

# Table

## Drugs in dermatological practice: Relationship to food

Compiled by: **Smitha Prabhu, Shrutakirithi D. Sheno**

Department of Skin & STD, Kasturba Medical College & Hospital, Manipal, India.

Drugs	Before food	With food	After food	No effect
<b>Antibiotics</b>	Tetracycline Erythromycin stearate & esteolate Azithromycin Roxithromycin Fluoroquinolones (ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin) Cefaclor Cefadroxil Cephalexin Cephradine Ampicillin Dicloxacillin Sulfonamides	Cefuroxime axetil Metronidazole (Any antibiotic: if there is nausea and vomiting when taken on an empty stomach, then take with food)		Amoxycillin- clavulanic acid Clarithromycin Doxycycline Minocycline Erythromycin base
<b>Antifungals</b>		Itraconazole Griseofulvin		Fluconazole Terbinafine
<b>Antivirals</b>	Azidothymidine DDI Indinavir Lamivudine	Ritonavir Nelfinavir	Saquinavir (2 hrs after food)	Acyclovir Famciclovir Stavudine
<b>Steroids</b>		Food delays absorption but does not decrease the amount absorbed		
<b>Cytotoxics</b>		Cyclosporin: With apple or orange juice, but not with grape juice		Methotrexate Azathioprine Hydroxyurea Cyclophosphamide
<b>Antimalarials</b>				Chloroquine Hydroxy- chloroquine
<b>Retinoids</b>		With fatty meals		
<b>Psoralens</b>	Ideally before food	If nausea is severe, can be given along with food or milk		

Drugs	Before food	With food	After food	No effect
<b>Vasoactive drugs &amp; anti-platelet agents</b>			Aspirin	Nifedipine Pentoxifylline
<b>Psychotropics</b>	Phenytoin: Slow & variable GIT absorption in spite of presence or absence of food	Fluoxetine (to decrease nausea)		Alprazolam Doxepin: At bed time Diazepam Amitryptiline Carbamazepine Pimozide: Effect of food on pimozide absorption not studied yet
<b>Antihistaminics</b>	H1 receptor blockers		H2 receptor blockers: Last dose at bedtime after food	
<b>Antacids</b>			1 hour after meal (food increases gastric pH & hence prolongs the neutralizing effect of antacids)	
<b>Anti - TB drugs</b>	Rifampicin: Before breakfast		Ethionamide	INH (but not with antacids) Prothionamide PAS
<b>Tonics</b>	General tonics (liver extract, enzymes, lysine etc): 15 min before food	Iron: Administration with food decreases side effects, but also decreases absorption Vitamin E Antacids: Many interfere with response to iron	Vitamin B complex Antioxidants	
<b>Anti-leprosy drugs</b>	Rifampicin: Before breakfast	Clofazimine: Due to GIT side effects		Dapsone: At night
<b>Laxatives</b>				At night before going to bed
<b>Analgesic anti-inflammatory</b>	Acetaminophen Paracetamol: For rapid relief take on empty stomach	NSAIDS (to decrease side effects)		
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	d-Penicillamine	Potassium iodide: Along with fruit juice to mask sour taste) Ketotifen: Food increases absorption		Colchicine Thalidomide