

**TITLE 1:** “Ask the Doctor”

**TITLE 2:**

**DATE:** Summer 2005

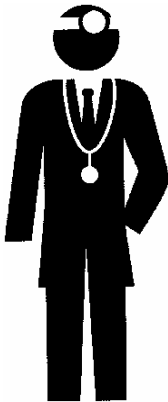
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**KEYWORDS:**

- Pharmaceutical treatment
- Symptoms

**ABSTRACT OVERVIEW:** One reader asks about the connection between Mirapex and Requip and skipping heart beats.

**COPY OF ARTICLE:**



**Q:** Has anyone reported any connection between Mirapex or Requip and skipping heart beats? I have had my heart skip beats in the past, but it was always related to caffeine. I haven't had caffeine in years since it aggravates both the RLS and the heart.

**A:** According to the *Physician's Desk Reference*, skipping heart beats is not a likely side effect from either of these medications, which are non-ergotamine dopamine receptor agonists. The only way for the patient to tell if a drug is causing skipping heart beats would be to slowly stop taking the drug under the supervision of a doctor. It is more likely that this condition has reappeared independently of the RLS medication.

*Robert Werra, MD*