

# Patient Prep: Potential Drug Interference

Drugs that bind to the dopamine transporter with high affinity may interfere with the DaTscan image. Whether discontinuation of these drugs prior to DaTscan administration may minimize the interference with a DaTscan image is unknown. The impact of dopamine agonists and antagonists upon DaTscan imaging results has not been established.

Reproduced with permission: Kagi G, Bhatia KP, Tolosa E. The role of DAT-SPECT in movement disorders. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry*. 2010;81:5-12.

**Table 1:** Relevant drug interaction with dopamine transporter single photon emission tomography (DAT-SPECT). (This is not a comprehensive list of medications. The DaTscan package insert includes some of these drugs and also includes amoxapine, buspirone, norephedrine, phenylpropanolamine, and seligiline as drugs that may interfere with DaTscan binding.)

Minor* effect on DAT-SPECT	To be stopped prior to DAT-SPECT	Significant† effect on DAT-SPECT	To be stopped prior to DAT-SPECT
Citalopram	8 days	Cocaine‡	2 days
Fluoxetine	45 days	Amphetamine	7 days
Paroxetine	5 days	Methylamphetamine	3 days
Venlafaxine	3 days	Methylphenidate	2 days
Duloxetine	3 days	Dexamphetamine	7 days
Escitalopram	8 days	Mazindol	3 days
Fluvoxamine	5 days	Phentermine	14 days
Sertraline	6 days	Modafinil	3 days
Imipramine	5 days	Bupropion or Amfebutamone	8 days
Clomipramine	21 days	Benzotropine	5 days
Pimozide‡	28 days		
Ziprasidone	2 days		
Memantine	5 days		
Amantadine	6 days		
Budipine‡	6 days		
Ephedrine, epinephrine	6-10 h		
Phenylephrine			
Pseudoephedrine			
Xylometazoline‡			

\*May have a small effect on uptake (at most 15%). This is acceptable for routine DAT-SPECT but not for research.

†All of these drugs are likely to alter (usually decrease) radioligand uptake by at least 20% and often substantially more, and therefore have to be stopped prior to DAT-SPECT.

‡Not FDA-approved

Please see reverse for Important Risk and Safety Information about DaTscan.



**DaTscan™**  
**Ioflupane I 123 Injection**  
 See the Difference