

## 2017 SAFE LIST: Drugs that are considered to be **SAFE** for use in the acute porphyrias

This safe list was produced jointly by UK Porphyria Medicines Information Service (UKPMIS) and Cardiff Porphyria Service and is supported by the National Acute Porphyria Service (NAPS). We gratefully acknowledge the clinical impact of the evidence-based drug safety assessments provided on the comprehensive Drug Database for Acute Porphyria ([www.drugs-porphyria.org](http://www.drugs-porphyria.org)) on the range of available medicines for porphyria patients.

**N.B. Some drugs may be included under their group name and not their individual drug name.**

Abciximab	Cycloserine	Laxatives	Pramipexole
Acamprosate	Dabigatran	Leflunomide	Pregabalin
ACE Inhibitors	Desferrioxamine	Lercanidipine	Prilocaine
Acetazolamide	Desflurane	Levetiracetam	Primaquine
Acetylcysteine	Desloratadine	Levomepromazine	Prochlorperazine
Aciclovir	Dextromethorphan	Levothyroxine sodium	Progauril
Adenosine	Diamorphine	Lidocaine <sup>2</sup>	Promethazine
Adrenaline	Diazepam	Linezolid	Propofol <sup>3</sup>
Alfentanil	Dicycloverine	Lithium salts	Propylthiouracil
Alginates	Digoxin	Loperamide	Proton Pump Inhibitors
Allopurinol	Dihydrocodeine	Loratadine	Pseudoephedrine
Aluminium salts	Dinoprostone	Lorazepam	Pyrazinamide
Amiloride	Diphenhydramine	Lymecycline	Pyridostigmine
Aminoglycosides	Dobutamine	Magnesium salts	Quinine
Amisulpride	Domperidone	Mebeverine	Quinolones <sup>5</sup>
Amitriptyline	Dopamine	Mefloquine	Ranitidine
Amlodipine	Doxazosin	Melatonin	Remifentanil
Amphotericin	Doxycycline	Meloxicam	Rivaroxaban
Angiotensin II inhibitors	Duloxetine	Memantine	Rivastigmine
Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Epinephrine	Mepivacaine	Selective beta <sub>2</sub> agonists
Antiplatelet drugs	Eplerenone	Mesalazine	Sevelamer
Apixaban	Epoetin & analogues	Metformin	SGLT-2 inhibitors <sup>#</sup>
Articaine	Etanercept	Methadone	Sildenafil
Aspirin	Ethambutol	Methotrexate	Sodium bicarbonate
Atomoxetine	Etoricoxib	Methylphenidate	Sodium fusidate
Atovaquone	Ezetimibe	Metoclopramide	Solifenacin
Atropine	Famciclovir	Metronidazole	SSRIs*
Azathioprine	Felodipine	Midazolam <sup>3</sup>	Statins
Azithromycin	Fentanyl	Mirabegron	Strontium
Aztreonam	Fexofenadine	Mirtazapine	Sulpiride
Baclofen	Fibrates <sup>1</sup>	Mizolastine	Suxamethonium
Balsalazide	Fibrinolytic drugs	Monoclonal antibodies	Tacrolimus
Barium sulphate	Flucytosine	Morphine	Tadalafil
Bendroflumethiazide	Flumazenil	Moxonidine	Tamsulosin
Beta-blockers	Fluphenazine	Muscle relaxants non-depolarising	Teicoplanin
Bile acid sequestrants	Fondaparinux	Mycophenolate salts	Temazepam
Bisphosphonates	Furosemide	Naftidrofuryl	Terazosin
Bumetanide	Gabapentin	Naloxone	Terbinafine
Bupivacaine	Ganciclovir	Naproxen	Tetracosactide
Buprenorphine	G-CSF	Neostigmine	Theophylline
Calcium salts	Gemprost	Nicotine replacement therapy	Tirofiban
Carbapenems	Glipizide	Nifedipine	Tolterodine
Carbimazole	Gliptins <sup>5</sup>	Nimodipine	Tramadol
Carboprost	Glucagon	Nitrous oxide	Tranexamic acid
Caspofungin	Glucosamine	Noradrenaline/Norepinephrine	Trazodone
Celecoxib	Glycerol trinitrate	Nortriptyline	Trifluoperazine
Cephalosporins	Glycopyrronium	Nystatin	Triptans <sup>6</sup>
Cetirizine	Granisetron	Octreotide	Ursodeoxycholic acid
Chloroquine	Haloperidol	Olanzapine	Vaccines <sup>7</sup>
Chlorphenamine	Heparin	Ondansetron	Valaciclovir
Chlorpromazine	Heparins-low molecular weight	Orlistat	Valganciclovir
Ciclosporin	Hyoscine salts	Oseltamivir	Vancomycin
Cimetidine	Ibuprofen	Oxycodone	Venlafaxine
Clobazam	Immunoglobulins	Oxytocin	Vigabatrin
Clonazepam	Indometacin	Paracetamol	Vitamins
Clonidine	Insulins	Paraldehyde	Warfarin
Clozapine	Iodine based contrast media	Penicillamine	Zanamivir
Co-amoxiclav	Iron	Penicillins <sup>4</sup>	Zinc preparations
Codeine phosphate	Isoflurane	Pethidine	Zonisamide
Colchicine	Isosorbide mononitrate	Phenylephrine	Zopiclone
Corticosteroids	Ketoprofen	Phosphate salts	
Cyclizine	Lacosamide	Pioglitazone	
Cyclopenthiiazide	Lamotrigine		

