

Medications to Avoid in Myasthenia Gravis

Myasthenia gravis (MG) is a condition that affects the communication between nerves and muscles, leading to muscle weakness. Certain medications can make MG symptoms worse. Here is a list of medications to avoid or use with caution if you have MG:

- **Antibiotics:** Some antibiotics can worsen MG symptoms. These include aminoglycosides (like gentamicin), fluoroquinolones (like ciprofloxacin), and macrolides (like azithromycin).[\[1\]\[2\]](#)
- **Beta-blockers:** These medications, often used for heart conditions, can exacerbate muscle weakness in MG. Examples include propranolol and metoprolol.[\[1\]\[3\]](#)
- **Calcium channel blockers:** Used for high blood pressure and heart conditions, these drugs can also worsen MG symptoms. Examples include verapamil and diltiazem.[\[3\]](#)
- **Antiarrhythmics:** Medications like procainamide and quinidine, used to treat irregular heartbeats, can negatively affect MG.[\[2\]\[4\]](#)
- **Magnesium:** High doses of magnesium, often found in supplements and some medications, can interfere with muscle function and worsen MG.[\[1\]](#)
- **Immune checkpoint inhibitors:** These cancer treatments can trigger new onset or worsen existing MG. Examples include pembrolizumab and nivolumab.[\[2\]\[5\]](#)
- **Penicillamine:** Used for rheumatoid arthritis, this drug can induce MG-like symptoms.[\[5\]](#)
- **Neuromuscular blockers:** Often used during surgery, these medications can cause severe muscle weakness in MG patients.[\[6\]](#)

Always inform your healthcare provider that you have MG before starting any new medication. They can help you find safe alternatives and monitor your condition closely.