

TABLE 246e-1 OVERVIEW OF AGENTS USED FOR THE TREATMENT OF PARASITIC INFECTIONS (CONTINUED)

Drugs by Class	Parasitic Infection(s)	Adverse Effects	Major Drug-Drug Interactions	Pregnancy Class ^a	Breast Milk
Emetine and dehydroemetine ^e	Amebiasis, fascioliasis	<i>Severe:</i> cardiotoxicity. <i>Frequent:</i> pain at injection site. <i>Occasional:</i> dizziness, headache, GI symptoms	None reported	X	No information
Folate antagonists					
Dihydrofolate reductase inhibitors					
Pyrimethamine	Malaria, ^b isosporiasis, toxoplasmosis ^b	<i>Occasional:</i> folate deficiency. <i>Rare:</i> rash, seizures, severe skin reactions (toxic epidermal necrolysis, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome)	Sulfonamides, proguanil, zidovudine: increased risk of bone marrow suppression when used concomitantly	C	Yes
Proguanil and chlorproguanil	Malaria	<i>Occasional:</i> urticaria. <i>Rare:</i> hematuria, GI disturbances	No major interactions	C	Yes
Trimethoprim	Cyclosporiasis, isosporiasis	Hyperkalemia, GI upset, mild stomatitis	Methotrexate: reduced clearance Warfarin: effect prolonged Phenytoin: hepatic metabolism increased	C	Yes
Dihydropteroate synthetase inhibitors: sulfonamides					
Sulfadiazine	Malaria, ^b toxoplasmosis ^b	<i>Frequent:</i> GI disturbances, allergic skin reactions, crystalluria. <i>Rare:</i> severe skin reactions (toxic epidermal necrolysis, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome), agranulocytosis, aplastic anemia, hypersensitivity of the respiratory tract, hepatitis, interstitial nephritis, hypoglycemia, aseptic meningitis	Thiazide diuretics: increased risk of thrombocytopenia in elderly patients Warfarin: effect prolonged by sulfonamides Methotrexate: levels increased by sulfonamides Phenytoin: metabolism impaired by sulfonamides Sulfonylureas: effect prolonged by sulfonamides	B	Yes
Sulfamethoxazole					
Sulfadoxine					
Dihydropteroate synthetase inhibitors: sulfones					
Dapsone	Leishmaniasis, malaria, toxoplasmosis	<i>Frequent:</i> rash, anorexia. <i>Occasional:</i> hemolysis, methemoglobinemia, neuropathy, allergic dermatitis, anorexia, nausea, vomiting, tachycardia, headache, insomnia, psychosis, hepatitis. <i>Rare:</i> agranulocytosis	Rifampin: lowered plasma levels of dapsone	C	Yes
Fumagillin	Microsporidiosis	<i>Rare:</i> neutropenia, thrombocytopenia	None reported	No information	No information
Furazolidone	Giardiasis	<i>Frequent:</i> nausea/vomiting, brown urine. <i>Occasional:</i> rectal itching, headache. <i>Rare:</i> hemolytic anemia, disulfiram-like reactions, MAO inhibitor interactions	Risk of hypertensive crisis when administered for >5 days with MAO inhibitors	C	No information
Iodoquinol	Amebiasis, ^b balantidiasis, <i>D. fragilis</i> infection	<i>Occasional:</i> headache, rash, pruritus, thyrotoxicosis, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea. <i>Rare:</i> optic neuritis, peripheral neuropathy, seizures, encephalopathy	No major interactions	C	No information
Ivermectin	Ascariasis, cutaneous larva migrans, gnathostomiasis, loiasis, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, ^b scabies, strongyloidiasis, ^b trichuriasis	<i>Occasional:</i> fever, pruritus, headache, myalgias. <i>Rare:</i> hypotension	No major interactions	C	Yes ^d
Macrolides					
Azithromycin	Babesiosis	<i>Occasional:</i> nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain. <i>Rare:</i> angioedema, cholestatic jaundice	Cyclosporine and digoxin: levels increased by azithromycin Nelfinavir: increased levels of azithromycin	B	Yes

(Continued)