

Salient features in drug acting on digestive system, and reproductive system

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Action on digestive system

- Medicines taken by mouth can affect the digestive system in a number of different ways. Both prescription and over-the-counter medicines, while usually safe and effective, may create harmful effects in some people. Certain medicines taken together may interact and cause harmful side effects.
- In addition, it is important that your healthcare providers know about any allergies, sensitivities, as well as other medical conditions you have before taking a new medicine.

- People with food intolerance, such as gluten intolerance, must be sure medicines do not contain fillers or additives with these substances.
- Effects:
- **Irritation of the esophagus**
- **Irritation of the stomach**
- **Constipation**
- **Diarrhea**

Action on reproductive system

- Infertility, permanent or temporary, resulting from drug-induced injury is an important clinical problem. Many common used drugs are potentially toxic to gonads.
- It is well-known that estrogens are toxic to the male genital system, but androgens may also produce infertility. Anovulation may also be a consequence of exposure to sex steroids.
- Cimetidine regularly produces hypospermia in men; phenytoin does so occasionally. Marijuana has been shown to be a gonadal toxin, while the effects of lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) remain controversial.
- The most significant group of drugs that may injure the gonads is the cancer chemotherapeutic agents, of which the alkylating agents are the worst offenders. Prediction of infertility induced by these agents may be possible based on the duration of therapy and the patient's age and sex.