

Appendix 1: Stockley's Interactions Checker

Stockley's Interactions Checker uses 4 levels of severity:

1. Severe

For interactions that could totally incapacitate a patient or result in either a permanent detrimental effect or a life-threatening event.

2. Moderate

For interactions that could result in an effect that may either cause considerable distress or partially incapacitate a patient. These interactions are unlikely to be life-threatening or result in long-term effects.

3. Mild

For interactions that could result in an effect that is mild and unlikely to unduly concern or incapacitate the majority of patients.

4. Nothing expected

For interactions that are unlikely to result in an effect, or for drugs pairs where no interaction occurs.

For each interaction, Stockley's recommends one of the following actions:

1. Avoid

For interactions where a drug combination is best avoided. This will mainly be used to highlight contraindicated drug pairs.

2. Monitor

For interactions where the drug pair is valuable and no compensatory action is possible, but the patient needs to be monitored to assess the outcome. For interactions where biochemical or therapeutic drug monitoring is recommended and further action may be needed based on the results.

3. Information

For interactions where close follow up or monitoring are probably not automatically warranted due to the low probability of an interaction, but where more information is given in the event of a problem.

Recommendations are based on the following:

1. Extensive

For interactions where the information given is based on numerous small or medium size studies or several large studies. The information is usually supported by case reports.

2. Study

For interactions where the information given is based on formal study. This may be one small or medium size study, or several small studies. The studies may or may not be supported by case reports.

3. Case

For interactions where the information given is based either on a single case report or a limited number of case reports. No trials appear to have been conducted.

4. Theoretical

For interactions where the information given is based on a theoretical interaction or lack of interaction. This information may have been derived either from in vitro studies involving the drug in question or based on the way other members of the same group act.