

Table 1. Summary of the FDA preclinical studies on the carcinogenic risk of marketed antidepressants.

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	( <sup>+</sup> MRHD (-)
TCAs					
Imipramine	1	R	Rats: 90 mg/kg; 3 months	Rats: No evidence of carcinogenicity	X
SRIs					
Citalopram	2	M, R	NMRI/BOM mice: Up to 240 mg/kg/day; 18 months	NMRI/BOM mice: No evidence of carcinogenicity	X 1.3; 4×
			COBS WI rats: Up to 24 mg/kg/day; 24 months	COBS WI rats: Increased incidence of small intestine carcinoma (8 or 24 mg/kg/day)	
Escitalopram	2	M, R	NMRI/BOM Mice: Up to 240 mg/kg/day; 18 months	NMRI/BOM Mice: No evidence of carcinogenicity (up to 240 mg/kg/day)	X NS X
			COBS WI Rats: Up to 24 mg/kg/day; 24 months	COBS WI Rats: Increased incidence of small intestine carcinoma (8, 24 mg/kg/day)	
Fluoxetine	2	M, R	Mice: Up to 12 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Mice: No evidence of carcinogenicity	X
			Rats: Up to 10 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Rats: No evidence of carcinogenicity	X
Paroxetine	2	M, R	Mice: 1, 5, 25 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Mice: No drug-related increase in the number of mice with tumors	X 3.2×
			Rats: 1, 5, 20 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Rats: Increased incidence of reticulum cell sarcomas, lymphoreticular tumors (♂)	
Sertraline	2	M, R	CD-1 mice: Up to 40 mg/kg/day; lifetime	CD-1 mice: Dose-related increased incidence of liver adenomas (♂)	X 0.25–1.0×
			Long-Evans rats: Up to 40 mg/kg/day; lifetime	Long-Evans rats: Increased incidence of follicular adenomas of the thyroid (♀); increased incidence of uterine adenocarcinomas	X 2×
					0.5–2.0×
SNRIs					

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	( <sup>+</sup> ) MRHD	(-)
Duloxetine	2	M, R	<i>Mice:</i> Up to 140 mg/kg/day (♀); 2 years; up to 100 mg/kg/day (♂); 2 years <i>Rats:</i> Up to 27 mg/kg/day (♀); 2 years; up to 36 mg/kg/day (♂); 2 years	<i>Mice:</i> Increased incidence of hepatocellular adenomas and carcinomas (♀) <i>Rats:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity	X 11×	X
Venlafaxine	2	M, R	<i>Mice:</i> Up to 120 mg/kg/day; 18 months <i>Rats:</i> Up to 120 mg/kg/day; 24 months	<i>Mice:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity <i>Rats:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity		X X
NaSSAs						
Mirtazapine	2	M, R	<i>Mice:</i> 2, 20, 200 mg/kg/day; 2 years <i>Rats:</i> 2, 20, 60 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice:</i> Increased incidence of hepatocellular adenoma and carcinoma in (♂) at the high dose <i>Rats:</i> Increased incidence of hepatocellular adenoma at the mid/high doses (♀), hepatocellular tumors, thyroid follicular adenoma/cystadenoma and carcinoma at the high dose (♂)	X 12×	X 45×
SARIs						
Trazodone	1	R	<i>Rats:</i> 300 mg/kg/day; 18 months	<i>Rats:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
Atypical antidepressants						
Bupropion	2	M, R	<i>Mice:</i> Up to 150 mg/kg/day; lifetime <i>Rats:</i> Up to 300 mg/kg/day; lifetime	<i>Mice:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity <i>Rats:</i> Increased incidence of nodular proliferative liver lesions	X 2–7×	X
Total number of positive and negative studies					9	11

FDA: US Food and Drug Administration; R: rats; M: mice; NS: not specified; ♂: male; ♀: female; MRHD: maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis; (+): total number of positive studies; (-): total number of negative studies; TCAs: tricyclic antidepressants; SRIs: serotonin

reuptake inhibitors; SNRIs: serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors; NaSSAs: noradrenergic and specific serotonergic antidepressants; SARIs: serotonin antagonist and reuptake inhibitors.

No data were available for amitriptyline, desipramine, nortriptyline (TCAs), phenelzine and tranylcypromine (monoamine oxidase inhibitors—MAOIs).

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[Center for Drug Evaluation and Research \(n.d.\)](#).

Table 2. Summary of the FDA preclinical studies on the carcinogenic risk of marketed antipsychotics.

