

ISMP's List of *Confused Drug Names*

This list of confused drug names, which includes look-alike and sound-alike name pairs, consists of those name pairs that have been involved in medication errors published in the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*[®] and the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*[®] Community/Ambulatory Care Edition. The errors involving these medications were reported to ISMP through the ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP).

This list also contains the names that appear on The Joint Commission's (TJC) list of look-alike and sound-alike names. TJC established a National Patient Safety Goal that requires each accredited organization to identify a list of look-alike or sound-alike drugs used in the organization. Those names that appear on TJC's list have been noted with an asterisk (*) below.

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Abelcet*	amphotericin B*
Accupril	Aciphex
acetaZOLAMIDE*	acetoHEXAMIDE*
acetic acid for irrigation	glacial acetic acid
acetoHEXAMIDE*	acetaZOLAMIDE*
Aciphex	Accupril
Aciphex	Aricept
Activase	Cathflo Activase
Activase	TNKase
Actonel	Actos
Actos	Actonel
Adacel (Tdap)	Daptacel (DTaP)
Adderall	Inderal
Advair*	Advicor*
Advicor*	Advair*
Advicor	Altacor
Afrin (oxymetazoline)	Afrin (saline)
Afrin (saline)	Afrin (oxymetazoline)
Aggrastat	argatroban
Aldara	Alora
Alkeran	Leukeran
Alkeran	Myleran
Allegra	Viagra
Alora	Aldara
ALPRAZolam*	LORazepam*
Altacor	Advicor
Amaryl	Reminyl
Ambisome*	amphotericin B*
Amicar*	Omacor*
Amikin	Kineret
aMILoride	amLODIPine
amLODIPine	aMILoride
amphotericin B*	Abelcet*
amphotericin B*	Ambisome*
Anacin	Anacin-3

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Anacin-3	Anacin
antacid	Atacand
Antivert	Axert
Anzemet	Avandamet
Apresoline	Priscoline
argatroban	Aggrastat
argatroban	Orgaran
Aricept	Aciphex
Aricept	Azilect
aripiprazole	proton pump inhibitors
aripiprazole	rabeprazole
Asacol	Os-Cal
Atacand	antacid
Atrovent	Natru-Vent
Avandamet	Anzemet
Avandia	Prandin
Avandia*	Coumadin*
AVINza	INVanz
AVINza*	Evista*
Axert	Antivert
azaCITIDine	azaTHIOprine
azaTHIOprine	azaCITIDine
Azilect	Aricept
B & O (belladonna and opium)	Beano
BabyBIG	HBIG (hepatitis B immune globulin)
Bayhep-B	Bayrab
Bayhep-B	Bayrho-D
Bayrab	Bayhep-B
Bayrab	Bayrho-D
Bayrho-D	Bayhep-B
Bayrho-D	Bayrab
Beano	B & O (belladonna and opium)
Benadryl	benazepril
benazepril	Benadryl
Benicar	Mevacor

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Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Betadine (with providone-iodine)	Betadine (without providone-iodine)
Betadine (without providone-iodine)	Betadine (with providone-iodine)
Bextra	Zetia
Bicillin C-R	Bicillin L-A
Bicillin L-A	Bicillin C-R
Bicitra	Polycitra
Brethine	Methergine
Brevibloc	Brevital
Brevital	Brevibloc
buPROPion	busPIRone
busPIRone	buPROPion
Carac	Kuric
carBAMazepine	OXcarbazepine
CARBOplatin	CISplatin
Cardura*	Coumadin*
Cathflo Activase	Activase
Cedax	Cidex
ceFAZolin	cefTRIAxone
cefTRIAxone	ceFAZolin
CeleBREX*	CeleXA*
CeleBREX*	Cerebyx*
CeleXA	ZyPREXA
CeleXA*	CeleBREX*
CeleXA*	Cerebyx*
Cerebyx*	CeleBREX*
Cerebyx*	CeleXA*
chlordiazepOXIDE	chlorproMAZINE
chlorproMAZINE	chlordiazepOXIDE
chlorproMAZINE	chlorproPAMIDE
chlorproPAMIDE	chlorproMAZINE
Cidex	Cedax
CISplatin	CARBOplatin
Claritin-D	Claritin-D 24
Claritin-D 24	Claritin-D
Clindesse	Clindets
Clindets	Clindesse
clomiPHENE	clomiPRAMINE
clomiPRAMINE	clomiPHENE
clonazepAM	cloNIDine
clonazepAM	LORazepam
cloNIDine	clonazepAM
cloNIDine*	KlonoPIN*
Clozaril	Colazal
Coagulation factor IX (recombinant)	Factor IX Complex, Vapor Heated
codeine	Lodine
Colace	Cozaar

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Colazal	Clozaril
colchicine	Cortrosyn
Convax	Recombivax HB
Cortrosyn	colchicine
Coumadin*	Avandia*
Coumadin*	Cardura*
Cozaar	Colace
Cozaar	Zocor
cycloSERINE	cycloSPORINE
cycloSPORINE	cycloSERINE
Cymbalta	Symbyax
DACTINomycin	DAPTOmycin
Daptacel (DTaP)	Adacel (Tdap)
DAPTOmycin	DACTINomycin
Darvocet*	Percocet*
Darvon	Diovan
DAUNOrubicin*	DAUNOrubicin citrate liposomal*
DAUNOrubicin*	DOXRubicin*
DAUNOrubicin*	IDARubicin*
DAUNOrubicin citrate liposomal*	DAUNOrubicin*
Denavir	indinavir
Depakote	Depakote ER
Depakote ER	Depakote
Depo-Medrol	Solu-MEDROL
Depo-Provera	Depo-subQ provera 104
Depo-subQ provera 104	Depo-Provera
dexamethylphenidate	methadone
Diabinese	Diamox
Diabeta*	Zebeta*
Diamox	Diabinese
Diflucan*	Diprivan*
Dilacor XR	Pilocar
Dilaudid	Dilaudid-5
Dilaudid-5	Dilaudid
dimenhydrINATE	diphenhydrAMINE
diphenhydrAMINE	dimenhydrINATE
Dioval	Diovan
Diovan	Dioval
Diovan	Zyban
Diovan	Darvon
Diprivan*	Diflucan*
Diprivan	Ditropan
Ditropan	Diprivan
DOBUTamine	DOPamine
DOPamine	DOBUTamine
Doxil	Paxil

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Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
DOXO rubicin*	DAUNO rubicin*
DOXO rubicin*	DOXO rubicin liposomal*
DOXO rubicin*	IDA rubicin*
DOXO rubicin liposomal*	DOXO rubicin*
Dulcolax (bisacodyl)	Dulcolax (docusate sodium)
Dulcolax (docusate sodium)	Dulcolax (bisacodyl)
DULO xetine	FLU xetine
Duricef	Ultracet
Dynacin	Dynacirc
Dynacirc	Dynacin
edetate calcium disodium	edetate disodium
edetate disodium	edetate calcium disodium
Effexor*	Effexor XR*
Effexor XR*	Effexor*
Enbrel	Levbid
Engerix-B adult	Engerix-B pediatric/adolescent
Engerix-B pediatric/adolescent	Engerix-B adult
Enjuvia	Januvia
ePHED rine*	EPINEPH rine*
EPINEPH rine*	ePHED rine*
Estratest	Estratest HS
Estratest HS	Estratest
ethambutol	Ethmozine
Ethmozine	ethambutol
Evista*	AVIN za*
Factor IX Complex, Vapor Heated	Coagulation factor IX (recombinant)
Femara	Femhrt
Femhrt	Femara
fenta NYL	SUF entanil
Fioricet	Fiorinal
Fiorinal	Fioricet
flavoxate	fluvoxamine
Flonase	Flovent
Flovent	Flonase
flumazenil	influenza virus vaccine
FLU xetine	PAR oxetine
FLU xetine	DULO xetine
fluvoxamine	flavoxate
Folex	Foltx
folic acid*	folic acid (leucovorin calcium)*
folic acid (leucovorin calcium)*	folic acid*
Foltx	Folex
fomepizole	omeprazole
Foradil	Toradol
gentamicin	gentian violet
gentian violet	gentamicin

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
glacial acetic acid	acetic acid for irrigation
glipi ZIDE	gly BURIDE
gly BURIDE	glipi ZIDE
Granulex	Regranex
guai FEN esin	guan FACINE
guan FACINE	guai FEN esin
HBIG (hepatitis B immune globulin)	Baby BIG
Healon	Hyalgan
heparin*	Hespan*
Hespan*	heparin*
HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors ("statins")	nystatin
Huma LOG *	Humu LIN *
Huma LOG *	Novo LOG *
Huma LOG Mix 75/25	Humu LIN 70/30
Humapen Memoir (for use with Huma LOG)	Humira Pen
Humira Pen	Humapen Memoir (for use with Huma LOG)
Humu LIN *	Novo LIN *
Humu LIN *	Huma LOG *
Humu LIN 70/30	Huma LOG Mix 75/25
Hyalgan	Healon
hydr ALAZINE *	hydro OXY zine*
HYDRO codone*	oxy CODONE *
hydr OXY zine	Hydrogesic
hydr OXY zine*	hydr ALAZINE *
IDA rubicin*	DAUNO rubicin*
IDA rubicin*	DOXO rubicin*
Inderal	Adderall
indinavir	Denavir
in FLIX imab	ri TUX imab
influenza virus vaccine	flumazenil
influenza virus vaccine	tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)
Inspra	Spiriva
INV anz	AVIN za
iodine	Lodine
Isordil	Plendil
isotretinoin	tretinoin
Jantoven	Janumet
Jantoven	Januvia
Janumet	Jantoven
Janumet	Januvia
Januvia	Enjuvia
Januvia	Jantoven
Januvia	Janumet
Kaopectate (bismuth subsalicylate)	Kaopectate (docusate calcium)
Kaopectate (docusate calcium)	Kaopectate (bismuth subsalicylate)
K-Phos Neutral	Neutra-Phos-K

