

| Function | Name (Generic/Brand) | Indicated For | Common Side Effects |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Slows disease progression | Aducanumab (Aduhelm) | Alzheimer disease (MCI or mild dementia) | Headache and fall |
| | Lecanemab (Leqembi) | Alzheimer disease (MCI or mild dementia) | Infusion-related reactions and headache |
| Treats cognitive symptoms (memory and thinking) | Donepezil (Aricept) | Mild to severe dementia due to Alzheimer disease | Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, muscle cramps, and increased frequency of bowel movements |
| | Galantamine (Razadyne) | Mild to moderate dementia due to Alzheimer disease | Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, and increased frequency of bowel movements |
| | Rivastigmine (Exelon) | Mild to moderate dementia due to Alzheimer or Parkinson disease | Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, and increased frequency of bowel movements |
| | Memantine (Namenda) | Moderate to severe dementia due to Alzheimer disease | Headache, constipation, confusion, and dizziness |
| | Memantine + Donepezil (Namzaric) | Moderate to severe dementia due to Alzheimer disease | Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, increased frequency of bowel movements, headache, constipation, confusion, and dizziness |
| Treats noncognitive symptoms (behavioral and psychological) | Brexipiprazole (Rexulti) | Agitation associated with dementia due to Alzheimer disease | Weight gain, sleepiness, dizziness, common cold symptoms, and restlessness or feeling the need to move Warning for serious side effects: Increased risk of death in older adults with dementia-related psychosis. Rexulti is not approved for the treatment of people with dementia-related psychosis without agitation. |

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|----------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | Suvorexant (Belsomra) | For insomnia; has been shown to be effective in people with mild to moderate Alzheimer disease | Impaired alertness and motor coordination, worsening of depression or suicidal thinking, complex sleep behaviors, sleep paralysis, compromised respiratory function |

Table 14.3 Medications for Treating Symptoms of Alzheimer Disease (Alzheimer’s Association, n.d.)