

## Information for the user



### Aspirin 75 mg Gastro-resistant tablets

**Read all of this leaflet carefully because it contains important information for you.**

This medicine is available without prescription to treat minor conditions. However, you still need to take it carefully to get the best results from it.

- Keep this leaflet, you may need to read it again
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, or pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.
- You must talk to a doctor if you do not feel better or if you feel worse.

### What this medicine is for

This medicine belongs to a group of medicines called antiplatelet agents that help prevent blood cells sticking together.

It can be used to help prevent further heart attacks and strokes in patients who have had a history of these conditions. It can also be used after by-pass surgery.

It should not be used for pain relief or to reduce fever.

### Before you take this medicine

This medicine can be taken by adults and children aged 16 years and over. However, some people should not take this medicine or should seek the advice of their pharmacist or doctor first.

If you are taking this medicine for the first time, talk to your doctor to make sure it is suitable for you.

#### **X Do not take:**

- **If you are allergic** to any of the ingredients
- If you are allergic to other salicylates or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). NSAIDs are often used for arthritis or rheumatism and pain
- If you have had an asthma attack or swelling of some parts of the body e.g. face, lips, throat or tongue (angioedema) after taking salicylates or NSAIDs
  - **If you have, or ever had, an ulcer** in your stomach or intestine
  - **If you have, or ever had, a bleed in your stomach or intestines** (you may have been sick and it contained blood or dark particles that looked like coffee grounds and/or passed blood in your stools or passed black tarry stools)
  - **If you have had other types of bleeding** like a stroke
  - **If you have a blood clotting disorder** (e.g. haemophilia or thrombocytopenia) or are taking medicines to thin your blood
  - **If you are taking more than 15 mg per week of methotrexate**
  - **If you have gout**
  - **If you have severe kidney or liver problems**
  - **If you are pregnant** and in the last 3 months of pregnancy
  - **If you are breastfeeding**

#### **! Talk to your pharmacist or doctor:**

- If you have asthma or other allergic disease (have hay fever, nasal polyps or other chronic respiratory diseases) aspirin may induce asthma attack

- If you have other kidney, liver or heart problems (see “Do not take”)
- If you have high blood pressure (your doctor may want to monitor you more closely)
- If you are dehydrated
- If you have a condition called glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency
- If you are elderly (your doctor may want to monitor you more closely)
- If you are pregnant and in the first 6 months of pregnancy
- If you have or have ever had problems with your stomach or small intestine
- If you have heavy menstrual periods
- Have ever had gout

## **Other important information**

If you have surgery (even minor surgery such as tooth extraction) or any blood tests, tell your doctor or hospital staff that you are taking this medicine. If you get any unusual bleeding symptoms, talk to your doctor.

There is a possible association between aspirin and Reye’s syndrome when given to children.

Reye’s syndrome is a very rare disease, which can be fatal. For this reason aspirin should not be given to children under the age of 16 years unless on the advice of a doctor.

You must immediately seek medical advice, if your symptoms get worse or if you experience severe or unexpected side effects e.g. unusual bleeding symptoms, serious skin reactions or any other sign of serious allergy (see section “Possible side effects”).

You should take care not to become dehydrated (you may feel thirsty with a dry mouth) since the use of Aspirin at the same time may result in deterioration of kidney function.

**If you drink alcohol** (wine, beer, spirits) when you are taking these tablets, it may make your stomach more sensitive to aspirin.

## **If you take other medicines**

Before you take these tablets, make sure that you tell your pharmacist about ANY other medicines you might be using at the same time, particularly the following:

The effects of treatment may be influenced if aspirin is taken at the same time as other medicines for:

- Thinning of the blood/prevention of clots (e.g. warfarin, heparin, phenindione and clopidogrel)
- Medicines for depression
- Methotrexate (for cancer, skin problems, rheumatic problems, Crohn’s disease)
- Ciclosporin or tacrolimus (given after transplant surgery, or psoriasis or rheumatism)
- Other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines, like ibuprofen (to relieve pain, reduce swollen joints, muscles and ligaments)
- Use as hormone replacement therapy when the adrenal glands or pituitary gland have been destroyed or removed, or to treat inflammation, including rheumatic diseases and inflammation of the intestines (corticosteroids).
- Phenytoin and sodium valproate (for epilepsy)
- Medicines for diabetes, such as glibenclamide, glipizide (sulphonylureas) or insulin
- Medicines used to treat high blood pressure like ACE inhibitors (e.g. Ramipril, captopril)
- Water tablets (diuretics e.g. spironolactone and acetazolamide)
- Probenecid and sulfinpyrazone (for gout)
- Lithium (for severe mental problems)
- Medicines for heart problems (e.g. digoxin)
- Acetazolamide (for glaucoma)
- Metamizole (substance to decrease pain and fever) may reduce the effect of acetylsalicylic acid on

platelet aggregation (blood cells sticking together and forming a blood clot), when taken concomitantly. Therefore, this combination should be used with caution in patients taking low dose aspirin for cardioprotection.