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Kaletra	Keppra
Keflex	Keppra
Keppra	Kaletra
Keppra	Keflex
Ketalar	ketorolac
ketorolac	Ketalar
Kineret	Amikin
KlonoPIN*	cloNIDine *
Kuric	Carac
Kwell	Qwell
LaMICtal	LamISIL
LamISIL	LaMICtal
lamiVUDine*	lamoTRIGine*
lamoTRIGine*	lamiVUDine*
lamoTRIGine	levothyroxine
Lanoxin	levothyroxine
lanthanum carbonate	lithium carbonate
Lantus	Lente
Lasix	Luvox
Lente	Lantus
leucovorin calcium*	Leukeran*
Leukeran	Alkeran
Leukeran	Myleran
Leukeran*	leucovorin calcium*
Levid	Enbrel
levetiracetam	levofloxacin
levofloxacin	levetiracetam
levothyroxine	lamoTRIGine
levothyroxine	Lanoxin
Lexapro	Loxitane
Lipitor	Loniten
Lipitor	ZyrTEC
lithium carbonate	lanthanum carbonate
Lodine	codeine
Lodine	iodine
Loniten	Lipitor
Lopressor	Lyrica
LORazepam*	ALPRAZolam*
LORazepam	clonazePAM
LORazepam	Lovaza
Lotronex	Protonix
Lovaza	LORazepam
Loxitane	Lexapro
Loxitane	Soriatane
Lunesta	Neulasta
Lupron Depot-3 Month	Lupron Depot-Ped

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Lupron Depot-Ped	Lupron Depot-3 Month
Luvox	Lasix
Lyrica	Lopressor
Maalox	Maalox Total Stomach Relief
Maalox Total Stomach Relief	Maalox
Matulane	Materna
Materna	Matulane
Maxzide	Microzide
Menactra	Menomune
Menomune	Menactra
Mephyton	methadone
Metadate	methadone
Metadate CD	Metadate ER
Metadate ER	Metadate CD
Metadate ER	methadone
metFORMIN*	metroNIDAZOLE*
methadone	dexamethylphenidate
methadone	Mephyton
methadone	Metadate ER
methadone	Metadate
methadone	methylphenidate
Methergine	Brethine
methimazole	metolazone
methylphenidate	methadone
metolazone	methimazole
metoprolol succinate	metoprolol tartrate
metoprolol tartrate	metoprolol succinate
metroNIDAZOLE*	metFORMIN*
Mevacor	Benicar
Micronase	Microzide
Microzide	Maxzide
Microzide	Micronase
midodrine	Midrin
Midrin	midodrine
mifepristone	misoprostol
Miralax	Mirapex
Mirapex	Miralax
misoprostol	mifepristone
morphine*	HYDROmorphine*
morphine - non-concentrated oral liquid*	morphine - oral liquid concentrate*
morphine - oral liquid concentrate*	morphine - non-concentrated oral liquid*
Motrin	Neurontin
MS Contin*	OxyCONTIN*
Mucinex*	Mucomyst*
Mucomyst*	Mucinex*
Myleran	Alkeran

