

Comparisons of some antihistamines commonly available in Australia

Trade Names	Chemical name	Drowsy	Duration	Use in children	Pregnancy category	Drug interactions	PBS listing	RPBS listing	Comment
Claratyne Allereze	Loratidine	No	Long	Syrup	B2	None	\$ OTC	Y	
Claramax	Desloratidine	No	Long	Tablet	B1	None	\$ OTC	N	
Telfast Xergic Fexotabs	Fexofenadine	No	Long	Tablet	B2	Erythromycin Ketoconazole	\$ OTC	Y	
Zyrtec Zodac	Cetirizine	Mild	Long	Syrup	B2	None	\$ OTC	Y	
Polaramine	Dexchlorpheniramine	Drowsy	Short	Syrup	A	Alcohol, sedatives	\$ OTC	Y	
Phenergan	Promethazine	Drowsy	Short	Syrup – not <2 years of age	C	Alcohol, sedatives	\$ OTC	Y	
Periactin	Cyprohepatadine	Drowsy	Short	No	A	Alcohol, sedatives, some anti- depressants	\$ OTC RB (migraine prophylaxis)	Y (migraine prophylaxis)	Anti-histamine and anti-serotonin agent
Zantac Rani 2 Ranhexal	Ranitidine	No	Short	> 8 years of age	B1	None	PBS	Y	H2 antihistamine – adjunctive treatment of urticaria
Doxepin	Dothep	Drowsy	Long	No	C	Multiple	PBS	Y	Tricyclic antidepressant – used in refractory urticaria

Disclaimer: This is an incomplete listing. The information is provided for generality of comparison only. Consultation with a doctor or Pharmacist is required before taking these medications.