

# PACIFIC BRAIN HEALTH CENTER

AT PACIFIC NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE<sup>SM</sup>

## Drugs to Avoid in Myasthenic Crisis

### Drugs that impair neuromuscular junction transmission and may increase weakness

- Antibiotics
  - Aminoglycosides
    - Tobramycin
    - Gentamycin
    - Netilmicin
    - Neomycin
    - Streptomycin
    - Kanamycin
  - Fluoroquinolones
    - Ciprofloxacin
    - Norfloxacin
    - Ofloxacin
    - Gatifloxacin
  - Tetracyclines
    - Clindamycin
    - Sulfonamides
  - Penicillins - considered safe, though anecdotes of ampicillin causing resp depression
  - Macrolides
    - Azithromycin
    - Clarithromycin
  - Quinolones
  - Ritonavir
- Quinidine
- Quinine
- Chloroquine
- Magnesium containing preparations (and avoid hypermagnesemia)

### Drugs implicated as potentially harmful in myasthenia gravis patients based on either anecdotal case reports or in-vitro microelectrode studies

- Beta blockers
  - Propranolol
  - Oxprenolol
  - Timolol
  - Practolol
  - Atenolol
  - Labetalol
  - Metoprolol
  - Nadolol
- Calcium channel blockers
  - Verapamil
- Other cardiac drugs
  - Procainamide
  - Bretylium
  - Trimethaphan
- Anticonvulsants
  - Phenytoin
  - Barbiturates
  - Ethosuximide
  - Gabapentin
- Ophthalmologic meds
  - Timolol
- Psychiatric meds
  - Lithium
  - Phenothiazines
  - Amitriptyline
  - Imipramine
  - Haldol
- Amphetamines

Source: Michigan Medicine Confluence