

Table of Cutaneous Drug Reactions

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REACTION
APPEARANCE
CAUSATIVE DRUGS

Exanthema
Maculopapular(flat/slightly raised in pimples), scarlatiniform/rubelliform(red) pruritic(itchy) lesions
Benzodiazepines (BZDs) Carbamazepine, Valproate, Lamotrigine

Urticaria
Erythematous(red), pruritic(itchy) wheals. May progress to angio-oedema and anaphylaxis
Benzodiazepines (BZDs) Carbamazepine, Valproate

Fixed drug eruptions
Reddened round lesions which blister and crust. Hyperpigmentation may be permanent.

Lesions tend to present in same location if rechallenge performed
BZDs and carbamazepine

Bullous reactions
Blisters and vesicles; may be part of more generalised CDR such as vasculitis or EM complex*
Carbamazepine

Lichenoid reactions
Flat violaceous papules resembling lichen planus
Carbamazepine

Alopecia
Hair loss,Thinning hair
Carbamazepine, vigabatrin, valproate, BZDs

Pigmentation changes
Colour changes may affect skin, hair, nails, mucous membranes; may be permanent
BZDs, Valproate

Photosensitivity
Abnormal sensitivity to UVA or UVB (photoallergy); may result in severe sunburn
Carbamazepine ; BZDs

Exfoliative dermatitis
Generalised redness, pruritus and eczema with exfoliation(skin peeling off); may affect whole body
Carbamazepine, diazepam , valproate

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Vasculitis

Small haemorrhagic macules coalescing to larger blisters and ulcers; fever, malaise, joint/muscle pain

BZDs, Carbamazepine, Valproate

Anticonvulsant hypersensitivity syndrome

Multiorgan syndrome affecting skin (exanthematous pustulation), fever, lymphadenopathy, leucocytosis

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Erythema multiforme (EM) complex*
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Sudden onset skin eruption(morbilliform) with □ stomatitis, vesicles around lips and oral mucosa

Carbamazepine, valproate

Erythema nodosum

Painful erythematous subcutaneous nodules; fever, malaise; general symptoms may persist for weeks
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Carbamazepine

SJS= Stevens- Johnson Syndrome; TEN= Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis