

Common Drug Name Stems

Below is a table that has three columns: Drug Stem, Drug Class, and an Example. Each stem has hyphens at one or both ends of its text to show that it is found at the beginning, end, or in the middle of the generic name.

Drug Stem	Drug Class and/or Stem Explanation	Examples
–alol	Combined alpha and beta blockers	labet alol ,medrox alol
–andr–	Androgens	n andr olone
–anserin	Serotonin 5–HT(sub)2 receptor antagonists	alt anserin ,trop anserin ,alt an serin
–arabine	Antineoplastics (arabinofuranosyl derivatives)	flud arabine
–ase	Enzymes	alglucer ase ,dorn ase alfa
–azepam	Antianxiety agents (diazepam type)	lor azepam
–azosin	Antihypertensives (prazosin type)	dox azosin
–bactam	Beta–lactamase inhibitors	sul bactam
–bamate	Tranquilizers/antiepileptics	mepro bamate ,fel bamate
–barb	Barbituric acid derivatives	pheno barb ital
–butazone	Anti–inflammatory analgesics (phenylbutazone type)	mofe butazone
–caine	Local anesthetics	dibu caine
cef–	Cephalosporins	cef azolin
–cillin	Penicillins	ampi cillin
–conazole	Antifungals (miconazole type)	flu conazole ,oxiconazole
–cort–	Cortisone derivatives	hydro cort isone
–curium	Neuromuscular blocking agents	atra curium
–cycline	Antibiotics (tetracycline type)	mino cycline
–dralazine	Antihypertensives (hydrazine–phthalazines)	hy dralazine
–erg–	Ergot alkaloid derivatives	p erg olide
estr–	Estrogens	estr one
–fibrate	Antihyperlipidemics	beza fibrate
–flurane	Inhalation anesthetics	en flurane ,iso flurane
–gest–	Progestins	me gest rol
–irudin	Anticoagulants	des irudin
–leukin	Interleukin–2 derivatives	tece leukin ,aldes leukin

–lukast	Leukotriene antagonists	monte lukast ,zafir lukast
–mab	Monoclonal antibodies	capro mab ,daclizu mab ,detumo mab ,
–mantadine	Antivirals	ri mantadine
–monam	Monobactam antibiotics	gloxi monam
–mustine	Antineoplastics	car mustine
–mycin	Antibiotics (streptomyces strains)	linco mycin
–olol	Beta-blockers (propranolol type)	tim olol ,aten olol
–olone	Steroids (no prednisone derivatives)	minax olone
–oxacin	Antibiotics (quinolone derivatives)	difl oxacin ,ciprofl oxacin
–pamide	Diuretics (sulfamoylbenzoic acid derivatives)	adi pamide
–pamil	Coronary vasodilators	tia pamil
–parin	Heparin derivatives and low molecular weight (or depolymerized) heparins	he parin ,tinza parin ,dalte parin
–peridol	Antipsychotics (haloperidol type)	halo peridol
–poetin	Erythropoietins	e poetin alfa, e poetin beta
–pramine	Antidepressants (imipramine type)	lofe pramine
–pred	Prednisone derivatives	pred nicarbate, clo pred nol
–pril	Antihypertensives (ACE inhibitors)	enala pril ,temoca pril ,spira pril
–profen	Anti-inflammatory/analgesic agents (ibuprofen type)	flurbi profen
–rubicin	Antineoplastic antibiotics (daunorubicin type)	epi rubicin ,ida rubicin
–sartan	Angiotensin II receptor antagonists	lo sartan ,epro sartan
–sulfa	Antibiotics (sulfonamide derivatives)	sulfa salazine
–thiazide	Diuretics (thiazide derivatives)	chloro thiazide
–tocin	Oxytocin derivatives	oxy tocin ,pi tocin
–trexate	Antimetabolites (folic acid derivatives)	metho trexate
–triptyline	Antidepressants	ami triptyline
-uracil	Uracil derivatives used as thyroid antagonists and as antineoplastics	fluoro uracil
–vastatin	Antihyperlipidemics (HMG-CoA inhibitors)	lo vastatin ,sim vastatin
vir- -vir- or -vir	Antiviral substances (undefined group)	vir oxime, en vir odyne, ganciclo vir