



# ISMP's List of *Confused Drug Names*

This list of confused drug names, which includes look-alike and sound-alike name pairs, consists **only** of those name pairs that have been involved in medication errors published in the *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*<sup>®</sup> The errors involving these medications were reported to ISMP through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP).

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) established a National Patient Safety Goal that requires each accredited organization to identify a list of look-alike or sound-alike drugs used in the organization. Those names that appear on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike names have been noted with a double asterisk (\*\*)<sup>®</sup> below.

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	<i>ISMP Medication Safety Alert!</i> <sup>®</sup> Acute Care Edition
ABELCET**	amphotericin B**	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
ACCUPRIL	ACIPHEX	Vol. 5, Issue 9, 5/3/00
acetazolamide**	acetohexamide**	Vol. 5, Issue 12, 6/14/00
acetohexamide**	acetazolamide**	Vol. 5, Issue 12, 6/14/00
ACIPHEX	ARICEPT	Vol. 5, Issue 24, 11/29/00
ACIPHEX	ACCUPRIL	Vol. 5, Issue 9, 5/3/00
ACTIVASE	TNKase	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
ACTONEL	ACTOS	Vol. 9, Issue 13, 7/1/04
ACTOS	ACTONEL	Vol. 9, Issue 13, 7/1/04
ADDERALL	INDERAL	Vol. 1, Issue 4, 2/28/96
ADVICOR	ALTOCOR	Vol. 7, Issue 9, 5/1/02
AGGRASTAT	argatroban	Vol. 6, Issue 15, 7/25/01
ALDARA	ALORA	Vol. 2, Issue 14, 7/16/97
ALKERAN	LEUKERAN	Vol. 5, Issue 1, 1/12/00
ALLEGRA	VIAGRA	Vol. 3, Issue 12, 6/17/98
ALORA	ALDARA	Vol. 2, Issue 14, 7/16/97
ALTOCOR	ADVICOR	Vol. 7, Issue 9, 5/1/02
AMARYL**	REMINYL**	Vol. 9, Issue 18, 9/9/04
AMBISOME**	amphotericin B**	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
AMIKIN	KINERET	Vol. 7, Issue 13, 6/26/02
amphotericin B**	ABELCET**	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
amphotericin B**	AMBISOME**	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
antacid	ATACAND	Vol. 4, Issue 25, 12/15/99
ANTIVERT	AXERT	Vol. 7, Issue 21, 10/16/02
ANZEMET	AVANDAMET	Vol. 7, Issue 22, 10/30/02
APRESOLINE	PRISCOLINE	Vol. 6, Issue 22, 10/31/01
argatroban	AGGRASTAT	Vol. 6, Issue 15, 7/25/01
argatroban	ORGARAN	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
ARICEPT	ACIPHEX	Vol. 5, Issue 24, 11/29/00
aripiprazole	proton pump inhibitors	Vol. 8, Issue 5, 6/26/03
aripiprazole	rabeprazole	Vol. 8, Issue 8, 4/17/03
ASACOL	OS-CAL	Vol. 2, Issue 5, 3/12/97
ATACAND	antacid	Vol. 4, Issue 25, 12/15/99
ATROVENT	NATRU-VENT	Vol. 4, Issue 22, 11/3/99
AVANDAMET	ANZEMET	Vol. 7, Issue 22, 10/30/02
AVANDIA	PRANDIN	Vol. 4, Issue 18, 9/8/99
AVANDIA**	COUMADIN**	Vol. 5, Issue 15, 7/26/00
AVINZA	INVANZ	Vol. 7, Issue 10, 5/15/02
AVINZA**	EVISTA**	Vol. 9, Issue 5, 3/11/04

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAF(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.

**ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names**

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert!® Acute Care Edition
AXERT	ANTIVERT	Vol. 7, Issue 21, 10/16/02
BabyBIG	HBIG	Vol. 10, Issue 6, 3/24/05
BAYHEP-B	BAYRAB	Vol. 2, Issue 4, 2/26/97
BAYRAB	BAYRHO-D	Vol. 2, Issue 4, 2/26/97
BAYRHO-D	BAYHEP-B	Vol. 2, Issue 4, 2/26/97
BICILLIN C-R	BICILLIN L-A	Vol. 9, Issue 6, 3/25/04
BICILLIN L-A	BICILLIN C-R	Vol. 9, Issue 6, 3/25/04
BRETHINE	METHERGINE	Vol. 9, Issue 21, 10/21/04
camphorated tincture of opium (paregoric)	opium tincture	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
carboplatin**	cisplatin**	Vol. 1 Issue 22, 11/06/96
CEDAX	CIDEX	Vol. 2, Issue 2, 1/29/97
CELEBREX**	CELEXA**	Vol. 4, Issue 9, 5/5/99
CELEXA	ZYPREXA	Vol. 3, Issue 18, 9/9/98
CELEXA**	CELEBREX**	Vol. 4, Issue 9, 5/5/99
CEREBYX**	CELEXA**	Vol. 4, Issue 3, 2/10/99
CIDEX	CEDAX	Vol. 2, Issue 2, 1/29/97
cisplatin**	carboplatin**	Vol. 1 Issue 22, 11/06/96
CLARITIN-D	CLARITIN-D 24	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96
CLARITIN-D 24	CLARITIN-D	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96
CLOZARIL	COLAZAL	Vol. 6, Issue 9, 5/2/01
COLACE	COZAAR	Vol. 1, Issue 23, 11/20/96
COLAZAL	CLOZARIL	Vol. 6, Issue 9, 5/2/01
colchicine	CORTROSYN	Vol. 5, Issue 2, 2/9/00
COMVAX	RECOMBIVAX HB	Vol.8 , Issue 6, 3/20/03
CORTROSYN	colchicine	Vol. 5, Issue 2, 2/9/00
COUMADIN**	AVANDIA**	Vol. 5, Issue 15, 7/26/00
COZAAR	COLACE	Vol. 1, Issue 23, 11/20/96
COZAAR	ZOCOR	Vol. 1, Issue 1, 1/15/96
dactinomycin	daptomycin	Vol. 8, Issue 22, 10/30/03
daptomycin	dactinomycin	Vol. 8, Issue 22, 10/30/03
DARVON	DIOVAN	Vol. 2, Issue 19, 9/24/97
daunorubicin**	idarubicin**	Vol. 6, Issue 22, 10/31/01
daunorubicin**	daunorubicin citrate liposomal**	Special Alert, 8/18/98
DENAVIR	indinavir	Vol. 2, Issue 13, 7/2/97
DEPAKOTE	DEPOKOTE ER	Vol. 6, Issue 3, 2/7/01
DEPOKOTE ER	DEPAKOTE	Vol. 6, Issue 3, 2/7/01
DEPO-MEDROL	SOLU-MEDROL	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
DIABINESE	DIAMOX	Vol. 5, Issue 14, 7/14/00
DIABETA**	ZEBETA**	Vol. 5, Issue 18, 9/6/00
DIAMOX	DIABINESE	Vol. 5, Issue 14, 7/14/00
DIATEX (diazepam in Mexico)	DIATX	Vol. 7, Issue 16, 8/7/02
DIATX	DIATEX (diazepam in Mexico)	Vol. 7, Issue 16, 8/7/02
DILACOR XR	PILOCAR	Vol. 2, Issue 15, 7/30/97
DILAUDID	DILAUDID-5	Vol. 1, Issue 13, 7/3/96
DILAUDID-5	DILAUDID	Vol. 1, Issue 13, 7/3/96
DIOVAL	DIOVAN	Vol. 2, Issue 19, 9/24/97

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAF(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.

## ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert® Acute Care Edition
DIOVAN	DIOVAL	Vol. 2, Issue 19, 9/24/97
DIOVAN	ZYBAN	Vol. 2, Issue 19, 9/24/97
DIOVAN	DARVON	Vol. 2, Issue 19, 9/24/97
DIPRIVAN	DITROPAN	Vol. 7, Issue 6, 3/20/02
DITROPAN	DIPRIVAN	Vol. 7, Issue 6, 3/20/02
dobutamine	dopamine	Vol. 1, Issue 15, 7/31/96
dopamine	dobutamine	Vol. 1, Issue 15, 7/31/96
doxorubicin hydrochloride**	doxorubicin liposomal**	Vol. 9, Issue 14, 7/15/04
DURICEF	ULTRACET	Vol. 7, Issue 6, 3/20/02
ENBREL	LEVBID	Vol. 7, Issue 19, 9/18/02
ENDOCET	INDOCID	Vol. 8, Issue 22, 10/30/03
ENGERIX-B adult	ENGERIX-B pediatric/adolescent	Vol. 7, Issue 1, 1/5/02
ENGERIX-B pediatric/adolescent	ENGERIX-B adult	Vol. 7, Issue 1, 1/5/02
ephedrine**	epinephrine**	Vol. 8, Issue 8, 4/17/03
epinephrine**	ephedrine**	Vol. 8, Issue 8, 4/17/03
ESTRATEST	ESTRATEST HS	Vol. 1, Issue 19, 9/25/96
ESTRATEST HS	ESTRATEST	Vol. 1, Issue 19, 9/25/96
ethambutol	ETHMOZINE	Vol. 4, Issue 20, 10/6/99
ETHMOZINE	ethambutol	Vol. 4, Issue 20, 10/6/99
EVISTA**	AVINZA**	Vol. 9, Issue 5, 3/11/04
FEMARA	FEMHRT	Vol. 7, Issue 7, 4/3/02
FEMHRT	FEMARA	Vol. 7, Issue 7, 4/3/02
fentanyl**	sufentanil**	Vol. 6, Issue 3, 2/7/01
flavoxate	fluvoxamine	Vol. 10, Issue 4, 2/24/05
fluvoxamine	flavoxate	Vol. 10, Issue 4, 2/24/05
FOLEX	FOLTX	Vol. 10, Issue 2, 1/27/05
FOLTX	FOLEX	Vol.10, Issue 2, 1/27/05
folic acid**	folic acid (leucovorin calcium)**	Vol. 8, Issue 20, 10/2/03
folic acid (leucovorin calcium)**	folic acid**	Vol. 8, Issue 20, 10/2/03
FORADIL	TORADOL	Vol. 7, Issue 12, 6/12/02
gentamicin	gentian violet	Vol. 3, Issue 21, 10/21/98
gentian violet	gentamicin	Vol. 3, Issue 21, 10/21/98
GRANULEX	REGRANEX	Vol. 3, Issue 9, 5/6/98
HBIG	BabyBIG	Vol. 10, Issue 6, 3/24/05
HEALON	HYALGAN	Vol. 9, Issue 9, 5/6/04
heparin**	HESPAN**	Vol. 4, Issue 18, 9/8/99
HESPAN**	heparin**	Vol. 4, Issue 18, 9/8/99
HUMALOG**	HUMULIN**	Vol. 7, Issue 8, 4/17/02
HUMALOG MIX 75/25**	HUMULIN 70/30**	Vol. 7, Issue 24, 11/27/02
HUMULIN**	HUMALOG**	Vol. 7, Issue 8, 4/17/02
HUMULIN 70/30**	HUMALOG MIX 75/25**	Vol. 7, Issue 24, 11/27/02
HYALGAN	HEALON	Vol. 9, Issue 9, 5/6/04
HYDROGESIC	hydroxyzine	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
hydromorphone**	morphine**	Vol. 9, Issue 12, 7/01/04
hydroxyzine	HYDROGESIC	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
idarubicin**	daunorubicin**	Vol. 6, Issue 22, 10/31/01

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAFE(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.

## ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert!® Acute Care Edition
INDERAL	ADDERALL	Vol. 1, Issue 4, 2/28/96
indinavir	DENAVIR	Vol. 2, Issue 13, 7/2/97
INDOCID	ENDOCET	Vol. 8, Issue 22, 10/30/03
infliximab	rituximab	Vol. 9, Issue 3, 2/12/04
influenza virus vaccine	tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)	Vol. 9, Issue 22, 11/4/04
INSPRA	SPIRIVA	Vol. 10, Issue 4, 2/24/05
INVANZ	AVINZA	Vol. 7, Issue 10, 5/15/02
iodine	LODINE	Vol. 7, Issue 14, 7/10/02
ISORDIL	PLENDIL	Vol. 4, Issue 22, 11/3/99
isotretinoin	tretinoin	Vol. 1, Issue 22, 11/6/96
K-PHOS NEUTRAL	NEUTRA-PHOS-K	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
KALETRA	KEPPRA	Vol. 8, Issue 22, 10/30/03
KEPPRA	KALETRA	Vol. 8, Issue 22, 10/30/03
KETALAR	ketorolac	Vol. 3, Issue 24, 12/2/98
ketorolac	KETALAR	Vol. 3, Issue 24, 12/2/98
KINERET	AMIKIN	Vol. 7, Issue 13, 6/26/02
LAMICTAL**	LAMISIL**	Vol. 3, Issue 12, 6/17/98
LAMISIL**	LAMICTAL**	Vol. 3, Issue 12, 6/17/98
lamivudine	lamotrigine	Vol. 1, Issue 18, 9/11/96
lamotrigine	lamivudine	Vol. 1, Issue 18, 9/11/96
LANOXIN	levothyroxine	Vol. 5, Issue 18, 9/6/00
LANTUS**	LENTE**	Vol. 6, Issue 16, 8/8/01
LASIX	LUVOX	Vol. 1, Issue 3, 2/14/96
LENTE**	LANTUS**	Vol. 6, Issue 16, 8/8/01
leucovorin calcium**	LEUKERAN**	Vol. 8, Issue 20, 10/2/03
LEUKERAN	MYLERAN	Vol. 5, Issue 1, 1/12/00
LEVBID	ENBREL	Vol. 7, Issue 19, 9/18/02
levothyroxine	LANOXIN	Vol. 5, Issue 18, 9/6/00
LEXAPRO	LOXITANE	Vol. 8, Issue 25, 12/18/03
LIPITOR	ZYRTEC	Vol. 8, Issue 7, 4/4/03
liposomal doxorubicin (DOXIL)	doxorubicin hydrochloride	Vol. 9, Issue 14, 7/15/04
LODINE	iodine	Vol. 7, Issue 14, 7/10/02
LOTRONEX	PROTONIX	Vol. 5, Issue 24, 11/29/00
LOXITANE	LEXAPRO	Vol. 8, Issue 25, 12/18/03
LUPRON DEPOT-3 MONTH	LUPRON DEPOT-PED	Vol. 7, Issue 18, 9/4/02
LUPRON DEPOT-PED	LUPRON DEPOT-3 MONTH	Vol. 7, Issue 18, 9/4/02
LUVOX	LASIX	Vol. 1, Issue 3, 2/14/96
MAXZIDE	MICROZIDE	Vol. 2, Issue 9, 5/7/97
METADATE	methadone	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
METADATE CD	METADATE ER	Vol. 6, Issue 24, 11/28/01
METADATE ER	METADATE CD	Vol. 6, Issue 24, 11/28/01
METADATE ER	methadone	Vol. 6, Issue 4, 2/21/01
METFORMIN	metronidazole	Vol. 9, Issue 20, 10/7/04
methadone	METADATE ER	Vol. 6, Issue 4, 2/21/01
methadone	METADATE	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
METHERGINE	BRETHINE	Vol. 9, Issue 21, 10/21/04

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAF(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.

**ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names**

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert® Acute Care Edition
methimazole	metolazone	Vol. 9, Issue 22, 11/4/04
metolazone	methimazole	Vol. 9, Issue 22, 11/4/04
metronidazole	METFORMIN	Vol. 9, Issue 20, 10/7/04
MICRONASE	MICROZIDE	Vol. 2, Issue 9, 5/7/97
MICROZIDE	MAXZIDE	Vol. 2, Issue 9, 5/7/97
MICROZIDE	MICRONASE	Vol. 2, Issue 9, 5/7/97
mifepristone	misoprostol	Vol. 7, Issue 15, 7/24/02
MIRALAX	MIRAPEX	Vol. 7, Issue 20, 10/3/02
MIRAPEX	MIRALAX	Vol. 7, Issue 20, 10/3/02
misoprostol	mifepristone	Vol. 7, Issue 15, 7/24/02
morphine**	hydromorphone**	Vol. 9, Issue 12, 7/01/04
morphine - oral liquid concentrate**	morphine - non-concentrated oral liquid**	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96
MS CONTIN	OXYCONTIN	Vol. 6, Issue 17, 8/22/01
MUCINEX	MUCOMYST	Vol. 9, Issue 13, 7/1/04
MUCOMYST	MUCINEX	Vol. 9, Issue 13, 7/1/04
MYLERAN	ALKERAN	Vol. 5, Issue 1, 1/12/00
NARCAN	NORCURON	Vol. 3, Issue 20, 10/7/98
NATRU-VENT	ATROVENT	Vol. 4, Issue 22, 11/3/99
NAVANE	NORVASC	Vol. 9, Issue 7, 4/8/04
NEULASTA	NEUMEGA	Vol. 9, Issue 8, 4/22/04
NEUMEGA	NEUPOGEN	Vol. 4, Issue 5, 3/10/99
NEUMEGA	NEULASTA	Vol. 9, Issue 8, 4/22/04
NEUPOGEN	NEUMEGA	Vol. 4, Issue 5, 3/10/99
NEURONTIN	NOROXIN	Vol. 7, Issue 3, 2/06/02
NEUTRA-PHOS-K	K-PHOS NEUTRAL	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
NORCURON	NARCAN	Vol. 3, Issue 20, 10/7/98
NOROXIN	NEURONTIN	Vol. 7, Issue 3, 2/06/02
NORVASC	NAVANE	Vol. 9, Issue 7, 4/8/04
NOVOLIN 70/30**	NOVOLOG MIX 70/30**	Vol. 9, Issue 14, 7/15/04
NOVOLOG MIX 70/30**	NOVOLIN 70/30**	Vol. 9, Issue 14, 7/15/04
OCCLUSAL-HP	OCUFLOX	Vol. 6, Issue 11, 5/30/01
OCUFLOX	OCCLUSAL-HP	Vol. 6, Issue 11, 5/30/01
opium tincture	camphorated tincture of opium (paregoric)	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
ORGARAN	argatroban	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
OS-CAL	ASACOL	Vol. 2, Issue 5, 3/12/97
oxycodone	OXYCONTIN	Vol. 6, Issue 17, 8/22/01
OXYCONTIN	MS CONTIN	Vol. 6, Issue 17, 8/22/01
OXYCONTIN	oxycodone	Vol. 6, Issue 17, 8/22/01
paclitaxel	paclitaxel protein-bound particles for injectable suspension	Vol. 10, Issue 5, 3/10/05
paclitaxel protein-bound particles for injectable suspension	paclitaxel	Vol. 10, Issue 5, 3/10/05
PAMELOR	PANLOR DC	Vol. 6, Issue 18, 9/5/01
PANLOR DC	PAMELOR	Vol. 6, Issue 18, 9/5/01
PATANOL	PLATINOL	Vol. 2, Issue 1, 1/15/97
PAVULON	PEPTAVLON	Vol. 2, Issue 7, 4/9/97
PAXIL	TAXOL	Vol. 2, Issue 1, 1/15/97
PAXIL	PLAVIX	Vol. 7, Issue 12, 6/12/02

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAFE. ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.

**ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names**

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert® Acute Care Edition
PEPTAVLON	PAVLON	Vol. 2, Issue 7, 4/9/97
PERCOCET	PROCET	Vol. 6, Issue 18, 9/5/01
PILOCAR	DILACOR XR	Vol. 2, Issue 15, 7/30/97
PLATINOL	PATANOL	Vol. 2, Issue 1, 1/15/97
PLAVIX	PAXIL	Vol. 7, Issue 12, 6/12/02
PLENDIL	ISORDIL	Vol. 4, Issue 22, 11/3/99
pneumococcal 7-valent vaccine	pneumococcal polyvalent vaccine	Vol. 7, Issue 10, 5/15/02
pneumococcal polyvalent vaccine	pneumococcal 7-valent vaccine	Vol. 7, Issue 10, 5/15/02
PRANDIN	AVANDIA	Vol. 4, Issue 18, 9/8/99
PRECARE	PRECOSE	Vol. 1, Issue 19, 9/25/96
PRECOSE	PRECARE	Vol. 1, Issue 19, 9/25/96
PRILOSEC	PROZAC	Vol. 1, Issue 17, 8/28/96
PRISCOLINE	APRESOLINE	Vol. 6, Issue 22, 10/31/01
probenecid	PROCANBID	Vol. 5, Issue 5, 3/8/00
PROCANBID	probenecid	Vol. 5, Issue 5, 3/8/00
PROCARDIA XL	PROTAIN XL	Vol. 5, Issue 20, 10/4/00
PROCET	PERCOCET	Vol. 6, Issue 18, 9/5/01
propylthiouracil	PURINETHOL	Vol. 8, Issue 17, 8/21/03
PROTAIN XL	PROCARDIA XL	Vol. 5, Issue 20, 10/4/00
protamine	PROTONIX	Vol. 9, Issue 6, 3/25/04
Proton Pump Inhibitors	aripiprazole	Vol. 8, Issue 5, 6/26/03
PROTONIX	LOTROXEX	Vol. 5, Issue 24, 11/29/00
PROTONIX	protamine	Vol. 9, Issue 6, 3/25/04
PROZAC	PRILOSEC	Vol. 1, Issue 17, 8/28/96
PURINETHOL	propylthiouracil	Vol. 8, Issue 17, 8/21/03
quinine	quinidine	Vol. 2, Issue 20, 10/8/97
quinidine	quinine	Vol. 2, Issue 20, 10/8/97
rabeprazole	aripiprazole	Vol. 8, Issue 8, 4/17/03
RECOMBIVAX HB	COMVAX	Vol. 8, Issue 6, 3/20/03
REGRANEX	GRANULEX	Vol. 3, Issue 9, 5/6/98
REMINYL	ROBINUL	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
REMINYL**	AMARYL**	Vol. 9, Issue 18, 9/9/04
RETROVIR**	ritonavir**	Vol. 5, Issue 20, 10/4/00
RIFATER	RIFADIN	Vol. 6, Issue 24, 11/28/01
RIFADIN	RIFATER	Vol. 6, Issue 24, 11/28/01
RITALIN	ritodrine	Vol. 2, Issue 10, 5/21/97
RITALIN LA	RITALIN SR	Vol. 6, Issue 24, 11/28/01
RITALIN SR	RITALIN LA	Vol. 6, Issue 24, 11/28/01
ritodrine	RITALIN	Vol. 2, Issue 10, 5/21/97
ritonavir**	RETROVIR**	Vol. 5, Issue 20, 10/4/00
rituximab	infliximab	Vol. 9, Issue 3, 2/12/04
ROBINUL	REMINYL	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
ROXANOL	ROXICODONE INTENSOL	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96
ROXANOL	ROXICET	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96
ROXICET	ROXANOL	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96
ROXICODONE INTENSOL	ROXANOL	Vol. 1, Issue 25, 12/18/96

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAF(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.



## ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert!® Acute Care Edition
saquinavir (free base)	saquinavir mesylate	Vol. 3, Issue 13, 7/1/98
saquinavir mesylate	saquinavir (free base)	Vol. 3, Issue 13, 7/1/98
saquinavir	SINEQUAN	Special Alert, 4/11/96
SARAFEM	SEROPHENE	Vol. 6, Issue 18, 9/5/01
SEROPHENE	SARAFEM	Vol. 6, Issue 18, 9/5/01
SEROQUEL**	SERZONE**	Vol. 7, Issue 11, 5/29/02
sertraline	SORIATANE	Vol. 8, Issue 16, 8/7/03
SERZONE**	SEROQUEL**	Vol. 7, Issue 11, 5/29/02
SINEQUAN	saquinavir	Special Alert, 4/11/96
SOLU-MEDROL	DEPO-MEDROL	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
SORIATANE	sertraline	Vol. 8, Issue 16, 8/7/03
SPIRIVA	INSPIRA	Vol. 10, Issue 4, 2/24/05
sufentanil**	fentanyl**	Vol. 5, Issue 7, 4/5/00
sumatriptan	zolmitriptan	Vol. 3, Issue 4, 2/25/98
TAXOL**	TAXOTERE**	Vol. 6, Issue 3, 2/7/01
TAXOL	PAXIL	Vol. 2, Issue 1, 1/15/97
TAXOTERE**	TAXOL**	Vol. 6, Issue 3, 2/7/01
TEGRETOL	TEQUIN	Vol. 5, Issue 15, 7/26/00
TEGRETOL	TEGRETOL XR	Vol. 1, Issue 21, 10/23/96
TEGRETOL XR	TEGRETOL	Vol. 1, Issue 21, 10/23/96
TEQUIN	TEGRETOL	Vol. 5, Issue 15, 7/26/00
TEQUIN	TICLID	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
TESTODERM	TESTODERM W/ ADHESIVE	Vol. 3, Issue 14, 4/8/98
TESTODERM TTS	TESTODERM	Vol. 3, Issue 14, 4/8/98
TESTODERM W/ ADHESIVE	TESTODERM TTS	Vol. 3, Issue 14, 4/8/98
tetanus diphtheria toxoid (Td)	tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)	Vol. 9, Issue 16, 8/12/04
tiagabine**	tizanidine**	Vol. 8, Issue 3, 2/6/03
TIAZAC	ZIAC	Vol. 1, Issue 6, 3/27/96
TICLID	TEQUIN	Vol. 7, Issue 4, 2/20/02
tizanidine**	tiagabine**	Vol. 8, Issue 3, 2/6/03
TNKase	ACTIVASE	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
TNKase	t-PA	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
TOBRADEX	TOBREX	Vol. 4, Issue 13, 6/30/99
TOBREX	TOBRADEX	Vol. 4, Issue 13, 6/30/99
TOPAMAX	TOPROL XL	Vol. 7, Issue 16, 8/7/02
TOPROL XL	TOPAMAX	Vol. 7, Issue 16, 8/7/02
TORADOL	FORADIL	Vol. 7, Issue 12, 6/12/02
t-PA	TNKase	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
TRACLEER	TRICOR	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
tramadol hydrochloride	trazodone hydrochloride	Vol. 7, Issue 19, 9/18/02
trazodone hydrochloride	tramadol hydrochloride	Vol. 7, Issue 19, 9/18/02
tretinoin	isotretinoin	Vol. 1, Issue 22, 11/6/96
TRICOR	TRACLEER	Vol. 8, Issue 13, 6/26/03
tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)	influenza virus vaccine	Vol. 9, Issue 22, 11/4/04
tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD)	tetanus diphtheria toxoid (Td)	Vol. 9, Issue 16, 8/12/04
TYLENOL	TYLENOL PM	Vol. 8, Issue 8, 4/17/03

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAF(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.

