

Medication Categories Cheat Sheet

Please note: This isn't a comprehensive list, nor should it be in any way construed as medical advice. Always seek the advice of your care provider.

Before consenting to new medication, consider these questions:

1. Why does my person need to take this medication?
2. Why now?
3. Why this medication?
4. Why not a different medication?
5. Why haven't NON-MEDICATION interventions worked?

Dementia-specific	Antipsychotics (All drugs in this category are ANTICHOLINERGIC)	Hypnotics	Anxiolytics	Antidepressants
Aricept (donepezil)	Risperdal (risperidone)	Benadryl (diphenhydramine) (ANTICHOLINERGIC)	Ativan (lorazepam)	Celexa (citalopram)
Exelon (galantamine)	Zyprexa (olanzapine)	Tylenol PM, Excedrin PM, Advil PM (ANTICHOLINERGIC)	Xanax (alprazolam)	Cymbalta (duloxetine)
Razadyne (rivastigmine)	Seroquel (quetiapine)	Restoril (temazepam)	Valium (diazepam)	Wellbutrin (bupropion)
Namenda (memantine)	Abilify (aripiprazole)	Ambien (zolpidem)		Lexapro (escitalopram)
	Geodon (ziprasidone)	Trazadone (Desyrel)		Prozac (fluoxetine)
	Thorazine (chlorpromazine)			Paxil (paroxetine & ANTICHOLINERGIC)
	Mellaril (thioridazine)			Zoloft (sertraline)
	Depakote/Depakene (divalproex)			Remeron (mirtazapine)
	Haldol (haloperidol)			

People with dementia should avoid ANTICHOLINERGIC medication. Other drugs listed here, such as Ambien, Restoril, and Ativan are not ANTICHOLINERGIC medications but still are **not** recommended for people living with dementia. For questions regarding medications, I highly recommend speaking to a pharmacist.