

Resources for more information

- <http://hivinsite.ucsf.edu>
select ARV Drug Interactions Database from Antiretroviral Management menu
- <http://www.hiv-druginteractions.org>
from the University of Liverpool
- <http://www.hivguidelines.org/clinical-guidelines/adults/hiv-drug-drug-interactions>
from HIV Clinical Resource prepared by NY State Department of Health AIDS Institute & Johns Hopkins University Division of Infectious Diseases
- Your pharmacist: _____



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Be “In the Know” About Your HIV Medications



**1**

Did you know your HIV medications can affect what other medications you can take?

That's because the HIV medications and other drugs may be processed by your body in the same way.

This means the amount or doses of HIV medications or other meds can actually be changed to higher or lower amounts by the drug interactions if they are taken together.

This could lead to side effects or to making your HIV medications not work properly. Some of the side effects could be dangerous to you!

**2**

Warning: medication interactions to watch for!

- Cholesterol lowering medications
- Birth control pills
- Acid reflux medicines (Prilosec OTC, Zantac, etc.)
- Steroids
 - Steroid-containing nose sprays (Flonase, Nasacort, etc.)
 - Steroid-containing asthma inhalers (Advair, Flovent, etc.)
 - Spine and joint injections (commonly used for back pain and gout)
- Erectile dysfunction medications (Viagra, Cialis, etc.)
- Seizure medications
- Herbs (St. John's Wort, Red Yeast Rice, etc.)
- Recreational drugs not received by prescription
- Sleep aids
- Antidepressants and many more!

**3**

What should you do?

Be sure to review possible drug interactions with your HIV provider and/or pharmacist when you get a referral to a specialist or change a regimen. Ask about interactions for your drug regimen.

- Use the same pharmacy to fill all prescriptions.
- Carry a list of your medications with you to all medical appointments, or even better, keep one with you at all times.
- Tell any other providers you see that you are taking HIV medications and ask them to check with your HIV provider before prescribing you medications or giving you an injection.
- Call your HIV provider before you start any new medications, including over-the-counter medications or herbs, or before you take any older medications at home.