

MEDICATIONS TO TREAT CARDIOMYOPATHY

Drug Category	Generic Name (Brand Name)	Purpose	Common Side Effects
Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Inhibitors (ACE-inhibitors or ACE-I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captopril (Capoten) • Enalapril (Vasotec or Epaned) • Lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril) • Ramipril (Altace) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afterload reducing medication • Reduces the heart’s workload by relaxing the arteries and allowing blood to flow more easily to the body • Lowers blood pressure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High potassium in the blood • Low blood pressure • Low white blood cell count • Kidney or liver abnormalities • Diarrhea • Muscle cramps • Lightheadedness or dizziness
Angiotensin Receptor Blockers (ARBs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valsartan (Diovan) • Valsartan + saubitril (Entresto) • Losartan (Cozaar) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afterload reducing medication • Relaxes the blood vessels and allows blood to flow more easily to the body • Decrease workload on the heart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiredness • Diarrhea • Headache • Facial swelling
Antiarrhythmics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amiodarone (Cordarone) • Procainamide (Pronestyl) • Sotalol (Betapace) • Mexiletine (Mexitil) • Flecainide (Tambocor) • Diltiazem (Cardizem) • Lidocaine (Xylocaine) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevents and controls abnormal heart rhythms • Regulates heartbeat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chest pain • Blurred vision • Shortness of breath • Dizziness • Lightheadedness or fainting • Low blood sugar • Gastrointestinal issues
Anticoagulants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warfarin (Coumadin) • Heparin • Enoxaparin (Lovenox) • Aspirin or acetylsalicylic acid • Dipyridamole (Persantine) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood thinner medication • Prevents blood clots from forming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea or vomiting • Increased risk of bleeding or bruising • Headache • Diarrhea
Beta-Blockers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atenolol (Tenormin) • Carvedilol (Coreg, Coreg CR) • Metoprolol (Lopressor, Toprol XL) • Nadolol (Corgard) • Ivabradine (Corlanor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slows the heart rate and reduces the workload of the heart to contract • Allows the heart to fill more completely when the outflow of blood is restricted • Lowers blood pressure • Controls arrhythmias 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness • Low heart rate • Low blood pressure • Fluid retention

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Calcium Channel Blockers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diltiazem (Cardizem) • Verapamil (Verelan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves the filling of the heart by reducing the stiffness of the heart muscle and relaxing blood vessels • Treats chest pain and breathlessness • Not commonly used in DCM patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slower heart rate • Low blood pressure
Digitalis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digoxin (Lanoxin) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps the heart contract • Controls irregular or fast heartbeats • Given orally or intravenously • More commonly used in adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mild diarrhea • Loss of appetite or upset stomach • Drowsiness • Dizziness • Unusual tiredness or weakness • Headache
Diuretics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furosemide (Lasix) • Spironolactone (Aldactone, Inspra) • Bumetanide (Bumex) • Metolazone (Mykrox, Zaroxolyn) • Chlorothiazide (Diuril) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known as “water pills” • Removes excess fluids and sodium in the body • Reduces the workload of the heart • Reduces swelling in the legs and liver • Clears fluid from the lungs to help with breathing • Decreases blood pressure • Given orally or intravenously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent urination • Dehydration • Muscle cramps • Electrolyte abnormalities
Inotropes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dobutamine (Dobutrex) • Dopamine (Intropin, Dopastat) • Epinephrine (Adrenalin) • Norepinephrine (Levophed) • Vasopressin (Vasopressin) • Milrinone (Primacor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves heart function by strengthening the heart’s contractions • Decreases workload of the heart by relaxing the arteries • Increases blood pressure • Improves blood flow to certain organs • Often used short-term and administered intravenously in the hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased heart rate • Constriction of arteries • Low sodium levels • Low blood pressure