

GAVISCON ADVANCE

PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET

PLEASE READ THIS LEAFLET CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU TAKE THIS MEDICINE.

IF YOU ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING ASK YOUR PHARMACIST OR DOCTOR.

WHAT IS GAVISCON ADVANCE?

Each 10 ml of aniseed flavoured Gaviscon Advance contains sodium alginate Ph Eur 1000 mg and potassium bicarbonate Ph Eur 200 mg as the active ingredients. The other ingredients are calcium carbonate, carbomer, methyl and propyl hydroxybenzoates, sodium saccharin, sodium hydroxide, aniseed flavour derived from fennel, and purified water.

Gaviscon Advance belongs to a group of medicines called "reflux suppressants". Reflux is a process in which the acid stomach juices flow back up into the food pipe.

Unlike the stomach, the lining of the food pipe is not resistant to acid, so that when reflux occurs it causes the pain and discomfort commonly known as heartburn.

Gaviscon Advance forms a protective layer that floats on top of the stomach contents. This layer prevents reflux and keeps the stomach contents away from the lining of the food pipe to relieve the symptoms of heartburn and acid indigestion.

Gaviscon Advance is available in bottles containing **80**, 100, 125, 140, 150, **180**, 200, 250, 300, 400, **500**, 560 or 600 ml only from the pharmacy (pack sizes in bold are those currently marketed).

Manufacturer and Product Licence Holder in UK: Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare (UK) Limited, Hull, HU8 7DS.

Product Authorisation Holder in Ireland: Reckitt Benckiser Ireland Limited, Pharmapark, Chapelizod, Dublin 20.

WHAT IS GAVISCON ADVANCE USED FOR?

Gaviscon Advance is used for the relief of heartburn and acid indigestion (also known as dyspepsia).

Heartburn and acid indigestion are common and experienced by most people at some time. They may be felt as a burning sensation across the lower part of the chest, a pain spreading from the stomach towards the throat or regurgitation of a sour-tasting liquid.

Heartburn and acid indigestion often occur during pregnancy or if you have a medical condition called "hiatus hernia".

Heartburn and acid indigestion can be made worse if you eat fatty or very spicy foods, drink too much alcohol, smoke, wear tight clothing, are overweight or when you bend forward or lie down.

BEFORE TAKING GAVISCON ADVANCE

You can take Gaviscon Advance if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Each 10 ml dose contains 4.6 mmol of sodium, 2.0 mmol of potassium and 2.0 mmol of calcium. If you have been advised to follow a diet restricted in any of these please consult your doctor before taking this product.

This product contains methyl and propyl parabens which may rarely cause an allergic reaction.

This treatment may be less effective if you have decreased amounts of gastric acid produced in your stomach.

HOW TO USE GAVISCON ADVANCE

Adults, including the elderly, and children 12 years and over: 5-10 ml (one to two 5 ml spoonfuls) after meals and at bedtime, or as directed.

Children under twelve years: Should only be taken on medical advice.

AFTER TAKING GAVISCON ADVANCE

If you forget to take a dose it is not necessary to double the dose next time. Just carry on taking the medicine at the recommended dose. If symptoms persist after seven days consult your doctor.

If you take too much Gaviscon Advance it is unlikely to cause you any harm. However, you may feel bloated. Consult your doctor or pharmacist if this feeling does not go away.

WHAT SIDE-EFFECTS MAY OCCUR?

Do not take if you know you are allergic to any of the ingredients as skin rashes and difficulty in breathing have been reported. Consult your doctor or pharmacist if you experience any side-effects after taking Gaviscon Advance.

STORAGE

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date (EXP: month/year) shown on this pack.

Keep all medicines safely away from children.

Do not refrigerate. Shake well before use.

Check that the cap seal is unbroken before first taking this product.

Date of Preparation: August 2002.

Gaviscon Advance and  are trademarks.