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## High blood pressure - medicine-related

Drug-induced hypertension is high blood pressure caused by a chemical substance or medicine.

### Causes

Blood pressure is determined by the:

- Amount of blood the heart pumps
- Condition of the heart valves
- Pulse rate
- Pumping power of the heart
- Size and condition of the arteries

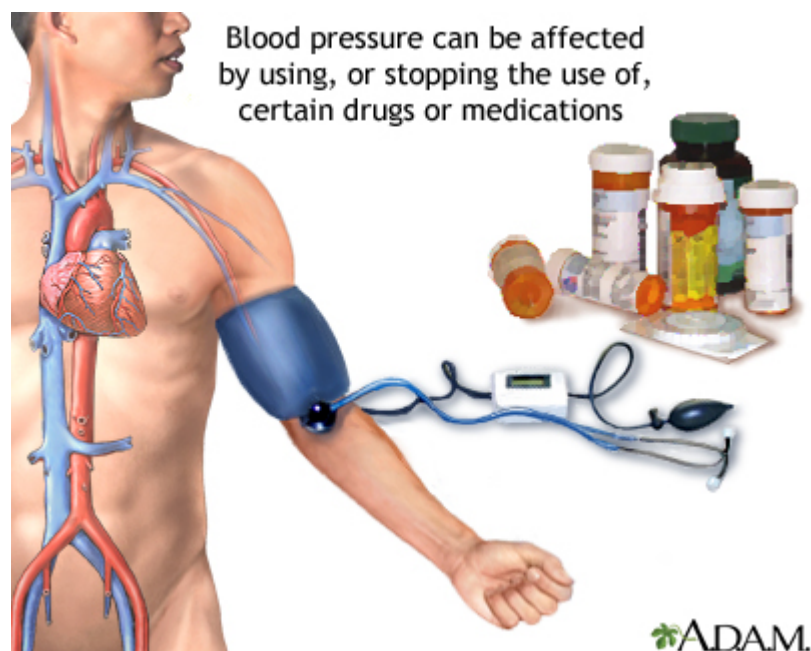
There are several types of high blood pressure:

- Essential hypertension has no cause that can be found (many different genetic traits contribute to essential hypertension, each one having a relatively small effect).
- Secondary hypertension occurs because of another disorder.
- Drug-induced hypertension is a form of secondary hypertension caused by the effects of a chemical substance or medicine.
- Pregnancy-induced hypertension.

Chemical substances and medicines that can cause high blood pressure include:

- Acetaminophen
- Alcohol, amphetamines, ecstasy (MDMA and derivatives), and cocaine
- Angiogenesis inhibitors (including tyrosine kinase inhibitors and monoclonal antibodies)
- Antidepressants (including venlafaxine, bupropion, and desipramine)
- Black licorice
- Caffeine (including the caffeine in coffee and energy drinks)
- Corticosteroids and mineralocorticoids
- Ephedra and many other herbal products

- Erythropoietin
- Estrogens (including birth control pills)
- Immunosuppressants (such as cyclosporine)
- Many over-the-counter medicines such as cough/cold and asthma medicines, particularly when the cough/cold medicine is taken with certain antidepressants, such as tranylcypromine or tricyclics
- Migraine medicines
- Nasal decongestants
- Nicotine
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
- Phentermine (a weight loss medicine)
- Testosterone and other anabolic steroids and performance-enhancing medicines
- Thyroid hormone (when taken in excess)
- Yohimbine (and Yohimbe extract)



Rebound hypertension occurs when blood pressure rises after you stop taking or lower the dose of a medicine (typically a medicine you are taking to lower high blood pressure).

- This is common for medicines that block the sympathetic nervous system like beta blockers and clonidine.
- Talk to your health care provider to see if your medicine needs to be gradually tapered before stopping.

Many other factors can also affect blood pressure, including:

- Age
- Condition of the kidneys, nervous system, or blood vessels
- Genetics
- Foods eaten, weight, and other body-related variables, including the amount of added sodium in processed foods
- Levels of various hormones in the body

- Volume of water in the body

## Alternative Names

Hypertension - medication related; Drug-induced hypertension

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