

Therapeutic Option	Mechanism of Action	Onset of Effect/Duration of Treatment	Adverse Effects	Contraindications	Drug or other Interactions	Risk Level for Drug Interactions	Convenience/Cost
Topical Decongestant e.g., naphazoline, phenylephrine, oxymetazoline, tetrahydrozoline	Stimulates α ₁ -adrenergic receptors in the arterioles of the conjunctiva to produce vasoconstriction	5-10 minutes	Frequency not defined: Ocular: Blurred vision, discomfort, intraocular pressure increased, irritation, lacrimation, mydriasis, punctate keratitis, redness, rebound miosis	Pregnancy: C Lactation: Systemic absorption from ophthalmic instillation is minimal, no specific monitoring recommendations to identify adverse effects Renal: None Hepatic: none Other: None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atomoxetine – may enhance the hypertensive effect and tachycardic effects of sympathomimetics Cannabinoids – may enhance the tachycardic effect of sympathomimetics Ergot derivatives – may enhance the hypertensive effect of α₁-agonists. Ergot derivatives may enhance the vasoconstricting effect of α₁-agonists. Exceptions: ergoloid mesylates lobenguane l123: sympathomimetics may diminish the therapeutic effect of lobenguane l 123. MAOI: may enhance the hypertensive effect of α₁-agonists Sympathomimetics – may enhance the adverse/toxic effect of other sympathomimetics Tricyclic antidepressants – may enhance the vasopressor effect of α₁-agonists. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atomoxetine: C Cannabinoids: C Ergot derivatives: X lobenguane: X MAOI: X Sympathomimetics: C Tricyclic antidepressants: D 	\$10-15/package

Risk C: Monitor Therapy

Risk D: Consider therapy modification

Risk X: Avoid combination

References:

1. Lexicomp ONLINE: Lexi Drug ID.
2. Friesen AM. Eye Conditions. In: Dolovich L, Mansour S, Miller PF, Richer M, Suveges L, and Vaillancourt, Regis, editors. Patient Self Care. Ottawa: Canadian Pharmacists Association; 2002. p. 155-157.