










# Transplant Medications

## A visual guide



Drugs to Prevent Rejection ( <i>Immunosuppressants</i> )							
<b>Tacrolimus (Prograf®, FK 506)</b>							
	<b>Dosage</b>	<b>How to Take</b>	<b>Side Effects</b>				
0.5 mg		Taken every 12 hours, with or without food.  <b>Cautions:</b> The amount of tacrolimus in the blood is checked before morning dose. <b>Do NOT take before blood draw.</b> <b>Avoid grapefruit, pomegranate, and star fruit.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced kidney function</li> <li>• Shakiness or tremor</li> <li>• Higher blood pressure</li> <li>• Higher blood potassium</li> <li>• Lower blood magnesium</li> <li>• Higher blood sugar</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Higher blood cholesterol</li> <li>• Greater chance of infections</li> <li>• Hair loss</li> </ul>				
1 mg							
5 mg							
<b>Mycophenolate Sodium or Mycophenolic Acid (Myfortic®)</b> <b>Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF, Cellcept®)</b>							
	<b>Type and Dosage</b>	<b>How to Take</b>	<b>Side Effects</b>				
Myfortic® 360 mg		Taken every 12 hours, with or without food.  <b>Cautions:</b> The amount of mycophenolate in the blood is checked before morning dose. <b>Do NOT take before blood draw.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lowers white blood cells</li> <li>• Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Abdominal pain</li> <li>• Greater risk of infection</li> <li>• Lowers red blood cell count</li> <li>• Lowers platelet count</li> <li>• May cause birth defects</li> <li>• Contact your care provider if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant</li> </ul>				
Myfortic® 180 mg							
MMF, Cellcept® 500 mg							
MMF, Cellcept® 250 mg							
<b>Prednisone</b>							
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	5 mg	Usually taken once daily in the morning with food.  No blood levels needed.					
<p><b>Note:</b> also available as 1 mg, 2.5 mg, 10 mg, 20 mg, and 50 mg tablets.</p> <p>Your transplant provider may prescribe a different dosage if it is more convenient to take.</p>							

## Antifungal Drugs

### Clotrimazole (*Mycelex*<sup>®</sup>)


Dosage		How to Take	Side Effects
10 mg		Taken twice daily to prevent oral yeast infection ( <i>thrush</i> ). May increase tacrolimus levels. <b>Do NOT stop taking or change how often you take</b> , unless instructed by your transplant provider. Usually taken for 2 months after transplant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bad taste in mouth</li> <li>• Dry or chalky mouth</li> <li>• Nausea</li> </ul>

### Fluconazole (*Diflucan*<sup>®</sup>)

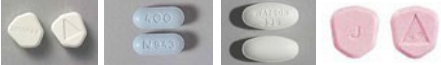
Dosage		How to Take	Side Effects
200 mg		Taken once daily or once weekly as instructed by your transplant provider. Helps prevent or treat fungal infections. May increase tacrolimus levels. <b>Do NOT stop taking unless instructed by your transplant provider.</b> Usually taken for 3 months after transplant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Rash</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Abdominal pain</li> </ul>
100 mg			

## Antiviral Drugs

### Valganciclovir (*Valcyte*<sup>®</sup>)


Dosage		How to Take	Side Effects
450 mg		Taken once daily (depending on kidney function). Usually taken for 3-6 months after transplant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lowered white blood cell count</li> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Lower kidney function</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Low white blood cell count</li> </ul>

### Acyclovir (*Zovirax*<sup>®</sup>)


Dosage		How to Take	Side Effects
400 mg		Taken once or twice daily. Usually taken for 3 months after transplant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Lower kidney function</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Lowered white blood cell count</li> </ul>

## Antibiotic Drugs

### Trimethoprim or Sulfamethoxazole (*Bactrim, Septra, Cotrimoxazole, Trim, Sulfa, TMP, SMX*<sup>®</sup>)

Dosage		How to Take	Side Effects
80 – 400 mg Single Strength (SS)		Taken once daily at bedtime. Usually taken for 6 months after transplant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rash (report any rash to your doctor)</li> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Lowered white blood cell count</li> <li>• High potassium level</li> <li>• Sensitivity to the sun</li> </ul>

### Dapsone

Dosage		How to Take	Side Effects
100 mg		Taken once daily. An alternative to Bactrim or Septra. Usually taken for 6 months after transplant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rash and sensitivity to the sun</li> <li>• Nausea</li> <li>• Lowered white or red blood cell count</li> </ul>