

DO NOT ISSUE (DNI) MEDICATIONS

(Updated 06/28/2023)

If the applicant is taking any of the following medications, AMEs should **DEFER** the exam. **DO NOT issue** a medical certificate to applicants who are using any of the following **drug classes or medications for any condition**:

DO NOT ISSUE

ANGINA MEDICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nitrates (nitroglycerin, isosorbide dinitrate [Imdur]) • ranolazine (Ranexa)
ANTICHOLINERGICS (ORAL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • atropine • Over-active bladder (OAB) medications with tertiary structure that carry strong warnings about potential for sedation and impaired cognition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ tolterodine (Detrol) ○ oxybutynin (Ditropan) ○ solifenacin (Vesicare) • Parkinsonism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ benztropine (Cogentin)
CANCER TREATMENTS	Including many chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and immunotherapy medications, whether used for induction, maintenance, or suppressive therapy.
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (SCHEDULES I – V)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including medical marijuana, even if legally allowed or prescribed under state law. • Any open prescription for chronic use of any drug or substance with no resolution. (If short-term use, see “pain medication” and “anti-anxiety” in DNF section.)
DIABETIC MEDICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pramlintide (Symlin) <p>Most diabetes medications are allowed. See Acceptable Combinations of Diabetes Medications.</p>
DOPAMINE AGONISTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used for Parkinson’s disease or other medical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ bromocriptine (Cycloset, Parlodel) ○ pramipexole (Mirapex), ropinirole (Requip) ○ rotigotine (Neupro)
HYPERTENSIVE (CENTRALLY ACTING)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ clonidine ○ guanabenz, methyldopa, reserpine
MALARIA MEDICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mefloquine (Lariam) <p>Most other malaria medications are allowed.</p>
PSYCHIATRIC OR PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even when used for conditions other than mental health. Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Antidepressants (some are allowed - see SSRI guidance) ○ Anti-anxiety (some are DNF - see that section) ○ Antipsychotics ○ Attention deficit disorder (ADD) or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) medications ○ Mood stabilizers ○ Stimulants ○ Tranquilizers
SEIZURE MEDICATIONS	Even if used for non-seizure conditions (e.g., migraines)
STEROIDS, HIGH DOSE	Greater than 20 mg prednisone or prednisone equivalent per day.
WEIGHT LOSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sympathomimetic (such as phentermine [Adipex]) • bupropion + naltrexone (Contrave)

Note: Smoking cessation aid varenicline (Chantix) is **allowed**.

DO NOT FLY (DNF) MEDICATIONS

(Updated 06/28/2023)

The following medications have aeromedically concerning safety profiles. All medications listed below may cause sedation or drowsiness, impairing cognitive function and seriously degrading pilot performance. Impairment can occur even when the individual feels alert and is apparently functioning normally. The pilot can be **“unaware of impair.”**

AMEs should caution pilots on use and provide additional No Fly wait times where applicable. If applicant is using the following medications routinely, AMEs should DEFER.

DO NOT FLY

ALLERGY MEDICATIONS (1st GENERATION)	<p>Sedating Antihistamines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Found in many over-the counter (OTC) allergy and other types of medications, as single agent or in any combination product. • Applies to nasal, ophthalmic, AND oral formulations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ diphenhydramine (Benadryl) ○ chlorpheniramine (Coricidin; ChlorTrimeton) <p>See pharmaceutical, Allergy – Antihistamine & Immunotherapy Medication</p>
ANTI-ANXIETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ alprazolam (Xanax) ○ lorazepam (Ativan) ○ temazepam (Restoril) ○ triazolam (Halcion)
MUSCLE RELAXANTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ carisoprodol (Soma) ○ cyclobenzaprine (Flexeril)
OTC ACTIVE DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kava-Kava ○ Kratom ○ Valerian
PAIN MEDICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be used occasionally for time-limited conditions that are either single episode or recurrent episodes with resolution. • Annotate Block 60 if use is temporary for a medical procedure or for a medical condition and the medication has been discontinued. • Annotate the start and stop dates and reason for use. • Narcotic pain relievers including but not limited to morphine, codeine, oxycodone (Percodan, Oxycontin), and hydrocodone (Lortab, Vicodin, etc.). • Non-narcotic pain relievers (e.g., tramadol [Ultram]).
PRE-MEDICATION OR PRE-PROCEDURE DRUGS	<p>All medications used as an aid to outpatient surgical or dental procedures.</p>
SEDATIVES/SLEEP AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All currently available sleep aids, both prescription and OTC, can cause impairment of mental processes and reaction times, even when the individual feels fully awake. See Sleep Aid and wait times for currently available prescription sleep aids. • Diphenhydramine (Benadryl) - Many OTC sleep aids contain diphenhydramine as the active ingredient (see sedating antihistamines above). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The wait time after diphenhydramine is 60 hours (based on maximum pharmacologic half-life)

GENERAL NO FLY WAIT TIMES

(Updated 06/28/2023)

For Aviation safety, pilots should **not fly following the last dose of any medications** until a period of time has elapsed equal to:

- A. 5-times the maximum pharmacologic half-life of the medication (preferred); or
- B. 5-times the maximum hour dose interval if pharmacologic half-life information is not available. For example, there is a 30-hour wait time for a medication that is taken every 4 to 6 hours. If there is a range, calculate by using the higher number (e.g., 6 hours x 5 = 30 hours No Fly wait time).

LABEL WARNINGS:

Do not fly or perform safety-related duties while using any medication (prescription or OTC) that carries a label precaution or warning that **it may cause drowsiness or advises the user to “be careful when driving a motor vehicle or operating machinery.”** This applies even if label states, “until you know how the medication affects you” and even if the medication has been used before with no apparent adverse effect. Such medications can cause impairment even when the individual feels alert and unimpaired (see “unaware of impair” above).

For more information, see Pharmaceuticals, [Over-the-Counter Medications](#).