

Title	Adverse reactions of the main TB treatments
TB toolbox CODE	DSPu-TB TB ACT-ITL-EFFETS-INDESIRABLES_EN
Date modified	2023-10-01

Medication	Common adverse reactions	Rare but important adverse reactions	Likelihood of hepatitis*	Likelihood of a rash*
Isoniazid (INH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rash ▪ Hepatitis ▪ Peripheral neuropathy ▪ Nausea/vomiting ▪ Diarrhea ▪ Fatigue/drowsiness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neurotoxicity ▪ Anemia ▪ Acne ▪ Headaches ▪ Alopecia 	+++	++
Rifampicin (RIF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drug interactions ▪ Rash ▪ Nausea/vomiting ▪ Diarrhea ▪ Dizziness ▪ Orange urine, tears or sweat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hepatitis ▪ Influenza-like illness ▪ Neutropenia ▪ Thrombocytopenia 	++	++++
Pyrazinamide (PZA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hepatitis ▪ Rash ▪ Hyperuricemia ▪ Arthralgia ▪ Nausea/vomiting ▪ Diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gout ▪ Photosensitivity 	++++	+++
Ethambutol (EMB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ocular toxicity ▪ Nausea/vomiting ▪ Diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rash 	+	+
Fluroquinolone (FLU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tendinitis ▪ Ruptured tendon ▪ Prolonged QT interval 		
Amikacin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nephrotoxicity ▪ Ototoxicity 			
<i>Drawn from the Guide d'intervention - La Tuberculose (MSSS, Québec, 2017), Table 9, p.35 AND Communicable disease control manual, Chapter 4, Section 5, BCCDC, July, 2018.</i>			* +++++ = more likely/ + = less likely	

- INH, RIF and PZA can trigger hepatic conditions, ranging from a slight asymptomatic increase of transaminases to a fulminant hepatitis.
- Hepatitis presents mostly in adults and primarily in persons who drink on a daily basis or have chronic liver disease.
- Check whether there is concomitant use of acetaminophen or another hepatotoxic drug.
- If a medication provokes hepatic conditions, a clear note in this regard should be entered in the record and the treating physician quickly notified.
- These drugs should be removed from the therapeutic protocol following a medical opinion and if:
 - an icterus appears;
 - the serum concentration of transaminases (AST or ALT) is 3 times higher than the upper limit of the normal range AND the person is symptomatic;
 - the serum concentration of transaminases (AST or ALT) is 5 times higher than the upper limit of the normal range.
- In all cases where adverse reactions raise doubts with regard to continuing the treatment, the treating physician should consult a pneumologist/pneumology expert.