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Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Myleran	Leukeran
Narcan	Norcuron
Natru-Vent	Atrovent
Navane	Norvasc
Neo-Synephrine (oxymetazoline)	Neo-Synephrine (phenylephrine)
Neo-Synephrine (phenylephrine)	Neo-Synephrine (oxymetazoline)
Neulasta	Lunesta
Neulasta	Neumega
Neumega	Neupogen
Neumega	Neulasta
Neupogen	Neumega
Neurontin	Motrin
Neurontin	Noroxin
Neutra-Phos-K	K-Phos Neutral
NexAVAR	NexIUM
NexIUM	NexAVAR
niCARDipine	NIFEdipine
NIFEdipine	niCARDipine
NIFEdipine	niMODipine
niMODipine	NIFEdipine
Norcuron	Narcan
Normodyne	Norpramin
Noroxin	Neurontin
Norpramin	Normodyne
Norvasc	Navane
NovoLIN*	HumuLIN*
NovoLIN*	NovoLOG*
NovoLIN 70/30*	NovoLOG Mix 70/30*
NovoLOG*	HumaLOG*
NovoLOG*	NovoLIN*
NovoLOG Flexpen	NovoLOG Mix 70/30 Flexpen
NovoLOG Mix 70/30 Flexpen	NovoLOG Flexpen
NovoLOG Mix 70/30*	NovoLIN 70/30*
nystatin	HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors ("statins")
Occlusal-HP	Ocuflox
Ocuflox	Occlusal-HP
OLANzapine	QUETiapine
Omacor*	Amicar*
omeprazole	fomepizole
opium tincture*	paregoric (camphorated tincture of opium)*
Oracea	Orencia
Orencia	Oracea
Orgaran	argatroban
Ortho Tri-Cyclen	Ortho Tri-Cyclen LO
Ortho Tri-Cyclen LO	Ortho Tri-Cyclen
Os-Cal	Asacol

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
OXcarbazepine	carBAMazepine
oxyCODONE*	HYDROcodone*
oxyCODONE*	OxyCONTIN*
OxyCONTIN*	MS Contin*
OxyCONTIN*	oxyCODONE*
paclitaxel	paclitaxel protein-bound particles
paclitaxel protein-bound particles	paclitaxel
Pamelor	Panlor DC
Pamelor	Tambocor
Panlor DC	Pamelor
paregoric (camphorated tincture of opium)*	opium tincture*
PARoxetine	FLUoxetine
Patanol	Platinol
Pavulon	Peptavlon
Paxil	Doxil
Paxil	Taxol
Paxil	Plavix
Peptavlon	Pavulon
Percocet*	Darvocet*
Percocet	Procet
PENTobarbital	PHENobarbital
PHENobarbital	PENTobarbital
Pilocar	Dilacor XR
Platinol	Patanol
Plavix	Paxil
Plendil	Isordil
pneumococcal 7-valent vaccine	pneumococcal polyvalent vaccine
pneumococcal polyvalent vaccine	pneumococcal 7-valent vaccine
Polycitra	Bicitra
Prandin	Avandia
Precare	Precose
Precose	Precare
prednisoLONE	predniSONE
predniSONE	prednisoLONE
PriLOSEC*	PROzac*
Priscoline	Apresoline
probenecid	Procanbid
Procan SR	Procanbid
Procanbid	probenecid
Procanbid	Procan SR
Procardia XL	Protain XL
Procet	Percocet
Prograf	PROzac
propylthiouracil	Purinethol
Protain XL	Procardia XL
protamine	Protonix

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Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
proton pump inhibitors	aripiprazole
Protonix	Lotronex
Protonix	protamine
PROzac	Prograf
PROzac*	PriLOSEC*
Purinethol	propylthiouracil
QUETiapine	OLANzapine
qui NID ine	qui NINE
qui NINE	qui NID ine
Qwell	Kwell
rabeprazole	aripiprazole
Razadyne	Rozerem
Recombivax HB	Comvax
Regranex	Granulex
Reminyl	Robinul
Reminyl	Amaryl
Reprexain	ZyPREXA
Restoril	Risperdal
Retrovir*	ritonavir*
Rifadin	Rifater
Rifamate	rifampin
rifampin	Rifamate
rifampin	rifaximin
Rifater	Rifadin
rifaximin	rifampin
Risperdal	Restoril
risperidone	ropinirole
Ritalin	ritodrine
Ritalin LA	Ritalin SR
Ritalin SR	Ritalin LA
ritodrine	Ritalin
ritonavir*	Retrovir*
ri TUX imab	in FLIX imab
Robinul	Reminyl
ropinirole	risperidone
Roxanol	Roxicodone Intensol
Roxanol	Roxicet
Roxicet	Roxanol
Roxicodone Intensol	Roxanol
Rozerem	Razadyne
Salagen	selegiline
Sand IMMUNE	Sando STATIN
Sando STATIN	Sand IMMUNE
saquinavir	SINE quan
saquinavir (free base)	saquinavir mesylate
saquinavir mesylate	saquinavir (free base)