1. Ciprofibrate has not been classified and should not be used

2. Intravenous doses should be used with caution.

3. Clinical safety has not been assessed for continuous use of these preparations.

4. Pivmecillinam considered unsafe; temocillin and ticarcillin – not classified; conflicting safety advice for flucloxacillin. Contact UKPMIS for further advice.

5. Nalidixic acid is unsafe and should not be used.

6. Frovatriptan has not been assessed as safe.

7. An acute attack has been reported following yellow fever vaccine, so caution should be observed when using any live vaccine in adults.

**All topical preparations (including topical antifungals, lice treatments & eye drops) are considered safe, when applied to intact skin or mucosa.**

<sup>5</sup>Gliptins = DPP-4 inhibitors = alogliptin, linagliptin, saxagliptin, sitagliptin, vildagliptin;

\*SSRIs = Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor antidepressants

<sup>#</sup>SGLT-2 inhibitors = canagliflozin, dapagliflozin, empagliflozin;

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**Anaesthesia & peri-operative****drugs**

Articaine  
Atropine  
Bupivacaine  
Desflurane  
Isoflurane  
Lidocaine<sup>2</sup>  
Mepivacaine  
Midazolam<sup>3</sup>  
Muscle relaxants non-depolarising  
Neostigmine  
Nitrous oxide  
Prilocaine  
Propofol<sup>3</sup>  
Remifentanyl  
Suxamethonium

**Analgesics**

Alfentanil  
Aspirin  
Buprenorphine  
Celecoxib  
Codeine phosphate  
Diamorphine  
Dihydrocodeine  
Etoricoxib  
Fentanyl  
Ibuprofen  
Indometacin  
Ketoprofen  
Meloxicam  
Methadone  
Morphine  
Naproxen  
Oxycodone  
Paracetamol  
Pethidine  
Tramadol

**Antibacterial agents**

Aminoglycosides  
Azithromycin  
Aztreonam  
Carbapenems  
Cephalosporins  
Co-amoxiclav  
Cycloserine  
Doxycycline  
Ethambutol  
Linezolid  
Lymecycline  
Metronidazole  
Penicillins<sup>4</sup>  
Pyrazinamide  
Quinolones<sup>5</sup>  
Sodium fusidate  
Teicoplanin  
Vancomycin

**Anticonvulsants**

Clobazam  
Clonazepam  
Gabapentin  
Lacosamide  
Lamotrigine  
Levetiracetam  
Paraldehyde  
Pregabalin  
Vigabatrin  
Zonisamide

**Antidepressants**

Amitriptyline  
Duloxetine  
Mirtazapine  
Nortriptyline  
SSRIs\*  
Trazodone  
Venlafaxine

**Anti-emetics**

Cyclizine  
Domperidone  
Granisetron  
Metoclopramide  
Ondansetron  
Prochlorperazine

**Antifungals/Antivirals**

Aciclovir  
Amphotericin  
Caspofungin  
Famciclovir  
Flucytosine  
Ganciclovir  
Nystatin  
Oseltamivir  
Terbinafine  
Valaciclovir  
Valganciclovir  
Zanamivir

**Antihistamines**

Cetirizine  
Chlorphenamine  
Desloratadine  
Diphenhydramine  
Fexofenadine  
Loratadine  
Mizolastine  
Promethazine

