

INTERACTIONS BETWEEN HIV-RELATED MEDICATIONS AND METHADONE - AN OVERVIEW

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Medication	Formally Studied?	Effect on Methadone	Effect on HIV-related Medication	Reference
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NRTI

Zidovudine (AZT)	Yes	None	↑AZT AUC by 40%	(1)(2)
Didanosine (ddI)	Yes	None	↓ddi AUC by 60%	(3)
Zalcitabine (ddC)	No	Not studied or reported	Not studied or reported	
Stavudine (d4T)	Yes	None	↓d4T AUC by 18%	(3)
Lamivudine (3TC)	Yes	None	Not studied	(4)
Abacavir (ABC)	Yes	↑Methadone clearance	↑Time to peak concentration, ↓ Peak concentration	(5)

NNRTI

Nevirapine	Yes	Withdrawal symptoms ↓ Methadone levels by 46% Need for ↑methadone dose observed	Not studied or reported	(6)(7)(8)
Delavirdine	No	↑Methadone levels predicted	Not studied or reported	
Efavirenz	Yes	↓Methadone levels by 48% Heroin use relapse Need for ↑ methadone dose observed.	Not studied or reported	(8)(9)

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Indinavir	No	Not reported	Not reported	
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Ritonavir	Yes	↓Methadone levels reported † ↓ Meperidine levels	No effect reported †	(10) (11)
Nelfinavir	Yes	↓Methadone levels, but no withdrawal symptoms observed	No	(12)
Saquinavir	Planned	Not studied or reported	Not studied or reported	
Amprenavir	Yes	↓Methadone levels, but no withdrawal symptoms observed	Not studied or reported	(13)
Lopinavir	PDR data only	↓Methadone levels reported †	Not studied or reported	(14)
Other medications used in the treatment of HIV-infected persons				
Rifampin	Yes	↓Methadone levels, often sharply	None reported	(15)
Rifabutin	Yes	No change in methadone levels Mild narcotic withdrawal symptoms	None reported	(16)
Fluconazole	Yes	↑Methadone levels by approximately 30%, clinical significance unknown	None reported	(17)
Phenytoin	Yes	↓Methadone levels, often sharply	None reported	(18)
Phenobarbital	Yes	↓Methadone levels, often sharply	None reported	(19)
Carbamezipine	Yes	↓Methadone levels	None reported	(20)
Fluvoxamine	No (case series only)	↑Methadone levels by 20-100%	None reported	(21)(22)
Fluoxetine	No (case series only)	Minimal ↑ methadone levels	None reported	
Sertraline	Yes	Transient mild ↑ methadone levels	None reported	(23)

† Study design limits clinical utility of results.

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