




Lab Monitoring for Common Medications: Condensed Version





Updated October 2024

The following is a summary of our chart, *Lab Monitoring for Common Medications*, showing which laboratory tests are recommended for a given class of medication. Some tests may be recommended only in certain patient populations or situations, or only for specific drug(s) within the class, as indicated in parenthesis. See full chart for details.

Medication or Medication Class	Kidney function	Liver function	Complete Blood Count (CBC)	Electrolytes	Sodium	Potassium	Magnesium	Calcium	Glucose	Thyroid function	Uric acid	Other
Aldosterone antagonists (eplerenone and spironolactone)	X			X potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, bicarbonate		X			X spironolactone		X	
ACEI (angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor) or ARB (angiotensin receptor blocker)	X					X						white blood cell count (ACEI)
Antiarrhythmics	X flecainide	X amiodarone				X flecainide				X amiodarone		 flecainide, mexiletine
Anticoagulants, oral	X DOACs											INR, CYP2C9 and VKORC1 genotype (warfarin)
Anticonvulsants	X carbamazepine, ethosuximide, zonisamide	X carbamazepine, eslicarbazepine, ethosuximide, felbamate, valproate/ valproic acid	X carbamazepine, ethosuximide, felbamate, valproate/ valproic acid		X carbamazepine, eslicarbazepine, oxcarbazepine					X eslicarbazepine, oxcarbazepine		 bicarbonate (topiramate, zonisamide), ammonia (valproate/valproic acid, topiramate, if symptomatic), genotyping (carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine)
Atypical antipsychotics			X clozapine			X in patients at risk for electrolyte disturbances (iloperidone, clozapine, ziprasidone)	X in patients at risk for electrolyte disturbances (iloperidone, clozapine, ziprasidone)		X			lipids
Calcipotriene (calcipotriol)								X				
Digoxin	X					X						

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Diuretics	X			X potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, bicarbonate					X		X	
Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs (DMARDs)	X	X	X leflunomide, methotrexate, sulfasalazine									
Fibrates (e.g., fenofibrate, gemfibrozil)	X	X	X									creatinine kinase (if muscle symptoms occur)
Hepatitis C antivirals												See our chart, Hepatitis C Treatment Overview .
Lithium	X		X	X				X		X		 
Metformin	X											Hemoglobin, hematocrit, red blood cell indices, vitamin B12
NSAIDs	X	X	X	X								
Proton Pump Inhibitors							X					Vitamin B12
Retinoids, systemic (acitretin, isotretinoin)	X acitretin	X	X acitretin						X acitretin			Lipids, 
Theophylline												
Thyroid replacement (e.g., levothyroxine)												Thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH)

Key:  Monitor drug levels  Pregnancy test recommended

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