

DO NOT USE DRUGS FOR AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERDS!

Compiled by Nannette Newbury

The following list is compiled from the Washington State University website:

(<https://vcpl.vetmed.wsu.edu/problem-drugs>) and the Rough Collie Council of the U.K. website:

(<http://www.roughcolliebreedcouncil.co.uk/health/drugsensitivity.html>). I suggest you visit each site for detailed information.

It has taken years, but we now scientifically know that herding breeds can be sensitive to certain drugs. The MDR1 test focuses on drugs that are known to be pumped out of the brain by P-glycoprotein, the protein encoded by the MDR1 gene.

What we also know is that there are MANY other drugs that can cause severe, even deadly reactions in the herding breeds, most having to do with the Central Nervous System disorders including encephalitis, seizures, etc. These drugs have been compiled with the longtime help of breeders and owners over many years that have personally experienced the disastrous results. Through their efforts they have created a substantial list based on empirical evidence.

I have combined the two lists for ease of use. If the drug has an asterisk (*) after it, it is from *Washington State University* (MDR1) and is on their "problem" drug list. If the drug is on both lists there will be two asterisks (**). All others are solely from the *Rough Collie Council of the U.K.*

Acepromazine**	Diltiazem	Itraconazole	Phenothiazines
Aldosterone	Domperidone	Ketoconazole	Phenytoin
Amitriptyline	Doxorubicin**	Loperamide**	Quinidine
Antiemetics	Doxycycline	Losartan	Ranitidine
Apomorphine*	Ebastine	Methylprednisolone	Rifampin
Buprenorphine	Erythromycin	Metoclopramide	Rifamicin
Butorphanol**	Estradiol	Metronidazole	Selamectin**
Chinidin	Etoposide	Milbemycin**	Sparfloxacin
Cimetidine	Fentanyl	Mitoxantrone	Tacrolimus
Cortisol	Fexofenadine	Morphine	Tetracycline
Cyclosporin A	Grepafloxacin	Moxidectin**	Verapamil
Dexamethasone	Hydrocortisone	Ondansetron	Vinblastine**
Digoxin	Ivermectin**	Paclitaxel**	Vincristine**

Please Note: Not every Australian Shepherd will have a negative or deadly reaction to the drugs listed above. However enough of them have had severe reactions and/or died to warrant caution. YOU must be an advocate for your Australian Shepherd.

If you have an Australian Shepherd that becomes severely neurologically impaired after being administered one of the drugs above and does not survive...please consider making arrangements for a brain necropsy. For interactions related to these drugs it appears that a brain necropsy must be done within three hours of death to conclusively determine that one of these drugs was a cause. After that time the drug will not be evident in a necropsy.

If you like you could send the results of the brain necropsy to me at stonepine@hughes.net so we can continue to store the anecdotal results in one location.