Understanding Proton Pump Inhibitors

An estimated 15 million Americans take Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), the most commonly prescribed class of medication for the treatment of acid-related disorders. Here are some basic facts about the drugs.

What are Proton Pump Inhibitors?

Proton pump inhibitors are used for the treatment of heartburn and acid-related disorders. They work by blocking the site of acid production in the parietal cell of the stomach.

Common Conditions Treated with PPIs

- Relieve symptoms of acid reflux, or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)
- Treat a peptic or stomach ulcer
- Treat damage to the lower esophagus by acid reflux

Proton Pump Inhibitors by Generic and Brand Name

GENERIC NAME	BRAND NAME
dexlansoprazole	Dexilant
esomeprazole	Nexium
lansoprazole	Prevacid
omeprazole	Prilosec
pantoprazole	Protonix
rabeprazole	Aciphex

Common Side Effects of Proton Pump Inhibitors

- Headache
- Diarrhea
- Constipation
- Abdominal pain
- Flatulence
- Nausea
- Rash

Proton Pump Inhibitors Linked to a More Serious Side Effect

PPIs have been associated with an increased risk of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), according to two recent population-based analyses. The studies found that long-term PPI use was associated with a 20% to 50% increased risk of developing CKD. This association prevailed after adjusting for confounding variables such as demographics, socioeconomic status, clinical measurements, prevalent comorbidities, and concomitant use of medications.

People who took PPI drugs over an extended period of time and were diagnosed with CKD, which involves the gradual loss of kidney function, likely have questions about who is legally responsible and if there is possible compensation for medical bills, loss of work and other financial and personal losses. We can help. Contact Anapol Weiss for assistance.

Sources: Medline.gov, WebMD, NPR, and MedicineNet