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+)	MRHD	(-)
Typical antipsychotics							
Haloperidol	2	M, R	<i>Albino Swiss mice</i> : Up to 5 mg/kg/day; 18 months	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence in mammary gland neoplasia and total tumor incidence at 5 and 20 times the highest initial daily dose (♀); increased incidence in pituitary gland neoplasia at 20 times the same daily dose (♀)	X	NS	X
			<i>Wistar rats</i> : Up to 5 mg/kg/day; 24 months	<i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity			
Atypical antipsychotics							
Aripiprazole	3	M, R	<i>ICR mice</i> : 1, 3, 10, 30 mg/kg/day lifetime	<i>ICR mice</i> : Increased incidence of pituitary gland adenomas, mammary gland adenocarcinomas and adenoacanthomas (♀; prolactin-mediated)	X	0.1–0.9×	
			<i>SD rats</i> : 1, 3, 10 mg/kg/day lifetime	<i>SD and F344 rats</i> : Increased incidence of mammary gland fibroadenomas (♀) (10 mg/kg/day), adrenocortical carcinomas and combined adrenocortical adenomas/carcinomas (♀) (60 mg/kg/day)	X	0.1×	
			<i>F344 rats</i> : 10, 20, 40, 60 mg/kg/day; 2 years		X	14×	
Asenapine	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : 10 mg twice daily, lifetime	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence of malignant lymphomas (♀)	X	1.5× (PL)	X
			<i>SD rats</i> : lifetime	<i>SD rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity			

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	( <sup>+</sup> )	MRHD	( <sup>-</sup> )
Clozapine	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : Up to 900 mg/day <i>Rats</i> : Up to 900 mg/day	<i>Mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity <i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity			X X
Iloperidone	3	M, R	<i>CD-1 mice</i> : 2.5, 5, 10 mg/kg/day <i>SD rats</i> : 4, 8, 16 mg/kg/day <i>Wistar rats</i> : 25, 75, 200 mg/kg/day in ♂ and 50, 150, 250 mg/kg/day in ♀ (metabolite P95)	<i>CD-1 mice</i> : Increased incidence of malignant mammary gland tumors in ♀ (prolactin-mediated) (2.5 mg/kg/day) <i>SD rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity <i>Wistar rats</i> : Drug-related neoplastic changes occurred in ♂, in the pituitary gland at all doses and in the pancreas at the high dose (prolactin-mediated)	X X	0.5× 0.4; 3; 23× (PL)	X X
Lurasidone	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : 30, 100, 300, 650 mg/kg/day <i>Rats</i> : 12, 36 mg/kg/day lifetime <i>Mice</i> : 3, 10, 30/20 mg/kg/day (♂); 0.25, 2, 8 mg/kg/day (♀); 78 weeks	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence of malignant mammary gland tumors and pituitary gland adenomas (F; prolactin-mediated) <i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence of mammary gland carcinomas (♀; prolactin-mediated)	X X	14× 6×	
Olanzapine	3	M, R	<i>Rats</i> : 0.25, 1, 2.5, 4 mg/kg/day (♂); 0.25, 1, 4, 8 (♀); 2 years	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence of liver hemangiomas and hemangiosarcomas (♀) <i>Mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity <i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence of mammary gland adenomas, adenocarcinomas (♀; prolactin-mediated)	X X	2× 0.5–2×	X
Quetiapine	2	M, R	<i>C57BL mice</i> : 20, 75, 250, 750 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>C57BL mice</i> : Increased incidence of thyroid gland follicular adenomas (♂)	X	1.5, 4.5×	

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+)	MRHD	(-)
Risperidone	2	M, R	<i>Wistar rats</i> : 25, 75, 250 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Wistar rats</i> : Increased incidence of mammary gland adenocarcinomas (♀; prolactin-mediated)	X	0.3; 1; 3×	
			<i>Albino Swiss mice</i> : 0.63, 2.5, 10 mg/kg/day; 18 months	<i>Albino Swiss mice</i> : Increased incidence in pituitary gland adenomas, mammary gland adenocarcinomas (♀; prolactin-mediated)	X	0.2; 0.75; 3×	
			<i>Wistar rats</i> : 0.63, 2.5, 10 mg/kg/day; 25 months	<i>Wistar rats</i> : Increased incidence in endocrine pancreas adenomas (♂), mammary gland adenocarcinomas (♂, ♀; prolactin-mediated)	X	0.4; 1.5; 6×	
Ziprasidone	2	M, R	<i>CD-1 mice</i> : 2, 6, 12 mg/kg/day; 24 months	<i>CD-1 mice</i> : Dose-related increased incidence of pituitary gland adenoma and carcinoma and mammary gland adenocarcinoma at all doses tested	X	1–5×	X
			<i>Long-Evans rats</i> : 2, 6, 12 mg/kg/day; 24 months	<i>Long-Evans rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity			
Total number of positive and negative studies					16		7

FDA: US Food and Drug Administration; R: rats; M: mice; NS: not specified; ♂: male; ♀: female; PL: plasma levels; SD: Sprangue-Dawley; MRHD: maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis; (+): total number of positive studies; (-): total number of negative studies.

