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2. Piroxicam

Piroxicam

Generic name: piroxicam [*peer-OX-i-kam*]

Brand name: [Feldene](#)

Dosage form: oral capsule (10 mg; 20 mg)

Drug class: [Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on May 13, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

What is piroxicam?

Piroxicam is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) that is used to treat pain or inflammation caused by [osteoarthritis](#) or [rheumatoid arthritis](#).

Piroxicam may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Piroxicam side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction** (hives, difficult breathing, swelling in your face or throat) or **a severe skin reaction** (fever, [sore throat](#), burning eyes, skin pain, red or purple skin rash with blistering and peeling).

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of a heart attack or stroke:** chest pain spreading to your jaw or shoulder, sudden numbness or weakness on one side of the body, slurred speech, leg swelling, feeling short of breath.

Stop using piroxicam and seek medical treatment if you have a serious drug reaction that can affect many parts of your body. Symptoms may include skin rash, fever, swollen glands, muscle aches, severe weakness, unusual bruising, or yellowing of your skin or eyes.

Piroxicam may cause serious side effects. Stop using piroxicam and call your doctor at once if you have:

- severe headache, blurred vision, pounding in your neck or ears;
- **heart problems**--swelling, rapid weight gain, feeling short of breath;
- **liver problems**--loss of appetite, stomach pain (upper right side), tiredness, itching, dark urine, clay-colored stools, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- **signs of stomach bleeding**--bloody or tarry stools, coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds;
- **kidney problems**--little or no urination, swelling in your feet or ankles, feeling tired or short of breath; or
- **low red blood cells (anemia)**--pale skin, unusual tiredness, feeling light-headed or short of breath, cold hands and

feet.

Common side effects of piroxicam may include:

- abnormal liver function tests;
- urination problems;
- [upset stomach](#), [heartburn](#), loss of appetite, stomach pain, nausea, vomiting;
- gas, diarrhea, [constipation](#);
- dizziness, headache;
- itching, rash; or
- ringing in your ears.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Piroxicam side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

Piroxicam can increase your risk of fatal heart attack or stroke. Do not use piroxicam just before or after heart bypass surgery (coronary artery bypass graft, or CABG). **Piroxicam may also cause stomach or intestinal bleeding, which can be fatal.**

Before taking this medicine

You should not use piroxicam if you are allergic to it, or if you have ever had an asthma attack or severe allergic reaction after taking aspirin or an NSAID.

Piroxicam can increase your risk of fatal heart attack or stroke, even if you don't have any risk factors. Do not use this medicine just before or after heart bypass surgery (coronary artery bypass graft, or CABG).

Piroxicam may also cause stomach or intestinal bleeding, which can be fatal. These conditions can occur without warning while you are using piroxicam, especially in older adults.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- heart disease, high blood pressure, or if you smoke;
- a heart attack, stroke, or blood clot;
- a stomach ulcer or stomach bleeding (especially while using an NSAID);
- liver or kidney disease;
- asthma; or
- if you take aspirin to prevent heart attack or stroke.

If you are pregnant, you should not take piroxicam unless your doctor tells you to. Taking an NSAID during the last 20 weeks of pregnancy can cause serious heart or kidney problems in the unborn baby and possible complications with your pregnancy.

Ovulation (release of an egg from your ovary) could be delayed while you are taking piroxicam. This effect is usually not permanent. You should not take piroxicam while you are trying to get pregnant.

It may not be safe to breastfeed while using this medicine. Ask your doctor about any risk.

Piroxicam is not approved for use by anyone younger than 18 years old.

How should I take piroxicam?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose. **Use the lowest dose that is effective in treating your condition.**

It may take up to 2 weeks before your symptoms improve. Keep using the medicine as directed and tell your doctor if your symptoms do not improve.

If you use piroxicam long-term, you may need frequent medical tests.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

Piroxicam dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Osteoarthritis:

20 mg orally once a day

-If desired: 10 mg orally twice a day

Comments:

- Potential benefits and risks of this drug and other therapeutic options should be carefully considered before deciding to use this drug.
- The lowest effective dosage should be used for the shortest duration according to individual patient treatment goals.
- Dose and frequency should be adjusted to suit an individual patient's needs after observing response to initial treatment with this drug.
- In older adult patients, if the anticipated benefit outweighs potential risks, dosing should be started at the low end of the dosing range.

Uses: For relief of signs/symptoms of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid [arthritis](#)

Usual Adult Dose for Rheumatoid Arthritis:

20 mg orally once a day

-If desired: 10 mg orally twice a day

Comments:

- Potential benefits and risks of this drug and other therapeutic options should be carefully considered before deciding to use this drug.
- The lowest effective dosage should be used for the shortest duration according to individual patient treatment goals.
- Dose and frequency should be adjusted to suit an individual patient's needs after observing response to initial treatment with this drug.
- In older adult patients, if the anticipated benefit outweighs potential risks, dosing should be started at the low end of the dosing range.

Uses: For relief of signs/symptoms of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis

 [Detailed Piroxicam dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** take two doses at one time.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

Overdose symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, black or bloody stools, or coughing up blood.

What should I avoid while taking piroxicam?

Avoid drinking alcohol. It may increase your risk of stomach bleeding.

Avoid taking aspirin while you are taking piroxicam.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using other medicines for pain, fever, swelling, or cold/flu symptoms. They may contain ingredients similar to piroxicam (such as aspirin, [ibuprofen](#), [ketoprofen](#), or [naproxen](#)).

What other drugs will affect piroxicam?

Ask your doctor before using piroxicam if you take an antidepressant. Taking certain [antidepressants](#) with an NSAID may cause you to bruise or bleed easily.

Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially:

- digoxin;
- lithium;
- [methotrexate](#);
- a blood thinner or other medication used to prevent blood clots;
- heart or blood pressure medication, including a diuretic or "water pill"; or
- steroid medicine (such as [prednisone](#)).

This list is not complete. Other drugs may affect piroxicam, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal products](#). Not all possible [drug interactions](#) are listed here.

 [Piroxicam drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does piroxicam interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

+

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Related treatment guides

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Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

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DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

[Pregnancy & Lactation](#)


 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*



N/A Not a controlled drug

Approval History

 Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

7.9 / 10

[27 Reviews](#)

Images

Piroxicam 20 mg (PR 20)



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