

Records point to drug-drug interaction

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Daptomycin is an antibiotic used to treat serious bacterial infections. Statins are drugs prescribed on a long-term basis to prevent or reduce cardiovascular disease by lowering LDL-cholesterol.

In a retrospective study, researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center found that VUMC patients who continued taking a [statin](#) while taking daptomycin had 2.6 times greater risk of developing myopathy ([muscle weakness](#)) and 4.67 times greater risk of a more severe form of [muscle damage](#) called rhabdomyolysis.

"This is the first study to provide strong evidence supporting this association," reported Ryan Dare, MD, MS, and co-authors in the journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. Echoing the maker of daptomycin, the study authors recommend that doctors consider withholding statins during daptomycin therapy.

Among patients on statins seen at VUMC between 2004-2015, the researchers found 128 cases of daptomycin-associated myopathy, including 25 cases of rhabdomyolysis; they matched these patients to myopathy-free controls, adjusting their analyses to account for a range of risk factors.

More information: Ryan K Dare et al. Statin Coadministration Increases the Risk of Daptomycin-Associated Myopathy, *Clinical Infectious Diseases* (2018). [DOI: 10.1093/cid/ciy287](https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciy287)

Provided by Vanderbilt University

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