

# Tinnitus & Medications

## Ototoxic Medications

Ototoxic medications known to cause hearing loss typically also have tinnitus as a side effect.

### ◆ Antibiotics

Some common ototoxic drugs are those ending in -micin, such as the antibiotics Gentamicin, streptomycin, and tobramycin.

### ◆ Chemotherapy Drugs

Some cancer treatment drugs containing platinum are known to be ototoxic. One common example is cisplatin. Another is carboplatin.

### ◆ Loop Diuretics

Loop diuretics are kidney drugs. Some, like furosemide, are known to be ototoxic.

## Medications Associated with Tinnitus <sup>1, 2</sup>

The following types of drugs commonly have tinnitus noted as a side effect.

### ◆ Aspirin and NSAIDs (ibuprofen, naproxen)

In high doses, these drugs are known to cause tinnitus.

### ◆ Antidepressants

While not all types of depression and anxiety medication are associated with tinnitus, many common drugs used to treat these conditions (tricyclic antidepressants, Xanax, Valium, and Ativan) are associated with tinnitus.

### ◆ Blood Pressure Lowering Medication

Once again, not all medication meant to lower blood pressure causes tinnitus, multiple common blood pressure lowering drugs (like those containing ACE inhibitors and Amlodipine) are associated with tinnitus.

**This is not a comprehensive list. For patients complaining of tinnitus, taking a closer look at all of their listed medications may be advised.**

1. Mayo Clinic. (2019, March 9). *Tinnitus*. Retrieved April 26, 2020, from <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/tinnitus/symptoms-causes/syc-20350156>
2. Paula, C., Patricia, D., Konrad-Martin, D., Lister, J., Ortiz, C., & Schairer, K. (n.d.). *Ototoxic medications*. Retrieved April 26, 2020, from <https://www.asha.org/public/hearing/Ototoxic-Medications/>