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Sarafem	Serophene
selegiline	Salagen
Serophene	Sarafem
SERO quel	Serzone
SERO quel	SINE quan
sertraline	Soriatane
Serzone	SERO quel
SINE quan	saquinavir
SINE quan	SERO quel
SINE quan	Singulair
SINE quan	Zonegran
Singulair	SINE quan
sita GLIP tin	SUM atriptan
Solu- CORTEF	Solu- MEDROL
Solu- MEDROL	Depo-Medrol
Solu- MEDROL	Solu- CORTEF
Sonata	Soriatane
Soriatane	Loxitane
Soriatane	sertraline
Soriatane	Sonata
sotalol	Sudafed
Spiriva	Inspra
Sudafed	sotalol
Sudafed	Sudafed PE
Sudafed PE	Sudafed
SUF entanil	fenta NYL
sulf ADIAZINE	sulf SOXAZOLE
sulf SOXAZOLE	sulf ADIAZINE
SUM atriptan	sita GLIP tin
SUM atriptan	zolmitriptan
Symbyax	Cymbalta
Tambocor	Pamelor
Taxol	Taxotere
Taxol	Paxil
Taxotere	Taxol
TEG retol	TEG retol XR
TEG retol	Tequin
TEG retol	TREN tal
TEG retol XR	TEG retol
Tequin	TEG retol
Tequin	Ticlid
Testoderm TTS	Testoderm
Testoderm TTS	Testoderm with Adhesive
Testoderm with Adhesive	Testoderm
Testoderm with Adhesive	Testoderm TTS
Testoderm	Testoderm TTS

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Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
Testoderm	Testoderm with Adhesive
tetanus diphtheria toxoid (Td)	tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)
Thalomid	Thiamine
Thiamine	Thalomid
tia GAB ine*	ti ZAN idine*
Tiazac	Ziac
Ticlid	Tequin
ti ZAN idine*	tia GAB ine*
TNKase	Activase
TNKase	t-PA
Tobradex	Tobrex
Tobrex	Tobradex
TOLAZ amide	TOLBUT amide
TOLBUT amide	TOLAZ amide
Topamax*	Toprol-XL*
Toprol-XL*	Topamax*
Toradol	Foradil
t-PA	TNKase
Tracleer	Tricor
tra MAD ol*	tra ZOD one*
tra ZOD one*	tra MAD ol*
TRENT al	TEG retol
tretinoin	isotretinoin
Tricor	Tracleer
tromethamine	Trophamine
Trophamine	tromethamine
tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)	influenza virus vaccine
tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)	tetanus diphtheria toxoid (Td)
Tylenol	Tylenol PM
Tylenol PM	Tylenol
Ultracet	Duricef
valacyclovir	valganciclovir
Valcyte	Valtrex
valganciclovir	valacyclovir
Valtrex	Valcyte
Varivax	VZIG (varicella-zoster immunoglobulin)
Vexol	Vosol
Viagra	Allegra
vin BLAS tine*	vin CRIS tine*
vin CRIS tine*	vin BLAS tine*
Viokase	Viokase 8
Viokase 8	Viokase
Vioxx	Zyvox
Viracept	Viramune
Viramune	Viracept
Vosol	Vexol

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name
VZIG (varicella-zoster immunoglobulin)	Varivax
Wellbutrin SR*	Wellbutrin XL*
Wellbutrin XL*	Wellbutrin SR*
Xanax*	Zantac*
Xeloda	Xenical
Xenical	Xeloda
Yasmin	Yaz
Yaz	Yasmin
Zantac*	Xanax*
Zantac*	Zyr TEC *
Zebeta*	Diabeta*
Zebeta	Zetia
Zegerid	Zestril
Zelapar (Zydis formulation)	Zy PREXA Zydis
Zestril	Zegerid
Zestril*	Zetia*
Zestril*	Zy PREXA *
Zetia	Bextra
Zetia	Zebeta
Zetia*	Zestril*
Ziac	Tiazac
Zocor	Cozaar
Zocor*	Zyr TEC *
zolmitriptan	SUM atriptan
Zonegran	SINE quan
Zostrix	Zovirax
Zovirax	Zyvox
Zovirax	Zostrix
Zyban	Diovan
Zy PREXA	Cele XA
Zy PREXA	Reprexain
Zy PREXA *	Zestril*
Zy PREXA *	Zyr TEC *
Zy PREXA Zydis	Zelapar (Zydis formulation)
Zyr TEC	Lipitor
Zyr TEC *	Zantac*
Zyr TEC *	Zocor*
Zyr TEC *	Zy PREXA *
Zyr TEC	Zyr TEC -D
Zyr TEC -D	Zyr TEC
Zyvox	Vioxx
Zyvox	Zovirax

* These drug names are included on TJC's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit www.jointcommission.org for more information about this TJC requirement.

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