**Antipsychotics**

Amisulpride  
Chlorpromazine  
Clozapine  
Fluphenazine  
Haloperidol  
Olanzapine  
Sulpiride  
Trifluoperazine

**Cardiovascular agents**

Abciximab  
ACE Inhibitors  
Adenosine  
Adrenaline  
Amiloride  
Amlodipine  
Angiotensin II inhibitors  
Antiplatelet drugs  
Bendroflumethiazide  
Beta-blockers  
Bumetanide  
Cyclopenthiiazide  
Dabigatran  
Digoxin  
Dobutamine  
Dopamine  
Doxazosin  
Epinephrine  
Eplerenone  
Felodipine  
Furosemide

Glyceryl trinitrate  
Isosorbide mononitrate  
Lercanidipine  
Moxonidine  
Naftidrofuryl  
Nifedipine  
Nimodipine  
Noradrenaline/Norepinephrine  
Rivaroxaban  
Terazosin  
Tirofiban

**Gastro-intestinal drugs**

Alginates  
Balsalazide  
Cimetidine  
Dicycloverine  
Laxatives  
Loperamide  
Mebeverine  
Mesalazine  
Proton Pump Inhibitors  
Ranitidine

**Immunosuppressants**

Azathioprine  
Ciclosporin  
Corticosteroids  
Methotrexate  
Monoclonal antibodies  
Mycophenolate salts  
Tacrolimus

**Lipid lowering agents**

Bile acid sequestrants  
Ezetimibe  
Fibrates<sup>1</sup>  
Statins

**Malaria Prophylaxis**

Atovaquone  
Chloroquine  
Mefloquine  
Proguanil

**Obs & Gynae Drugs**

Carboprost  
Dinoprostone  
Gemeprost  
Oxytocin

**Other**

Acamprosate  
Acetazolamide  
Acetylcysteine  
Allopurinol  
Aluminium salts  
Antimuscarinic bronchodilators  
Apixaban  
Atomoxetine  
Baclofen  
Barium sulphate  
Bisphosphonates  
Calcium salts  
Carbimazole  
Clonidine  
Colchicine  
Desferrioxamine  
Dextromethorphan  
Diazepam  
Epoetin and analogues  
Etanercept  
Fibrinolytic drugs

Flumazenil  
Fondaparinux  
G-CSF  
Glipizide  
Gliptins<sup>5</sup>  
Glucagon  
Glucosamine  
Glycopyrronium  
Heparin  
Heparins-low molecular weight  
Hyoscine salts  
Immunoglobulins  
Insulins  
Iodine based contrast media  
Iron  
Leflunomide  
Levomepromazine  
Levothyroxine sodium  
Lithium salts  
Lorazepam  
Magnesium salts  
Melatonin  
Memantine  
Metformin  
Methylphenidate  
Mirabegron  
Naloxone  
Nicotine replacement therapy  
Octreotide  
Orlistat  
Penicillamine  
Phenylephrine  
Phosphate salts  
Pioglitazone  
Pramipexole  
Primaquine  
Propylthiouracil  
Pseudoephedrine  
Pyridostigmine  
Quinine  
Rivastigmine  
Selective beta<sub>2</sub> agonists  
Sevelamer  
SGLT-2 inhibitors<sup>#</sup>  
Sildenafil  
Sodium bicarbonate  
Solifenacin  
Strontium  
Tadalafil  
Tamsulosin  
Temazepam  
Tetracosactide  
Theophylline  
Tolterodine  
Tranexamic acid  
Triptans<sup>6</sup>  
Ursodeoxycholic acid  
Vaccines<sup>7</sup>  
Vitamins  
Warfarin  
Zinc preparations  
Zopiclone

**See over the page for explanation of footnotes**

This safe list is based on the best information available to us at the time of compilation and provides guidance on drugs to use first line. It is not intended to be comprehensive. Inclusion of a drug does not guarantee that it will be safe in all circumstances. For information on medication not listed and advice on the use of antiretrovirals, antineoplastics or other complex treatment scenarios please contact UKPMIS by telephone (029 2074 3877), by fax (029 2074 3879) or see our website <https://www.wmic.wales.nhs.uk/specialist-services/drugs-in-porphyrria/>. Unfortunately we are unable to accept enquiries via e-mail. Healthcare professionals requiring clinical advice on management of acute porphyria attacks should contact NAPS on 029 2074 7747.