

Table 27-8: Drug Interactions with Anti-PCP Agents

Drug	Major Adverse Reactions	Interactions
Atavoquone	Transaminase elevation Rash Fever	Increases levels of zidovudine
Dapsone	Rash Nausea/vomiting Anemia Methemoglobinemia Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Transaminase elevation	Increases levels of trimethoprim and dapsone, which may increase both the pharmacologic and toxic effects of both drugs. Rifampin increases metabolism of dapsone while didanosine decreases absorption of dapsone and may lead to failure of dapsone prophylaxis. Avoid.
Pentamidine	Nephrotoxicity Hyperglycemia Transaminase elevation Hyperkalemia Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Pancreatitis Potentially life-threatening ventricular arrhythmias	Foscarnet: increased risk of nephrotoxicity, severe hypoglycemia and hypocalcemia. Avoid drugs that cause or exacerbate pancreatitis, such as didanosine.
Primaquine	Hemolysis (especially in G6PD-deficiency) Fever Rash Methemoglobinemia Transaminase elevation	
Clindamycin	Diarrhea Nausea/vomiting Pseudomembranous colitis Rash Fever Transaminase elevation	Opiates and diphenoxylate may worsen diarrhea. Kaolin-pectin antidiarrheals decrease absorption of clindamycin. Patient needs close monitoring.
Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole	<u>Skin</u> Erythema multiforme (Stevens-Johnson syndrome, rare) Generalized skin eruptions Epidermal necrolysis Exfoliative dermatitis Photosensitivity Urticaria Pruritus <u>Other</u> Nausea/vomiting Transaminase elevation Neutropenia Thrombocytopenia Fever	Increased prothrombin time for patients on warfarin. Increases levels of dapsone and half-life of phenytoin due to protein binding.

Source: Adapted from multiple sources, primarily *Pharmacist's Drug Handbook 2001*. Bethesda, MD: American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists, 2001.