

# Medications Approved for the Treatment of Parkinson's Disease in the USA

Below is a full list of Parkinson's medications that have been approved to treat Parkinson's in the United States, as of May 2018.

Mechanism of action	Generic name	Trade name®	Common side effects*
<b>DOPA Decarboxylase inhibitor/DA precursor</b>	Carbidopa/Levodopa	Sinemet	Nausea, dizziness, orthostatic hypotension, anxiety, dyskinesia, confusion, hallucinations, somnolence
	Carbidopa/Levodopa (controlled release)	Sinemet CR	
	Carbidopa/Levodopa (orally disintegrating)	Parcopa	
	Carbidopa/Levodopa (extended release capsules)	Rytary	
	Carbidopa/Levodopa (enteral suspension)	Duopa	
<b>COMT inhibitor, inhibits breakdown of levodopa</b>	Entacapone	Comtan	Same as carbidopa/levodopa. In addition: diarrhea, discoloration of body fluids.  Tasmar can cause elevated liver function enzymes.
	Tolcapone	Tasmar	
<b>DOPA decarboxylase inhibitor/DA precursor/COMT Inhibitor</b>	Carbidopa/Levodopa Entacapone	Stalevo	Same as carbidopa/levodopa and COMT inhibitor
<b>DA agonist</b>	Pramipexole	Mirapex	Nausea, dizziness, orthostatic hypotension, swelling of ankles, dyskinesia, hallucinations, confusion, somnolence, sleep attacks, impulse control disorders  Neupro can lead to a skin reaction at the patch site
	Pramipexole (extended release)	Mirapex ER	
	Ropinirole	Requip	
	Ropinirole (extended release)	Requip XL	
	Apomorphine (injection)	Apokyn	
	Rotigotine (transdermal patch)	Neupro	

Mechanism of action	Generic name	Trade name®	Common side effects*
<b>MAO-B inhibitor, inhibits breakdown of dopamine</b>	Selegiline	Eldepryl	Selegiline can cause insomnia  Dizziness, nausea, gastrointestinal upset, dyskinesia, hallucinations, confusion, headache  Note possible drug interactions  Safinamide exerts its effects through other mechanisms of action as well
	Selegiline (orally disintegrating)	Zelapar	
	Rasagiline	Azilect	
	Safinamide	Xadago	
<b>Mixed mechanisms, including NMDA antagonism</b>	Amantadine	Symmetrel	Hallucinations, leg swelling, dizziness, mottled skin (livedo reticularis), confusion, dry mouth and eyes, constipation, dizziness, orthostatic hypotension, somnolence
	Amantadine (extended release)	Gocovri	
<b>Anticholinergic</b>	Trihexyphenidyl	Artane	Dry mouth and eyes, constipation, urinary retention, memory impairment, confusion, depression, hallucinations
	Benzotropine	Cogentin	

**COMT = catechol-o-methyltransferase**

**DA = dopamine**

**DOPA = dopamine**

**MAO-B = monoamine oxidase B**

**NMDA = n-methyl-d-aspartate**

*\*The most common side effects are listed. Additional side effects, should be discussed with your health care provider.*

This material is intended to provide you with information. It should not be used for treatment purposes, but rather as a source for discussion with your own physician. Work with your physician to determine which medications are best for you, and know the risks and benefits of each.

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