

PHARMACOLOGY FOR THE TREATMENT OF BLADDER DYSFUNCTION

DRUGS THAT MAY BE USED TO TREAT URGENCY, FREQUENCY AND URGE INCONTINENCE

The drug action reduces bladder contractions and expands the bladder capacity. These are sometimes referred to as anticholinergic drugs.

Potential side effects may include dry mouth, nausea, dizziness, blurred vision, constipation, urinary retention, and tachycardia.

Generic Names	Brand Names	Drug Action
oxybutynin	Ditropan®	Expands bladder capacity.
imipramine	Tofranil®	Controls involuntary contractions of the bladder
tolterodine tartrate	Detrol®	
tamsulosin	Flomax®	Relaxes bladder outlet muscle
terozosin	Hytrin®	Decreases tone in the bladder neck
doxazosin	Cardura®	

DRUGS THAT MAY BE USED TO TREAT STRESS INCONTINENCE

The drug action strengthens the bladder outlet muscle. Sometimes referred to as alpha-adrenergic agonists.

Potential side effects may include hypertension, sedation, dizziness, dry mouth, headache, nervousness, and nausea.

Generic Names	Brand Names	Drug Action
ephedrine	Ephedrine®	Tightens the bladder sphincter muscle
pseudoephedrine	Sudafed®	
phenyl-propanolamine	Dexatrim®	
imipramine	Tofranil®	



DRUGS USED TO TREAT URINARY RETENTION

The drug action helps to contract the bladder, reduce urethral pressure and relax the bladder outlet muscle. Sometimes referred to as a cholinergic agonist.

Potential side effects may include hypotension (low blood pressure), flushed skin, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting, sweating, and cardiac problems.

Generic Names

tamsulosin

terozosin

doxazosin

Brand Names

Flomax®

Hytrin®

Cardura®

Drug Action

Relaxes bladder outlet muscle

Urinary retention secondary to restricted urine flow from an enlarged prostate.

finasterid

Proscar®

Shrinks prostate –
(takes 3-6 months;
not for surgical
candidate)

For more information on medications, side effects, precautions, contraindications and drug usage refer to your Physicians Desk Reference or you may access the following website <http://www.rxlist.com>

MEDICATION WHICH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO INCONTINENCE

Some medications can cause a change in urinary function. It is important to know all of the medications you are taking, whether prescribed by a physician or purchased over the counter drugs. It is also a good idea to keep track of any changes in urinary habits once you begin to take a new medication. Your Daily Voiding Diary will help you keep track of this information. Here are some bladder side effects from common medications:

Medication

Bladder Side Effects

Diuretics

Frequency, urgency

Sedative

Urinary leakage

Alcoholic Beverages

Less desire to use the toilet

Pain relievers

Antihistamines

Frequent urination

Anticholinergics

Weak flow of urine

Over the counter cold drugs

Leakage between voids

Antipsychotics

Antidepressants

Alpha adrenergic agonist

Urinary retention

(Drugs used for stress incontinence)

Frequency, leakage

Weak flow of urine