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2. Sucralfate

# Sucralfate

**Generic name:** sucralfate (oral) [ soo-KRAL-fate ]**Brand name:** [Carafate](#)**Dosage forms:** oral suspension (1 g/10 mL), oral tablet (1 g)**Drug class:** [Miscellaneous GI agents](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Feb 24, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

## What is sucralfate?

Sucralfate is used short-term (up to 8 weeks) to treat an active [duodenal ulcer](#).

Sucralfate works mainly in the lining of the stomach and is not highly absorbed into the body. sucralfate adheres to ulcer sites and protects them from acids, enzymes, and bile salts.

**Sucralfate can heal an active ulcer, but it will not prevent future ulcers from occurring.**

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

## Sucralfate side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives; difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

**Common side effects of sucralfate may include:**

- [constipation](#), [diarrhea](#);
- [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), gas, indigestion;
- [itching](#), [rash](#);
- dizziness, [drowsiness](#);
- sleep problems ([insomnia](#));
- [headache](#); or
- [back pain](#).

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.

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## Warnings

The liquid form of sucralfate should never be injected through a needle into the body, or death may occur.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use sucralfate if you are allergic to it.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- [diabetes](#);
- kidney disease (or if you are on dialysis); or
- trouble swallowing tablets.

Older adults may be more sensitive to the effects of sucralfate.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

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

## How should I take sucralfate?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine

exactly as directed.

Take sucralfate on an empty stomach.

Shake the **oral suspension** (liquid) before you measure a dose. Use the dosing syringe provided, or use a medicine dose-measuring device (not a kitchen spoon).

**If you are diabetic**, check your blood sugar regularly. Your doctor may adjust your dose based on your blood sugar levels.

**The liquid from of this medicine should never be injected through a needle into the body, or death may occur.** Sucralfate oral suspension is to be taken only by mouth.

It may take 2 to 8 weeks before you receive the full benefit of taking sucralfate. Use this medicine for the full prescribed length of time, even if your symptoms quickly improve.

Your doctor may want you to keep taking sucralfate at a lower dose once your active ulcer has healed. **Follow your doctor's dosing instructions very carefully.**

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Do not allow the liquid medicine to freeze.

 [Sucralfate patient tips](#) (more detail)

## Sucralfate dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose for Duodenal Ulcer:

1 g orally 4 times a day

-Duration of therapy: 4 to 8 weeks

Comments:

-Each dose should be taken on an empty stomach.

-For most patients, treatment should continue for 4 to 8 weeks; however, treatment may be stopped early if healing is demonstrated on x-ray/endoscopic tests.

-[Antacids](#) may be given, but use should be separated by at least 30 minutes.

Use: Short-term treatment of active duodenal ulcers

### Usual Adult Dose for Duodenal Ulcer Prophylaxis:

Oral Tablets: 1 g orally 2 times a day

-Duration of therapy: Up to 1 year

Comments:

-Each dose should be taken on an empty stomach.

-Controlled studies did not extend beyond 12 months.

Use: Maintenance therapy for patients after healing of acute duodenal ulcers

 [Detailed Sucralfate 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.

## What should I avoid while taking sucralfate?

Avoid taking any other medications within 2 hours before or after you take sucralfate. Sucralfate can make it harder for your body to absorb other medications you take by mouth.

Ask your doctor before using an antacid, and use only the type your doctor recommends. Some antacids can make it harder for sucralfate to work in your stomach. **Avoid taking an antacid within 30 minutes before or after taking sucralfate.**

## What other drugs will affect sucralfate?

Other drugs may affect sucralfate, 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.

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

## Does sucralfate interact with my other drugs?

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

+

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## Patient resources

- [Sucralfate Oral Suspension patient information](#)

## Other brands

[Carafate](#)

## Professional resources

- [Sucralfate monograph](#)
- [Sucralfate \(FDA\)](#)
- [Sucralfate Suspension \(FDA\)](#)
- [Sucralfate Tablet \(FDA\)](#)

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[Carafate](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [GERD](#)
- [Duodenal Ulcer](#)
- [Hyperphosphatemia of Renal Failure](#)
- [Duodenal Ulcer Prophylaxis](#)

## 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.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

## 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

6.2 / 10

[241 Reviews](#)

## Images

[Sucralfate 1 g \(TEVA 22 10\)](#)



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