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Imodium A-D

Generic name: [loperamide](#) [*loe-PER-a-mide*]**Drug class:** [Antidiarrheals](#)Medically reviewed by [Melisa Puckey, BPharm](#). Last updated on Jul 23, 2024.[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is Imodium?

Imodium ([loperamide](#)) is used to treat [diarrhea](#) for quick relief and to help control symptoms. Imodium works by slowing down contractions in the gut, which allows more time for fluids to be absorbed back into the body, so stool is less watery, and it decreases the number of times you go to the toilet.

Imodium is also used to reduce the amount of stool in people who have an [ileostomy](#) (re-routing of the bowel through a surgical opening in the stomach).

Imodium A D (anti-diarrheal) caplets and liquid contain loperamide as the active ingredient. Imodium Multi-Symptom Relief caplets are used for diarrhea with symptoms of gas, bloating cramps, and the feeling of pressure, it contains loperamide and simethicone.

Imodium is available over-the-counter to self-treat diarrhea for patients over 6 years and older. Children aged 2 years to 5 years old should only use this medicine after consultation with a doctor.

Imodium side effects

Common Imodium side effects

Common Imodium side effects are [constipation](#), dizziness, drowsiness, [nausea](#) or stomach cramps.

Serious Imodium side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have signs of an allergic reaction to Imodium A-D ([hives](#), difficulty breathing, swelling in your face or throat) or a severe skin reaction (fever, [sore throat](#), burning in your eyes, skin pain, red or purple [skin rash](#) that spreads and causes blistering and peeling).

Stop taking this medicine and call your doctor at once if you have:

- diarrhea that is watery or bloody;
- stomach pain or bloating;

- ongoing or worsening diarrhea; or
- fast or pounding heartbeats, fluttering in your chest, shortness of breath, and sudden [dizziness](#) (like you might pass out).

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 the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Imodium A-D side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

You should not use Imodium A-D if you have [ulcerative colitis](#), bloody or tarry stools, diarrhea with a high [fever](#), or diarrhea caused by [antibiotic](#) medication.

Do not take more than the recommended dose of this medicine. **Misuse of loperamide can cause serious heart problems that could be fatal.**

Serious heart problems may also happen if you take Imodium A-D with other medicines. Ask a doctor or pharmacist about safely using medications together.

Loperamide may impair your thinking or reactions. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be alert.

Imodium A-D should not be given to a child younger than 2 years old. Loperamide can cause serious breathing problems and heart problems in a child.

Children between the ages of 2 and 5 should only use this medicine after consulting with a doctor.

Drink plenty of liquids while you are taking this medicine. It may take up to 48 hours of taking Imodium A-D before your symptoms improve. Keep using the medication as directed, and tell your doctor if your symptoms do not improve after 2 days of treatment.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Imodium A-D if you are allergic to loperamide or if you have:

- stomach [pain](#) without diarrhea;
- diarrhea with a high fever;
- ulcerative [colitis](#);
- diarrhea that is caused by a bacterial infection; or
- stools that are bloody, black, or tarry.

Do not give Imodium A-D to a child younger than 2 years old.

Children from the age of 2 years to 5 years old should only use this medicine after consulting with a doctor.

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

- a fever;
- mucus in your stools;
- [liver disease](#); or
- a heart rhythm disorder.

Ask your doctor before using Imodium AD to treat diarrhea caused by Clostridium difficile.

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

You should not breastfeed while you are using loperamide.

How should I take Imodium A-D?

Use Imodium A-D exactly as directed on the label or as prescribed by your doctor.

Imodium A-D is safe when used as directed. **TAKING TOO MUCH LOPERAMIDE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS HEART PROBLEMS OR DEATH.**

Carefully follow all dosing directions on the medicine label. A safe dose of loperamide is different for an adult and for a child, and the doses for children are based on the child's weight or age.

Take Imodium A-D with a full glass of water. **Diarrhea can cause your body to lose fluids and electrolytes.** Drink plenty of liquids to keep from getting dehydrated.

