsule ▪ Oral Packet ▪ Intravenous Solution
	Rabeprazole (Aciphex)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Capsule

Acute Treatment of Constipation			
Class	Generic (Brand)	Available Formulations	Side Effects
Stimulant Laxatives	Bisacodyl (Dulcolax)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Suppository 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Belching ▪ Cramping ▪ Diarrhea ▪ Nausea
	Sennosides (Senokot)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet 	
Osmotic Laxatives	Magnesium Salts (Milk of Magnesia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oral Solution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bloating ▪ Diarrhea ▪ Electrolyte Imbalance ▪ Excessive Gas
	Sodium Phosphate (Fleet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enema 	
	PEG 3350 (MiraLAX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oral Powder for Solution 	

Chronic Treatment of Constipation			
Class	Generic (Brand)	Available Formulations	Side Effects
Stool Softener	Docusate (Colace)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet ▪ Capsule ▪ Oral Liquid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electrolyte imbalance with prolonged use
Bulk Forming Laxatives	Psyllium (Metamucil and others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capsule ▪ Oral Powder for Solution ▪ Health Bars ▪ Wafers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bloating ▪ Cramping ▪ Gas ▪ (Increased constipation if not taken with enough water)
	Calcium Polycarbophil (FiberCon and others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caplets 	
	Methylcellulose (Citrucel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caplets ▪ Oral Powder for Solution 	

Treatment of Diarrhea			
	Generic (Brand)	Available Formulations	Side Effects
	Bismuth Subsalicylate (Pepto-Bismol)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Caplets ▪ Chewable Gummies ▪ Oral Liquid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blackening of tongue and stool ▪ Ringing in the ears (salicylate toxicity)
	Loperamide (Imodium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capsule ▪ Tablet ▪ Oral Liquid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abdominal Cramping ▪ Constipation ▪ Nausea
	Diphenoxylate + Atropine (Lomotil)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tablet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Constipation ▪ Blurred Vision ▪ Sedation ▪ Urinary Retention