

Medication	What it Does	Indications	Side Effects	Interactions	Examples
Beta-Blockers	Blocks the effects of the hormones epinephrine and norepinephrine. Decreases heart rate and blood pressure. Opens blood vessels.	Hypertension, arrhythmias, heart failure, angina, heart attacks, glaucoma	Fatigue, cold hands, headache, upset stomach, constipation, diarrhea and dizziness.	Often prescribed with a diuretic or ace inhibitors.	Metoprolol Carvedilol Labetalol Atenolol Propranolol Esmolol
Statins	Lowers cholesterol by blocking the enzyme (HMG-CoA) in the liver that makes cholesterol. Also helps body reabsorb cholesterol that has built up in the arteries	High cholesterol (total over 240), atherosclerosis, family history of CAD, sedentary lifestyle, diabetes, hypertension and obesity	Muscle and joint aches, nausea, diarrhea and constipation. Occasionally causes an increase in liver enzymes.	Does not interact well with protease inhibitors, erythromycin, and clarithromycin. Do not interact with medications that block action of liver enzymes.	Atorvastatin Fluvasatin Rosuvastatin Simvastatin Lovastatin Pravastatin
Calcium Channel Blockers	Prevents calcium from entering heart cells, resulting in lower blood pressure and heart rate. Relaxes and widens blood vessels.	Hypertension, angina, brain aneurysm, arrhythmias, migraine, Raynaud's disease, pulmonary hypertension	Constipation, headache, tachycardia, dizziness, rash, fatigue, flushing, nausea, swelling	Does not interact well with grapefruit products. Often used with a beta-blocker or statin.	Amlodipine Diltiazem Felodipine Isradipine
Anti-Platelet	Block the formation of blood clots by preventing the clumping of platelets.	Coronary artery disease, heart attack, angina, stroke and transient ischemic attacks, and peripheral artery disease. Used after stents and surgeries.	Nausea, upset stomach, diarrhea, rash, itching, unusual bleeding, dizziness, headache, difficulty swallowing, tightness in chest, fever.	Do not take with alcohol or caffeine. Also, do not take if allergic to NSAIDS.	Asprin Plavix Aggrastat
Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers	Block the action of angiotensin II (narrows blood vessels) by preventing the bind to receptors. This enlarges blood vessels and reduces blood pressure.	Hypertension, heart failure, kidney failure, diabetes and stroke. Also prevent recurrence of atrial fibrillation	Cough, elevated potassium levels, low blood pressure, headache, dizziness, diarrhea, drowsiness, salty taste, and rash.	Since ARBs may increase blood levels of potassium, use of K+ supplements may result in excessive blood potassium and cardiac arrhythmias.	Atacand Teveten Avapro Micardis Cozaar
Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitors	Dilate your blood vessels to improve the amount of blood that the heart pumps. Lowers blood pressure.	High blood pressure, heart failure, heart attack, diabetes, and stroke.	Cough, itchy skin, dizziness, salty taste, sore throat, swelling of neck and face, high potassium levels and vomiting.	Do not use with salt substitutes. Do not take with NSAIDS.	Captopril Enalapril Lisinopril Benazepril
Nitrates	Relaxes blood vessels to allow blood to flow easier.	Hypertension, congestive heart failure, heart attack, chest pain	Dizziness, lightheadedness, headache, nausea, vomiting.	Do not take if you are taking beta-blockers, calcium channel blockers, or diuretics. Aspirin increases nitrates side effects	Nitroglycerin Isosorbide