

# Aclonist 800 Tablet

## Acyclovir (800 mg) Tablet: Product Information

**Brand Name:** Acyclovir

**Generic Name:** Acyclovir

**Strength:** 800 mg

**Dosage Form:** Oral Tablet

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**Indications:** Acyclovir 800 mg tablets are used to treat viral infections caused by the herpes simplex virus (HSV) and varicella-zoster virus (VZV).

These include:

- **Herpes Simplex Virus Infections:**
  - Treatment of initial and recurrent genital herpes
  - Treatment of cold sores (herpes labialis)
  - Treatment of herpes simplex encephalitis
- **Varicella-Zoster Virus Infections:**
  - Treatment of shingles (herpes zoster)
  - Treatment of chickenpox

Acyclovir is also used for the suppression of recurrent herpes simplex infections in immunocompromised individuals.

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**Mechanism of Action:** Acyclovir is an antiviral medication that inhibits the replication of viral DNA. It is converted into its active form, acyclovir triphosphate, within infected cells by viral thymidine kinase and cellular enzymes. Once activated, acyclovir triphosphate inhibits the viral DNA polymerase, preventing viral DNA replication and inhibiting the spread of infection.

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**Dosage and Administration:** The dosage of Acyclovir 800 mg tablets depends on the condition being treated and the patient's health status. Below are the general dosage recommendations:

- **For Herpes Simplex (Genital Herpes):**
  - **Initial outbreak:** 800 mg orally every 4 hours, five times daily, for 7-10 days.
  - **Recurrent episodes:** 800 mg orally three times daily for 5 days.
  - **Chronic suppression:** 800 mg orally twice daily.
- **For Shingles (Herpes Zoster):**
  - 800 mg orally five times daily for 7-10 days.
- **For Chickenpox:**
  - 800 mg orally four times daily for 5 days.

**Note:** The dosage may be adjusted for patients with renal impairment or other medical conditions. Always follow the healthcare provider's instructions.

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**Contraindications:** Acyclovir 800 mg tablets should not be used in individuals who have a known hypersensitivity to acyclovir or any of its components.

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## Warnings and Precautions:

- **Renal Impairment:** Caution is advised in patients with renal impairment. Dose adjustments may be necessary for those with kidney problems, as acyclovir is primarily excreted by the kidneys.
- **Hydration:** Adequate hydration should be maintained during therapy, especially in patients with pre-existing kidney conditions, to help prevent renal toxicity.
- **Neurological Effects:** Rare cases of confusion, agitation, tremors, and seizures have been reported, particularly in patients with renal impairment or those receiving high doses.

- **Pregnancy and Lactation:** Acyclovir is classified as a pregnancy category C medication. It should only be used during pregnancy if the potential benefits justify the risks. It is excreted in breast milk, so caution is advised when administering to breastfeeding mothers.

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**Side Effects:** Common side effects of Acyclovir 800 mg tablets include:

- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Dizziness

Serious side effects may include:

- **Kidney problems:** Decreased urine output, pain or discomfort while urinating.
- **Neurological issues:** Confusion, seizures, hallucinations (more common in those with kidney issues or those on high doses).
- **Severe allergic reactions:** Difficulty breathing, swelling of the face or throat, rash, or hives.

If any of these severe side effects occur, seek medical attention immediately.

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**Drug Interactions:** Acyclovir 800 mg tablets may interact with other medications, including:

- **Probenecid:** May increase the blood levels of acyclovir, increasing the risk of side effects.
- **Cimetidine:** Can slow down the elimination of acyclovir from the body.
- **Other nephrotoxic drugs:** Increased risk of kidney damage when used with drugs that affect kidney function (e.g., NSAIDs, certain antibiotics).

Always inform your healthcare provider of all the medications you are taking, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

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**Storage:** Store Acyclovir 800 mg tablets at room temperature (15°C to 30°C / 59°F to 86°F). Protect the tablets from moisture and heat. Keep out of the reach of children.

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### Patient Counseling Information:

- Complete the full course of treatment as prescribed, even if you start feeling better before finishing the medication.
- Drink plenty of fluids during the treatment to help prevent kidney problems.
- Report any new or unusual symptoms, especially if you experience confusion, seizures, or signs of an allergic reaction.
- Acyclovir is not a cure for herpes or chickenpox, but it can help reduce the severity and duration of the symptoms.

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This is a general overview of Acyclovir 800 mg tablets. Always follow the instructions provided by your healthcare provider and consult them for any questions or concerns related to the use of this medication.

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