

Interaction Potential of Chemsex Drugs

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Drug	Metabolism	Interaction Potential		Signs of Toxicity	Recommendations with cobicistat or ritonavir containing regimens
		Cobicistat Ritonavir	BIC, DOR, DTG, RAL, MVC, RPV, NRTIs		
Benzodiazepines: <i>Midazolam, Triazolam</i>	CYP3A4	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowsiness • Disorientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraindicated.
Benzodiazepines: <i>Others</i>	CYP3A4	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drowsiness • Disorientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caution– use lower dose of benzodiazepine.
Cocaine	CYP3A4 (minor)	Low-moderate	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tremors • Paranoia • Seizures • Headache • Hyperthermia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical relevance unknown. • Inform users of signs of toxicity.
Ecstasy (MDMA)	CYP2D6	Limited CYP2D6 inhibition, but small PK changes could be significant due to non-linear PK.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertension • Seizures • Hyperthermia • Arrhythmia • Tachycardia • Teeth grinding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid if possible. • If unavoidable, start with ~25-50% of the usual amount of ecstasy. • Inform users of signs of toxicity.
GHB	GHB dehydrogenase CYP?	Unknown. Caution due to GHB narrow therapeutic index	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seizures • Bradycardia • Respiratory depression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use with caution. • Use lower dose. • Inform users of signs of toxicity.
Ketamine	CYP3A4	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory depression • Hallucinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid if possible. • If unavoidable, start with ~33-50% of the usual amount of ketamine.
Mephedrone	CYP2D6	Limited CYP2D6 inhibition	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tachycardia • Agitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use lower dose. • Inform users of signs of toxicity.
Methamphetamine	CYP2D6	Limited CYP2D6 inhibition, but small PK changes could be significant due to non-linear PK.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertension • Seizures • Hyperthermia • Arrhythmia • Tachycardia • Teeth grinding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid if possible. • If unavoidable, start with ~25-50% of the usual amount of methamphetamine. • Inform users of signs of toxicity.
Poppers (nitrites)	Non-CYP mediated	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dizziness • Hypotension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform users of signs of toxicity.
Sildenafil Tadalafil Vardenafil	CYP3A4	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chest pain • Nausea • Arrhythmia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use lower dose: Sildenafil – 25 mg in 48 h Tadalafil – 10 mg in 72 h Vardenafil – 2.5 mg in 72 h

Note: interactions and their effects are difficult to predict due to variability in the amount of recreational drug and the possible presence of other substances.

Flow Chart for Clinical Practice

