

Strategies for Monitoring and Improving Adherence in Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM)

| DRUG | ADVERSE REACTIONS | MONITORING | STRATEGY |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Azithromycin/ clarithromycin | • Gastrointestinal | • Clinical monitoring | • Change clarithromycin to azithromycin • Move administration to bedtime • Take with small starch |
| | • Metallic taste • Dysgeusia | • Clinical monitoring | • Change clarithromycin to azithromycin |
| | • Tinnitus/hearing loss | • Audiogram | • Interruption/change to thrice weekly |
| | • Hepatotoxicity | • Liver function tests | • Hold medication and re-challenge with mild hepatitis to determine etiology |
| | • Prolonged QTc | • ECG (QTc) | • Stop concomitant QT prolonging medications • May be rate limiting toxicity |
| Ethambutol | • Ocular toxicity | • Visual acuity/color discrimination • Read fine print every day of the same font | • Stop medication immediately and see an ophthalmologist • Rate limiting toxicity |
| | • Neuropathy | • Clinical monitoring | • Rate limiting toxicity |
| Rifampin/rifabutin | • Hepatotoxicity | • Liver function test | • Hold medication and re-challenge with mild hepatitis to determine etiology |
| | • Cytopenia | • Complete blood count | • Continue medication with mild leukocytopenia • Stop if the platelet count drops significantly (ITP) |
| | • Hypersensitivity | • Clinical monitoring | • Stop medication |
| | • Orange discoloration | • Clinical monitoring | • Reassure patient orange discoloration of secretions is expected |
| | • Uveitis (rifabutin) | • Visual acuity | • Rate limiting toxicity • Consider re-challenging with rifampin |
| Amikacin (parenteral) | • Ototoxicity | • Audiogram | • May be rate limiting |
| | • Tinnitus | • Clinical monitoring | • Stop other medications that can cause tinnitus • May be rate limiting |
| | • Vestibular toxicity | • Clinical monitoring | • Rate limiting toxicity |
| | • Nephrotoxicity | • BUN, creatinine | • Maintain hydration • Stop unnecessary medications that may affect renal function |
| | • Electrolyte disturbances | • Metabolic panel | • Correct electrolyte abnormalities prior to initiation |