



Look Alike – Sound Alike Drug List
Below is a listing of drugs that look or sound alike.

Avandia (rosiglitazone)	Coumadin (warfarin)
Celebrex (celecoxib)	Celexa (citalopram hydrobromide) Cerebyx fosphenitoin
Catapres (clonidine)	Klonopin (clonazepam)
Dilaudid (hydromorphone)	Astramorph, Duramorph, Infumorph (Morphine)
Lantus (glargine)	Lente (insulin zinc susp)
Humulin (human insulin)	Humalog (insulin lispro)
Novolin (human insulin) Novolin 70/30 (70% NPH and 30% regular)	Novolog (human insulin aspart)
Advicor	Advair
Chlorpropamide	Chlorpromazine
Folic acid	Folinic acid – (leucovorin calcium)
Heparin	Hespan
Leukeran	Leucovorin calcium
Zantac	Xanax

Below are measures we should take to reduce medication errors relating to these and any drug:

- Maintain awareness of look-alike and sound-alike drug names.
- Whenever possible, determine the purpose of the medication before dispensing or drug administration. Most products with look or sound-alike names are used for different purposes.
- Accept verbal or telephone orders only when truly necessary, and never for chemotherapy. Encourage staff to read back all orders, spell the product name, and state its indication.
- When possible, list brand and generic names on medication administration records such redundancy could help someone identify an error.
- Store products with look or sound-alike names in different locations in pharmacies, patient care units, and in other settings, including patient homes. When applicable, use a shelf sticker to help locate the product that has been moved.
- Continue to employ independent double checks in the dispensing process (one person interprets and enters the prescription into the computer and another reviews the printed label against the original prescription and the product prior to dispensing).
- Encourage reporting of errors and potentially hazardous conditions with look and sound-alike product names and use the information to establish priorities for error reduction. Also maintain awareness of problematic product names and error prevention recommendations provided by ISMP (www.ismp.org), FDA (www.fda.gov), and USP (www.usp.org).