Before taking aspirin you should inform a healthcare professional about the medicines you are taking. If you are using aspirin regularly you should seek advice before taking any other medicine (including medicine you may have bought).

If you are unsure about interactions with any other medicines, talk to your pharmacist. This includes medicines prescribed by your doctor and medicine you have bought for yourself, including herbal and homeopathic remedies.

## ✓ **How to take this medicine**

Check the foil is not broken before use.

If it is, do not take that tablet.

Age	How many to take	How often to take
Adults of 16 years and over	One or two	Once a day

The usual dose for the long-term management of cardiovascular disease (disease affecting the blood supply to the heart) or cerebrovascular disease (disease affecting the blood supply to the brain) or following by-pass surgery is 1 to 2 tablets, once a day.

In some cases your doctor may advise you to take more tablets. In this case follow your doctor's instructions.

Swallow the tablet whole with water. Do not cut, chew or crush the tablet.

Do not give to children under 16 years, unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not take more than the amount recommended above.

! **If you take too many tablets:** Talk to a doctor straight away.

## **Possible side effects**

Most people will not have problems, but some may get some.

! **If you get any of these serious side effects, stop taking the tablets. See a doctor at once:**

- You are sick and it contains blood or dark particles that look like coffee grounds
- Pass blood in your stools or pass black tarry stools
- Difficulty in breathing, asthma, swelling of the face, neck, tongue or throat, runny nose (severe allergic reactions) This could be erythema multiforme, Stevens -Johnson syndrome or Lyell's syndrome
- Allergic skin reactions such as itchy, red, raised rash (which can sometimes be severe and include peeling, blistering and lesions of the skin)

Unusual bleeding which may cause blood in the urine, coughing up blood or a stroke due to bleeding in the brain

**If you get any of the following side effects see your pharmacist or doctor:**

### **Common side effects**

(may affect 1 to 10 people in 100)

- Heartburn
- Increased tendency for bleeding

### **Uncommon side effects**

(may affect 1 to 100 people in 1000)

- Runny nose, breathlessness

- Hives

#### **Rare side effects**

(may affect 1 to 1000 people in 10,000)

- Feeling sick, being sick, stomach irritation and pain
- Difficulty in breathing, asthma attacks
- Inflammation of blood vessels
- Heavy periods
- Unusual bruising, or infections such as sore throats – this may be a sign of very rare changes in the blood

#### **Side effects with unknown frequency**

(cannot be estimated from available data)

- Increased bleeding time, e.g. when you have a nose bleed, bleeding gums (if bleeding is severe or lasts for a long time, talk to your doctor straight away)
- Blood problems such as anaemia
- Headache, feeling dizzy (vertigo)
- Reduced hearing, ringing in the ears
- Diarrhoea, ulcers and perforation in the stomach or gut
- High levels of uric acid in the blood
- Water retention
- Kidney problems including kidney stones
- Liver problems

#### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store.. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

#### **How to store this medicine**

Do not store above 25°C.

Store in the original package.

Keep this medicine in a safe place out of the sight and reach of children, preferably in a locked cupboard.

Use by the date on the end flap of the carton.

#### **What is in this medicine**

Each gastro-resistant tablet contains Aspirin 75 mg, which is the active ingredient.

As well as the active ingredient, the tablets also contain potato starch, calcium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate (E341), microcrystalline cellulose (E460), talc (E553b), methacrylic acid-ethylacrylate-copolymer (containing sodium laurilsulfate, polysorbate 80), macrogol, simeticone.

The pack contains 28 or 56 white, circular tablets, plain on both sides.

#### **Who makes this medicine**

Manufactured for The Boots Company PLC Nottingham NG2 3AA by the Marketing Authorisation holder Bristol Laboratories Ltd Unit 3 Canalside Northbridge Road Berkhamsted HP4 1EG.

Leaflet prepared February 2020 If you would like any further information about this medicine, please contact The Boots Company PLC Nottingham NG2 3AA.