

**PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE FOR DRUGS TO BE AVOIDED OR USED WITH CAUTION.**

I have **myasthenia gravis (MG)**, a disease that can make me so weak that I may have difficulty standing or speaking clearly. In addition, I may have drooping eyelids, double vision, and even difficulty breathing or swallowing. Sometimes these symptoms are mistaken for intoxication. However, if my breathing and swallowing difficulty is severe, I may be having an "MG crisis" that warrants emergency treatment.

If I appear to need help, please contact my physician, the local EMS or hospital immediately.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ or (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Year \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact in Emergency:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ or (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Medical Conditions:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Medications:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **DRUGS TO BE AVOIDED OR USED WITH CAUTION IN MG**

- ◇ D-penicillamine and interferon-alpha should not be used in myasthenic patients, as they can cause MG.
- ◇ Botulinum toxin (Botox) should be avoided.
- ◇ Increased weakness in a significant number of MG patients has been reported with the following drugs; use only with caution and monitor for exacerbation of MG symptoms:
  - Neuromuscular blocking agents such as succinylcholine and vecuronium should only be used by an anesthesiologist familiar with MG
  - Quinine, quinidine, or procainamide
  - Selected antibiotics, particularly aminoglycosides, telithromycin (Ketek-should not be used), erythromycin, and fluoroquinolones (such as ciprofloxacin (Note: Many other antibiotics have been reported to increase weakness in occasional MG patients.)
  - Beta-blockers (propranolol, timolol maleate eyedrops)
  - Calcium channel blockers
  - Iodinated contrast agents (a form of X-ray dye)- older reports of increase MG weakness but current form of contrast appears to carry low risk

The above list is not all inclusive; please consult with your physician or pharmacist. Numerous additional medications are reported to increase weakness in occasional patients with MG. The MG patient and physician should be alert to this possibility whenever a new medication is prescribed.

**For questions regarding medications, contact my MG doctor:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ or (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

More thorough, complete and up-to-date information on drug effects in MG may be found at the MGFA web site; reference document "Medications and Myasthenia Gravis A Reference for Health Care Professionals."