What is the function of calcitriol?

Vitamin D (**Calcitriol**) Bioactive vitamin D or **calcitriol** is a steroid hormone that has long been known for its important **role** in regulating body levels of calcium and phosphorus, and in mineralization of bone

How is vitamin D metabolized in the body?

Whether it is made in the skin or ingested, cholecalciferol is hydroxylated in the liver at position 25 (upper right of the molecule) to form 25-hydroxycholecalciferol (calcifediol or 25(OH)**D**). This reaction is catalyzed by the microsomal enzyme**vitamin D** 25-hydroxylase, which is produced by hepatocytes

[home](http://www.rxlist.com/) [drugs a-z list](http://www.rxlist.com/drugs/alpha_a.htm) [side effects drug center](http://www.rxlist.com/rocaltrol-side-effects-drug-center.htm) rocaltrol (calcitriol) drug

Drug Description

[](http://www.rxlist.com/fat-fighting_foods_slideshow_pictures/article.htm)

1. [Fat-Fighting Foods Slideshow Pictures](http://www.rxlist.com/fat-fighting_foods_slideshow_pictures/article.htm)
2. [Healthy Eating in Restaurants Slideshow Pictures](http://www.rxlist.com/25_heart-healthy_foods_slideshow/article.htm)
3. [Take the Diet & Nutrition Quiz](http://www.rxlist.com/quiz_diet_and_nutrition/quiz.htm)

[Find Lowest Prices on](http://www.webmd.com/rx/3090503000/rocaltrol" \t "_blank)

ROCALTROL®  
(calcitriol) Capsules And Oral Solution

DESCRIPTION

Rocaltrol (calcitriol) is a synthetic [vitamin D](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=15296) [analog](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=24761) which is active in the regulation of the [absorption](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=2101)of [calcium](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=2575) from the [gastrointestinal tract](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=25976) and its utilization in the body. Rocaltrol (calcitriol) is available as capsules containing 0.25 mcg or 0.5 mcg calcitriol and as an oral solution containing 1 mcg/mL of calcitriol. All dosage forms contain butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) as antioxidants. The capsules contain a fractionated triglyceride of coconut oil, and the oral solution contains a fractionated triglyceride of [palm](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=31710) seed oil. Gelatin [capsule](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=11933) shells contain glycerin, parabens (methyl and propyl) and sorbitol, with the following dye systems: 0.25 mcg - FD&C Yellow No. 6 and titanium dioxide; 0.5 mcg - FD&C Red No. 3, FD&C Yellow No. 6 and titanium dioxide. The oral solution contains no additional adjuvants or coloring principles.

Calcitriol is a white, crystalline compound which occurs naturally in humans. It has a calculated molecular weight of 416.65 and is soluble in [organic](http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=11780) solvents but relatively insoluble in water. Chemically, calcitriol is 9,10- seco(5Z,7E)-5,7,10(19)-cholestatriene-1α, 3β, 25-triol and has the following structural formula