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2. Colace

# Colace

**Generic name:** [docusate](#) [ *DOK-ue-sate* ]**Drug class:** [Laxatives](#)Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Feb 21, 2025.[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

## What is Colace?

Colace is a stool softener. It makes bowel movements softer and easier to pass.

Colace is used to treat or prevent occasional [constipation](#), and to reduce pain or rectal damage caused by hard stools or by straining during bowel movements.

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

## Warnings

You should not use Colace if you have a blockage in your intestines.

Do not use Colace while you are sick with [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), or severe stomach pain.

You should not use docusate if you also use [mineral oil](#), unless your doctor tells you to.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use Colace if you are allergic to docusate.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if this medicine is safe to use if you have:

- stomach pain;
- [nausea](#);
- [vomiting](#); or
- a sudden change in bowel habits that lasts over 2 weeks.

**Ask a doctor before using this medicine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.**

Do not give this medicine to a child without medical advice.

**i** [Colace pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I use Colace?

Use Colace exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor. Do not use in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

Take this medicine with a full glass of water. Drink plenty of liquids while you are taking this medicine.

Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

Colace generally produces bowel movement in 12 to 72 hours. Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve after 72 hours.

You should not use this medicine for longer than 1 week, unless your doctor tells you to. Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve, or if you have not had a bowel movement within 1 to 3 days. Overuse of a stool softener can lead to serious medical problems.

Store at room temperature away from moisture, light, and heat. Do not freeze liquid medicine.

## Dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Constipation:

50 to 300 mg daily divided in 1 to 4 doses each day.

### Usual Pediatric Dose for Constipation:

Less than 2 years: Check with your doctor.

2 to 12 years: 50 to 150 mg daily divided in 1 to 4 doses each day.

**i** [Detailed Colace dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Since Colace is used when needed, you may not be on a dosing schedule. Skip any missed dose if it's almost time for your next dose. Do not use 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.

## What should I avoid while using Colace?

Avoid using mineral oil, unless told to do so by a doctor.

## Colace side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Colace** : [hives](#); difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Stop using this medicine and call your doctor at once if:

- you have rectal bleeding;
- no bowel movement occurs after using a laxative;
- you need to use a stool softener for more than 1 week; or
- if a rash occurs.

Less serious Colace side effects may be more likely, and you may have none at all.

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.

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

## Related/similar drugs

### MiraLAX

MiraLAX (polyethylene glycol) is used as a laxative to treat occasional constipation or irregular ...

#### Reviews & ratings

7.2 / 10

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### Linzess

Linzess (linaclotide) is used to treat chronic idiopathic constipation, irritable bowel syndrome ...

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Dulcolax (bisacodyl) is a laxative used to treat constipation. Includes Dulcolax side effects ...

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### Amitiza

Amitiza (lubiprostone) is used to treat chronic constipation and irritable bowel syndrome with ...

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### Trulance

Trulance (plecanatide) is used to treat chronic idiopathic constipation (CIC) and irritable bowel ...

### Reviews & ratings

6.1 / 10

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## What other drugs will affect Colace?

Other drugs may interact with docusate, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

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

## Does Colace interact with my other drugs?

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

Colace

+

Enter a drug name

Add

## Popular FAQ

Which drugs cause opioid-induced constipation?



## More FAQ

- [What is the maximum dosage for Colace stool softener at one time?](#)

### References

1. [Colace Product Label](#)

## More about Colace (docusate)

- [Check interactions](#)
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- [Drug class: laxatives](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)
- [En español](#)

## Patient resources

### Other brands

[Dulcolax Stool Softener](#), [Enemeez Mini](#), [Surfak](#), [DOK](#), ... +2 more

# Professional resources

- [Docusate Sodium prescribing information](#)

# Other formulations

- [Peri-Colace](#)

# Related treatment guides

- [Constipation](#)

# Further information

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

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

# Medical Disclaimer

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## DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx

OTC

Rx and/or OTC

Pregnancy & Lactation

Risk data available

CSA Schedule\*

N/A

Not a controlled drug



# User Reviews & Ratings

6.3 / 10

[18 Reviews](#)

# Images

[Colace 100 mg \(RPC 053\)](#)



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