

Medication	Available Doses	Initial Dosing	Side Effects*	Indications	Interactions
Carbidopa/ Levodopa (Sinemet®)	10/100 mg 25/100 mg 50/200 mg	25/100 mg 2-3X/day	Low blood pressure, nausea, confusion, dyskinesia, dry mouth, dizziness	First course of treatment; converts to dopamine to manage major symptoms	Antacids, anti-seizure drugs, anti-hypertensives, anti-depressants, high protein food
Carbidopa/ Levodopa controlled release (Sinemet CR®)	10/100 mg 25/100 mg 50/200 mg 12.5/50/200 mg	50/200 mg 2X/day	Low blood pressure, nausea, confusion, dyskinesia, dry mouth, dizziness	First course of treatment; converts to dopamine to manage major symptoms and may prolong effectiveness	Antacids, anti-seizure drugs, anti-hypertensives, anti-depressants, high protein food
Carbidopa/ Levodopa/ Entacapone (Stalevo®)	25/100/200 mg 18.75/75/200 mg 31.25/125/200 mg 37.5/150/200	12.5/50/200 mg	Dyskinesia, nausea, diarrhea, hyperkinesia, abdominal pain, dizziness, harmless discoloration of urine, saliva and/ or sweat	Secondary course of treatment; combines entacapone with levodopa/ carbidopa to block COMT enzyme and prolong levodopa's effectiveness	Same as levodopa/ carbidopa, MAO inhibitors, Comtan, Sinemet, high doses (10 mg or more) of selegiline

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Carbidopa/ Levodopa	10/100 mg				
Orally disintegrating tablet (Parcopa®)	25/100 mg 25/250 mg	25/100 mg 2-3X/day	Low blood pressure, nausea, confusion, dyskinesia, dry mouth, dizziness	First course of treatment; converts to dopamine to manage major symptoms; also for patients with swallowing difficulties	Antacids, anti-seizure drugs, anti-hypertensives, anti-depressants, high protein food
APOKYN™ injection (apomorphine hydrochloride)	.02 mL – .06 mL	.02 mL during “off” periods	Nausea, vomiting, low blood pressure, sleepiness, dyskinesias, hallucinations, chest pain	Adjunct levodopa therapy to treat “off” periods	5HT3 agonists (for example, Zofran®, Kytril®) antihypertensives (for example Norvasc® and Zestril®)
Bromocriptine (Parlodel®)	2.5 mg 5 mg	2.5 mg 3X/day	Low blood pressure, nausea, edema, confusion, dry mouth, depression, headaches	First course of treatment alone or with levodopa; mimics dopamine to manage major symptoms	Alcohol, anti-psychotics, blood pressure lowering medications
Rotigotine Transdermal System (Neupro®)	2mg/24hrs 4 mg/24hrs 6 mg/24hrs	One 2 mg patch a day	Nausea, application site reactions, somnolence, dizziness, headache, vomiting, sleep attacks, insomnia.	First course of treatment alone or with levodopa in early-stage idiopathic Parkinson’s	May cause allergic-type reactions including anaphylactic symptoms especially in people

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Pramipexole (Mirapex®)	.125 mg	.125 mg 3X/day	Arthritis, chest pain, nausea, low blood pressure, sleep disturbances, sedation	disease; mimics dopamine to manage major symptoms	sensitive to sulfites, including those with asthma.
	.25 mg			First course of treatment alone or with levodopa;	Sedatives and tranquilizers; metocipramide, thiozanthenes, cimetidine,
	.5 mg			mimics dopamine to manage major symptoms	phenothiazines, butyrophenones
	1 mg				
Ropinirole (Requip®)	.25 mg	.25 mg 2X/day	Abdominal pain, sleep disturbances, nausea, low blood pressure, sedation	First course of treatment alone or with levodopa;	
	.5 mg			mimics dopamine to manage major symptoms	Alcohol, anti-depressants, Cipro®, anti-psychotics, benzodiazepines
	1 mg				
Ropinirole extended-release tablets (Requip® XL™)	2 mg	2 mg taken once a day for 1 to 2 weeks, followed by increases of 2 mg/day at 1 week or longer intervals as	Nausea, dizziness, drowsiness, or sleepiness, headache, sudden uncontrolled movements (dyskinesia), abdominal pain/discomfort, hallucination, constipation and increase or decrease in blood pressure and heart rate. Patients should also tell their doctor if they	First course of treatment alone or with levodopa;	
	(All doses taken once a day)			mimics dopamine to manage major symptoms.	
	2 mg				
	4 mg			24-hours continuous	

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		appropriate	experience new or increased gambling, sexual, or other intense urges while taking Requip XL. Requip XL may increase the side effects of levodopa.	delivery of the medicine to provide smooth blood levels	
Benzotropine mesylate (Cogentin®)	.5 mg	.5 mg 2X/day	Confusion, hallucinations, nausea, blurred vision, dry mouth, urinary retention, nervousness; not used long-term due to side effects	Secondary medication; tremor; attempts to restore balance by inhibiting other enzymes and nerve cells that may attack dopamine	Anti-histamines, Propulsid®, Haldol®, Thorazine®, Symmetrel®, Clozaril®, alcohol
Trihexyphenidyl HCL (Artane®)	1 mg 2 mg	1-2 mg 2X/day	Confusion, hallucinations, nausea, blurred vision, dry mouth, urinary retention, nervousness; not used long-term due to side effects	Secondary medication; tremor; attempts to restore balance by inhibiting other enzymes and nerve cells that may attack dopamine	Anti-histamines
Amantadine (Symmetrel®)	100 mg	100 mg 2-3 X/day	Dizziness, weakness, dry mouth, constipation, skin blotches	Secondary medication for tremor and muscle rigidity	Cogentin® (benztropine), Disipal® (orphenadrine), Sinemet® (levodopa), Artane® (trihexyphenidyl), amphetamines, alcohol
Rivastigmine tartrate	1.5mg 3mg 4.5mg	1.5mg 2X per day	Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, weight loss	Dementia associated with PD	No known drug-drug interactions

(Exelon®) 6mg
Patch 10
(9.5 mg/24
hrs)

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Entacapone (Comtan®)	200 mg	200 mg with levodopa; max 8 per day	Abdominal pain, back pain, constipation, nausea, diarrhea, blood in urine	Secondary medication; delays wearing off by prolonging effectiveness of levodopa	MAO inhibitors
Tolcapone (Tasmar®)	100 mg 200 mg	100 mg 3X/day	Abdominal pain, back pain, constipation, nausea, diarrhea, blood in urine, liver failure	Tertiary medication for motor fluctuations; limited in use to those who have exhausted other treatment options	MAO inhibi
Selegiline (Eldepryl®, Carbex®)	5 mg	5 mg 2X/day (max dose)	Agitation, insomnia, hallucinations	Tertiary medication; controls brain's metabolism of dopamine	Anti-depressants, narcotic painkillers, decongestants
Selegiline HCl Orally disintegrating tablet (Zelapar®)	1.25mg	1.25mg 1X daily	Dizziness, nausea, pain, headache, insomnia, rhinitis, dyskinesias, back pain, stomatitis, dyspepsia	Adjunct to levodopa in patients with significant "off" periods	Anti-depressants, narcotic painkillers, decongestants
Rasagiline (Azilect®)	0.5mg 1mg	0.5mg 1X daily	Increased dyskinesias, postural hypotension, headaches, joint pain, indigestion	Signs and symptoms of PD as initial monotherapy and adjunct to levodopa	High tyramine content foods (for example, draft beer, red wine, aged cheeses, soy sauce and other products), narcotic painkillers, anti- depressants, decongestants

