

MAALOX[®] ORAL SUSPENSION IN SACHET

Magnesium Hydroxide / Aluminium Hydroxide (400mg / 460mg)

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What Maalox is used for

The name of your medicine is Maalox Oral Suspension in sachets (called Maalox throughout this leaflet). Maalox is used for:

- Stomach ulcer
- Inflammation or irritation of the the stomach
- Inflammation of esophagus (esophagus is the tube that sends food from your throat down to your stomach)
- Gastric hyperacidity (excess production of stomach acid)
- Heartburn
- Hiatal hernia (the stomach pushes through the opening in the diaphragm where the esophagus and stomach meet)

How Maalox works

Maalox contains two different medicines. They are called aluminium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide. They belong to a group of medicines called antacids. Maalox works by lowering the amount of acid in your stomach.

Before you use Maalox

-When you must not use it

Do not take Maalox if:

- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to any ingredients of Maalox
- Signs of an allergic reaction include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue
- You have severe kidney problems, as the medicinal products contains magnesium

Do not take this medicine if any of the above apply to you. If you are not sure,

talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Maalox.

-Before you start to use it

Take special care with Maalox and contact your doctor if

- You have rare genetic problems such as fructose intolerance, glucose-galactose malabsorption syndrome and sucrose-isomaltase deficiency
- You have kidney problems or undergoing long term dialysis
- You are following a low-carbohydrate diet
- You have increase weight loss.
- You have difficulty in swallowing or persistent abdominal discomfort.
- You have digestive disorders occurring for the first time, or recent changes in existing disorders

-Taking other medicines

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines you buy without a prescription, including herbal medicines.

Maalox should not be taken at the same time as other medicines. This is because Maalox can affect the way other medicines work. If possible, allow an interval of more than 2 hours between taking Maalox and:

- Medicines used to treat the heart such as digoxin, metoprolol, atenolol or propranolol.
- Medicines used to treat anaemia such as iron salts.
- Medicines used to treat malaria such as chloroquine.
- Medicines used to treat some bone disorders such as diphosphonates.
- Medicines used to treat some allergic, inflammatory or autoimmune disorders such as dexamethasone, prednisolone, and fexofenadine
- Medicines used to treat tuberculosis such as ethambutol or isoniazid.
- Medicines used to treat bacterial infections such as fluroquinolones or lincosamides.
- Medicines used to treat infections such as ketoconazole, tetracyclines
- Medicines used to treat mental illness (psychosis) such as phenothiazines neuroleptics.

- Medicines used to inhibits the production of gastric acid such as lansoprazole
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories drugs (NSAIDs) such as indomethacin, diflunisal
- Phosphorus supplements
- Medicines used to decrease the production of stomach acid such as H2 antihistamine
- Medicines used to treat high potassium levels in the blood such as kayexalate
- Medicines used to replace the thyroid hormone levels when your thyroid is underactive, such as thyroxine
- Medicine to strengthens tooth enamel and helps to prevent dental decay such as sodium fluoride
- Medicines used to treat rheumatoid arthritis such as Penicillamine

Combine salicylates with Maalox can be taken into consideration by your doctor.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine if:

- You are pregnant, might become pregnant, or think you may be pregnant. Maalox should only be used during pregnancy if necessary.
- You are breast-feeding or planning to breast-feed. Breast-feeding may be continued during treatment.

How to use Maalox

Always take Maalox exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

- Drink the suspension as is: do not dilute.
- Knead the sachets carefully before opening.

-How much to use

Adults (aged 15 years and above)

- 1 to 2 sachets per intake when heartburn or acid regurgitation occurs.
- Maalox oral suspension may be taken 20 minutes to one hour after meals and at bedtime or as required.
- Number of doses per day: 6
- No more than 12 sachets should be taken per day.

Maalox is not recommended for children less than 15 years of age.

-When to use it

Take Maalox at about the same time each day; taken twenty minutes to one hour after meals and at bedtime, unless your doctor tells you otherwise.

-How long to use it

Do not use Maalox frequently or for a prolonged period without consulting the doctor.

-If you forget to use it

- If you forget to take your dose, leave out that dose completely and take the next dose at the usual time.
- Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.
- If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

-If you use too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or go to the nearest hospital emergency department, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Maalox. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. Take the medicine pack with you. You may need urgent medical attention.

While you are using it

-Things you must do

- Tell all the doctors and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking Maalox.
- If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking Maalox.
- If the symptoms persist after 10 days of treatment or worsen, the cause should be investigated and the treatment should be reassessed by your doctor.

-Things you must not do

- Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
- Do not use this medicine to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.
- Do not stop taking Maalox, or change the dosage, without checking with your doctor.

-Things to be careful of

Driving and using machines

Maalox is not known to affect your ability to drive and use machines.

Side Effect

Like all medicines, Maalox can cause side effects, although not everyone gets them.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects.

You may not experience any of them. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of the following side effects get serious or lasts longer than a few days. Also tell them if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet:

- Constipation
- Diarrhoea
- Phosphorus depletion, this may occur at prolonged or high doses of the product, as this medicinal product contains aluminium.

You may report any side effects or adverse drug reactions directly to the National Centre for Adverse Drug Reaction Monitoring by calling Tel: 03-78835550, or visiting the website npra.moh.gov.my (Public → Reporting Medicinal Problems / Side Effects / AEFI / Vaccine Safety).

Storage and Disposal of Maalox

If you have any queries about any aspect of your medicine, or any questions regarding the information in this leaflet, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

-Storage

- Where children cannot see or reach it.
- Do not use Maalox after the expiry date which is stated on the packaging. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Store below 30°C.

-Disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

Product Description

-What it looks like

Maalox, oral suspension is white to faintly yellow, homogeneous suspension. It is packed into sachets of 4.3ml equivalent to 6g of suspension.

-Ingredients:

- Active ingredients for one sachet:
- Aluminum oxide 230mg

(As hydrated aluminum oxide 460mg)
• Magnesium hydroxide 400mg
Inactive ingredients for one sachet:
Sucrose solution 64%, Sorbitol Liquid (non-crystallizing), xanthan gum, guar, natural lemon lime flavor, sodium chloride and hydrogen peroxide solution 30%

MAL Numbers:

MAL12035009X

Manufacturer

A. Nattermann & CIE GMBH
Nattermannalle 1, 50829 Koln 30, Germany.

Product Registration Holder

Sanofi-aventis (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.
Unit TB-18-1, Level 18-1, Tower B, Plaza 33, No.1 Jalan Kemajuan, Seksyen 13, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

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