

Oregon's Drug Review: **Evidence on PPIs (Proton Pump Inhibitors)**

PPIs treat excess acid in the stomach or esophagus. This occurs in esophagitis, heartburn and GERD (gastro-esophageal reflux disease). This also occurs in some ulcers. Other causes of ulcers include aspirin or NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs). PPIs used with antibiotics cure *H. pylori* infection, another cause of ulcers. PPIs block the amount of acid pumped into the stomach.

Which Drugs Were Included In This Review?

- This review did not include PPI use for simple heartburn.
- It did not include fixed combinations of PPIs with other drugs.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• omeprazole (Prilosec)• omeprazole magnesium (Prilosec OTC)• esomeprazole (Nexium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• lansoprazole (Prevacid)• pantoprazole (Protonix)• rabeprazole (Aciphex)
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What Do These Drugs Have In Common?

- No PPI is better than another. All these PPIs heal esophagitis effectively. These drugs also allay signs of GERD and prevent relapse of GERD. These PPIs are effective for ulcers caused by other drugs or by *H. pylori* infections.
- No major difference exists among these PPIs for side effects.
- Effects of PPIs do not vary by age, race, sex, or presence of other diseases.

What Are the Key Differences Among These Drugs?

- Some older people and some Asians break down PPIs more slowly. This does not change effectiveness.
- Omeprazole has more drug interactions. Doses may need adjustment. Ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Ask Your Health Care Practitioner During Your Next Visit:

- Am I taking the most effective drug for my condition?
- Are alternative drugs available that are equally effective?
- Are alternatives drugs available that are effective, but less costly?
- Is there a generic available for my brand name drug?
- Will this drug interact with other medications I take?

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