

Caring for Your Child
Transplant Medication Side Effects

All medications have possible side effects, but here are some of the more common/serious ones that you should know about. Contact the transplant team if you notice any side effects.

	Medication Name	Taken how often?	Possible side effects (common side effects in bold)
Anti-Rejection or Immunosuppressants (Duration: Likely Lifelong)	Tacrolimus Also known as Tac or Prograf	Every 12 hours	headache, hand tremors , trouble sleeping, hair thinning, high blood pressure, kidney injury, high blood sugar, low magnesium, high or low potassium
	Mycophenolate mofetil Also known as MMF or Cellcept	Every 12 hours	upset stomach, diarrhea , vomiting, low blood cell counts
	Prednisone or Prednisolone	Daily	upset stomach, mood changes, trouble sleeping, pimples, increased appetite, weight gain , fluid retention, puffy face, high blood pressure, high blood sugar, decreased growth, weak bones
	All anti-rejection medications can increase the risk of infection & some cancers		
Anti-Infection (Duration: 3 to 12 months)	Sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim (Bactrim/ Septra/ Cotrimoxazole)	Daily	upset stomach, rash , high potassium, low blood counts
	Nystatin	3 times a day	upset stomach, vomiting
	Valganciclovir (Valcyte) or Acyclovir (Zovirax)	Daily	upset stomach , low blood counts, kidney injury
Prevents Ulcers	Ranitidine (Zantac)	Once or twice a day	headache, low blood counts