The chewable tablet must be chewed before swallowing. Take the chewable tablet on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after a meal)

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).

Not all liquid forms of this medicine are the same strengths. Carefully follow all dosing instructions for the medicine you are using.

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

Stop taking Imodium A-D and call your doctor if you still have diarrhea after 2 days of treatment or if you also have stomach [bloating](#).

Imodium Dosing Information

Imodium dosage for children: If possible, use weight to dose; otherwise, use age.

Imodium A-D Dose Caplets

Imodium dosage adults and children 12 years and older: Take 2 caplets after the first loose stool, then 1 caplet after each subsequent loose stool, but take no more than 4 caplets in 24 hours.

Children 9-11 years old (60-95lbs): Take 1 caplet after the first loose stool, then take half a caplet after each subsequent loose stool, but take no more than 3 caplets in 24.

Children 6-8 years old (48-59 lbs): Take 1 caplet after the first loose stool, then take half a caplet after each subsequent stool, but take no more than 2 caplets in 24 hours.

Children 2-5 years (34 to 47 lbs): Only use this medication after a consultation with a doctor.

Children under 2 years (up to 33 lbs): Do NOT use.

Imodium A D Dose Oral Solution (liquid)

Imodium dosage for adults and children 12 years and older: Take 30 mL after the first loose stool, then 15 mL after

each subsequent loose stool, but take no more than 60 mL in 24 hours.

Children 9-11 years old (60-95lbs): Take 15 mL after the first loose stool, then 7.5 mL after each subsequent loose stool, but take no more than 45 mL in 24.

Children 6-8 years old (48-59 lbs): Take 15 mL after the first loose stool, then 7.5 mL after each subsequent stool, but take no more than 30 mL in 24 hours.

Children 2-5 years (34 to 47 lbs): Only use this medication after a consultation with a doctor.

Children under 2 years (up to 33 lbs): Do NOT use.

For more dosing information click on the link below.

 [Detailed Imodium A-D dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Since Imodium A-D is used when needed, it does not have a daily dosing schedule. Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve after using this medicine.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222. **An overdose of loperamide can be fatal.**

Overdose symptoms may include fast or irregular heartbeats or fainting. A person caring for you should seek emergency medical attention if you pass out and are hard to wake up.

What to avoid

Avoid drinking tonic water. It can interact with loperamide and may cause serious heart problems.

Avoid becoming dehydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. Avoid vigorous exercise or exposure to hot weather if you are dehydrated.

Imodium A-D liquid may contain alcohol. Avoid driving or hazardous activity until you know how this medicine will affect you. Your reactions could be impaired.

What other drugs will affect Imodium A-D?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medications at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you take. Ask a doctor or pharmacist about safely using medications together.

Loperamide can cause a serious heart problem with high doses.

Many drugs can affect loperamide. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal products](#). Not all possible interactions are listed here. Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

 [Imodium A-D drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Imodium A-D interact with my other drugs?

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

Imodium A-D

+

Enter a drug name

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How long does Imodium stop diarrhea for?



References

1. [Imodium Package Insert](#)
2. [Imodium A-D Liquid Label FDA](#)
3. [Imodium A-D Caplets Label FDA](#)

More about Imodium A-D (loperamide)

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Patient resources

Other brands

[Diamode](#), [Imotil](#), [Kao-Paverin](#)

Professional resources

- [Imodium A-D prescribing information](#)
- [Loperamide \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

Other brands

[Anti-Diarrheal, Up and Up Anti-Diarrheal Solution](#)

Other formulations

- [Imodium](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Diarrhea, Chronic](#)
- [Irritable Bowel Syndrome](#)
- [Traveler's Diarrhea](#)
- [Diarrhea, Acute](#)
- [Diarrhea](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Imodium A-D 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

Rx

OTC

Availability

Rx and/or OTC

Pregnancy & Lactation

Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug

Approval History

Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

8.7 / 10

[20 Reviews](#)

Images

Imodium A-D 2 mg (IMO 2 MG)



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