Drug Interactions



Cytochrome P450 inducers

Reduce the concentration of drugs metabolised by the cytocrome P450 system.

Mnemonic: **CRAPS** out drugs

Carbamazepine Rifampicin bArbituates Phenytoin St Johns wort

Cytochrome P450 inhibitors

Increase the concentration of drugs metabolised by the cytocrome P450 system.

Mnemonic: Some Certain Silly Compounds Annoyingly Inhibit Enzymes, Grrrrrrr

Sodium valporate
Ciprofloxacin
Sulphonamide
Cimetidine/omeprazole
Antifungals, amiodarone
Isoniazid
Erythromycin/clarithromycin
Grapefruit juice

Examples of drugs which interact with enzyme inhibitors/inducers

Warfarin COCP Theophylline Corticosteroids Tricyclics Pethidine Statins

Some other common interactions to know

Metformin & cimetidine (inhibits renal elimination)
Gentamycin & loop diuretics (renal failure risk)
ACE inhibitors & potassium-sparring diuretics (risk of hyperkalaemia)
ACE inhibitors & metformin (enhance hypoglycaemic effect)
Statin & macrolides
Statin & amiodarone (increased statin concentration and therefore risk of rhabdomyolysis)
Thiazide & PPI (hyponatraemia)
Thiazide & lithium (increase toxicity)

Narrow therapeutic range drugs have many interactions (always look them up in the BNF)

Mnemonic: Guys With Large Dongles Totally Make Perfect Internet Connections

Gentamycin Warfarin Lithium Digoxin Theophylline

Methotrexate

Phenytoin

Insulin Ciclosporin