No data were available for chlorpromazine (typical antipsychotic) and paliperidone (atypical antipsychotic).

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[Center for Drug Evaluation and Research \(n.d.\)](#).

Table 3. Summary of the FDA preclinical studies on the carcinogenic risk of marketed benzodiazepines and sedative-hypnotics.

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+) MRHD	(-)
Benzodiazepines						
Alprazolam	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : 10 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
			<i>Rats</i> : 50 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+) MRHD	(-)
Clobazam	1	R	<i>Rats</i> : 4, 20, 100 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence of thyroid follicular cell adenomas (♂, high dose)	X	NS
Diazepam	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : 75 mg/kg/day; 80 weeks	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence of liver tumors in ♂	X	6×
			<i>Rats</i> : 75 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence of liver tumors in ♂	X	12×
Lorazepam	1	R	<i>Rats</i> : 18 months	<i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
Midazolam	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : 1, 9, 80 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence of hepatic tumors in ♀	X	NS
			<i>Rats</i> : 1, 9, 80 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence in benign thyroid follicular cell tumors (♂) at the highest dose tested	X	NS
Oxazepam	2	R	<i>Mice</i> : 9 months	<i>Mice</i> : Increased incidence of liver adenomas and carcinomas	X	35–100×
			<i>Rats</i> : 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence in benign thyroid follicular cell tumors, testicular interstitial cell adenomas, prostatic adenomas	X	30×
Triazolam	1	M	<i>Mice</i> : 24 months	<i>Mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
Sedative-hypnotics						
Eszopiclone	5	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : Racemic zopiclone; 1, 10, 100 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice</i> : Increases in pulmonary carcinomas and carcinomas plus adenomas (♀) and skin fibromas and sarcomas (♂) at the highest dose tested	X	90× (PL) X
			<i>Mice</i> : 100 mg/kg/day p53 ± transgenic mice; 300 mg/kg/day	<i>Mice</i> : No increased incidence in either pulmonary or skin tumors p53 ± transgenic mice: No evidence of carcinogenicity	X	150× (PL) X
			<i>Rats</i> : 16 mg/kg/day; 104 weeks in ♀; 97 weeks in ♂	<i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		70× (PL) X
			<i>Rats</i> : 1, 10, 100 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : Increased incidence in mammary gland adenocarcinomas (♀) and		

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+) MRHD	(-)
				thyroid gland follicular cell adenomas and carcinomas (♂) at the highest dose tested		
Zaleplon	2	M, R	Mice: 25, 50, 100, 200 mg/kg/day; 2 years Rats: 1, 10, 20 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Mice: Increased incidence of hepatocellular adenomas in ♀ in the high-dose group Rats: No evidence of carcinogenicity	X 49×	X
Zolpidem	2	M, R	Mice: 4, 18, 80 mg/kg/day; 2 years Rats: 4, 18, 80 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Mice: No evidence of carcinogenicity Rats: Renal liposarcomas in 4/100 rats (3 ♂, 1 ♀) receiving 80 mg/kg/day and 1 renal lipoma (♂) at the 18 mg/kg/day dose	X 115×	X 6×

Total number of positive and negative studies 11 9  
 FDA: US Food and Drug Administration; R: rats; M: mice; NS: not specified; ♂: male; ♀: female; PL: plasma levels; MRHD: maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis; (+): total number of positive studies; (-): total number of negative studies.

No data were available for bromazepam, clonazepam (benzodiazepine) and chlordiazepoxide (sedative-hypnotic).

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[Center for Drug Evaluation and Research \(n.d.\).](#)

Table 4. Summary of the FDA preclinical studies on the carcinogenic risk of marketed amphetamines and stimulants.