**ISMP's List of Confused Drug Names**

Drug Name	Confused Drug Name	ISMP Medication Safety Alert!® Acute Care Edition
TYLENOL PM	TYLENOL	Vol. 8, Issue 8, 4/17/03
ULTRACET	DURICEF	Vol. 7, Issue 6, 3/20/02
valacyclovir	valganciclovir	Vol. 7, Issue 13, 6/26/02
VALCYTE	VALTREX	Vol. 7, Issue 13, 6/26/02
valganciclovir	valacyclovir	Vol. 7, Issue 13, 6/26/02
VALTREX	VALCYTE	Vol. 7, Issue 13, 6/26/02
VARIVAX	VZIG	Vol. 8, Issue 2, 1/23/03
VEXOL	VOSOL	Vol. 1, Issue 11, 6/5/96
VIAGRA	ALLEGRA	Vol. 3, Issue 12, 6/17/98
vinblastine**	vincristine**	Vol. 5, Issue 10, 5/17/00
vincristine**	vinblastine**	Vol. 5, Issue 10, 5/17/00
VIOKASE	VIOKASE 8	Vol. 7, Issue 6, 3/20/02
VIOKASE 8	VIOKASE	Vol. 7, Issue 6, 3/20/02
VIOXX	ZYVOX	Vol. 7, Issue 17, 8/21/02
VIRACEPT	VIRAMUNE	Vol. 7, Issue 17, 8/21/02
VIRAMUNE	VIRACEPT	Vol. 7, Issue 17, 8/21/02
VOSOL	VEXOL	Vol. 1, Issue 11, 6/5/96
VZIG	VARIVAX	Vol. 8, Issue 2, 1/23/03
WELLBUTRIN SR**	WELLBUTRIN XL**	Vol. 9, Issue 1, 1/15/04
WELLBUTRIN XL**	WELLBUTRIN SR**	Vol. 9, Issue 1, 1/15/04
XELODA	XENICAL	Vol. 4, Issue 18, 9/8/99
XENICAL	XELODA	Vol. 4, Issue 18, 9/8/99
ZANTAC**	ZYRTEC**	Vol. 5, Issue 22, 11/1/00
ZEBETA	DIABETA	Vol. 5, Issue 18, 9/6/00
ZEBETA	ZETIA	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
ZESTRIL	ZETIA	Vol. 8, Issue 6, 3/20/03
ZETIA	ZEBETA	Vol. 8, Issue 11, 5/29/03
ZETIA	ZESTRIL	Vol. 8, Issue 6, 3/20/03
ZIAC	TIAZAC	Vol. 1, Issue 6, 3/27/96
ZOCOR	COZAAR	Vol. 1, Issue 1, 1/15/96
zolmitriptan	sumatriptan	Vol. 3, Issue 4, 2/25/98
ZOSTRIX	ZOVIRAX	Vol. 8, Issue 21, 10/16/03
ZOVIRAX	ZYVOX	Vol. 7, Issue 17, 8/21/02
ZOVIRAX	ZOSTRIX	Vol. 8, Issue 21, 10/16/03
ZYBAN	DIOVAN	Vol. 2, Issue 19, 9/24/97
ZYPREXA**	ZYRTEC**	Vol. 6, Issue 22, 10/31/01
ZYPREXA	CELEXA	Vol. 3, Issue 18, 9/9/98
ZYRTEC**	ZYPREXA**	Vol. 6, Issue 22, 10/31/01
ZYRTEC**	ZANTAC**	Vol. 5, Issue 22, 11/1/00
ZYRTEC	LIPITOR	Vol. 8, Issue 7, 4/4/03
ZYVOX	VIOXX	Vol. 7, Issue 17, 8/21/02
ZYVOX	ZOVIRAX	Vol. 7, Issue 17, 8/21/02

Updated 4/1/05 © ISMP 2005

\*\* These drug names are included on the JCAHO's list of look-alike or sound-alike drug names from which an accredited organization creates its own list to satisfy the requirements of the National Patient Safety Goals. Visit [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org) for more information about this JCAHO requirement.

Permission is granted to reproduce material for internal newsletters or communications with proper attribution. Other reproduction is prohibited without written permission. Unless noted, reports were received through the USP-ISMP Medication Errors Reporting Program (MERP). Report actual and potential medication errors to the MERP via the web at [www.ismp.org](http://www.ismp.org) or by calling 1-800-FAIL-SAF(E). ISMP guarantees confidentiality of information received and respects reporters' wishes as to the level of detail included in publication.