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+) MRHD	(-)
Amphetamines						
Amphetamine <sup>b</sup>	2	M, R	Mice: Up to 30 mg/kg/day in ♂, up to 19 mg/kg/day in ♀; 2 years Rats: Up to 5 mg/kg/day; 2 years	Mice: No evidence of carcinogenicity Rats: No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
Methylphenidate	3	M, R	B6C3F1 mice: 60 mg/kg/day lifetime F344 rats: 45	B6C3F1 mice: Increased incidence of hepatocellular adenomas and hepatoblastomas (♂) F344 rats: No	X 30–4×	X

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+) MRHD	(-)
			mg/kg/day lifetime	evidence of carcinogenicity		
			<i>p53 ± transgenic mice</i> : 60–74 mg/kg/day; 24 weeks	<i>p53 ± transgenic mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		
Stimulants						
Modafinil	3	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : 6, 30, 60 mg/kg/day; 78 weeks	<i>Mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
			<i>Tg.AC transgenic mice</i> : 125, 250, 500 mg/kg/day administered dermally	<i>Tg.AC transgenic mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
			<i>Rats</i> : 6, 30, 60 mg/kg/day; 104 weeks	<i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
NRI						
Atomoxetine	2	M, R	<i>Mice</i> : Up to 458 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X
			<i>Rats</i> : Up to 47 mg/kg/day (8–5× MRHD); 2 years	<i>Rats</i> : No evidence of carcinogenicity		X

Total number of positive and negative studies 1 9

FDA: US Food and Drug Administration; NT: not tested; R: rats; M: mice; ♂: male; ♀: female; MRHD: maximum recommended human dose on a mg/m<sup>2</sup> basis; (+): total number of positive studies; (-): total number of negative studies; NRI: norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor.

No data were available for dextroamphetamine, hydroxyamphetamine and methamphetamine (amphetamines).

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[Center for Drug Evaluation and Research \(n.d.\).](#)

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Combination of the neutral sulfate salts of dextroamphetamine and amphetamine, with the dextro isomer of amphetamine saccharate and d, l-amphetamine aspartate monohydrate.

Table 5. Summary of the FDA preclinical studies on the carcinogenic risk of marketed anticonvulsants.

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+) MRHD	(-)
Anticonvulsants						
Carbamazepine	1	R	<i>Mice</i> : 25, 75,	<i>Mice</i> : Dose-related	X	NS

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+ )	MRHD	(- )
Gabapentin	2	M, R	250 mg/kg/day; 2 years	increased incidence of hepatocellular tumors in ♀ and benign interstitial cell adenomas in the testes of ♂			
			<i>Mice:</i> 200, 600, 2000 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity	X	NS	X
Lamotrigine	3	M, R	<i>Rats:</i> 250, 1000, 2000 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats:</i> Increased incidence of pancreatic acinar cell adenomas and carcinomas in ♂ receiving the high dose			
			<i>Mice:</i> 30 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice and rats:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity			X X X
Oxcarbazepine	3	M, R	<i>Rats:</i> 10–15 mg/kg/day (equivalent to 90 mg/m <sup>2</sup> and 60 to 90 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ); 2 years				
			<i>Mice:</i> Up to 100 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice:</i> Dose-related increased incidence of hepatocellular adenomas (≥70 mg/kg/day)	X	0.1×	
			<i>Rats:</i> Up to 250 mg/kg/day; 10-MHD up to 600 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Rats:</i> Increased incidence of hepatocellular carcinomas in ♀ (≥25 mg/kg/day)	X	0.1×	
				Increased incidence of hepatocellular adenomas and/or carcinomas in ♂ and ♀ treated with MHD (600 mg/kg/day)	X	2.4×	
				Increased incidence of benign testicular interstitial cell tumors in ♂ at 250 mg oxcarbamazepine/kg/day and at ≥250 mg MHD/kg/day; increased incidence of granular cervix and vagina in ♀ at 600 mg			

Drug type <sup>a</sup>	Number of studies	Animals	Dose	Comments	(+ )	MRHD	(- )
Pregabalin	2	M, R	<i>Mice:</i> Up to 5000 mg/kg; 2 years  <i>Rats:</i> Up to 450 mg/kg in ♂, up to 900 mg/kg in ♀; 2 years	MHD/kg/day <i>Mice:</i> Dose-dependent increased incidence of hemangiosarcomas in mice (200, 1000 or 5000 mg/kg)  <i>Rats:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity	X	=MRHD	X
Topiramate	2	M, R	<i>Mice:</i> 20, 75 and 300 mg/kg; 21 months  <i>Rats:</i> Up to 120 mg/kg; 2 years	<i>Mice:</i> Increased incidence in urinary bladder tumors (20, 75 and 300 mg/kg), statistically significant in ♂ and ♀ receiving 300 mg/kg  <i>Rats:</i> No evidence of carcinogenicity	X	0.5–1×	X
Valproate	2	M, R	<i>Mice and Rats:</i> 80, 170 mg/kg/day; 2 years	<i>Mice:</i> Dose-related trend for benign pulmonary adenomas in ♂  <i>Rats:</i> Increased incidence of subcutaneous fibrosarcomas in high-dose ♂	X	<MRHD	X