



[Home](#)

2. [Eskalith](#)

3. [Consumer](#)

Eskalith

Generic name: [Lithium Capsules and Tablets](#) [*LITH-ee-um*]

Drug class: [Antimanic agents](#)

[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com. Last updated on May 8, 2024.

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



The Eskalith brand name has been **discontinued** in the U.S. If generic versions of this product have been approved by the FDA, there may be [generic equivalents available](#).

Warning

- This medicine may cause severe side effects at doses that are close to the normal dose. Rarely, this may include death. Do not take more of Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) than you are told. You will have blood tests to check the level of Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) in your blood. There are many signs of too much lithium in the blood. Closely read the part in this leaflet which lists when to call your doctor.

Uses of Eskalith:

- It is used to treat bipolar problems.
- It may be given to you for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take Eskalith?

- If you have an allergy to lithium or any other part of [Eskalith](#) (lithium capsules and tablets).
- If you are allergic to Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets); any part of Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets); or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have any of these health problems: Fluid loss (dehydrated), [heart disease](#), kidney disease, low levels of salt in your blood, or if you are very sick or weak.
- If you have a certain heart problem called Brugada syndrome or you have ever passed out for an unknown reason.
- If a family member has Brugada Syndrome or has suddenly died before 45 years of age.
- If you are taking drugs for blood pressure or heart problems. You may need to have your blood work checked more closely.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets).

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, [vitamins](#)) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take Eskalith?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets). This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Have blood work checked as you have been told by the doctor. Talk with the doctor.
- Avoid driving and doing other tasks or actions that call for you to be alert until you see how Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) affects you.
- If you start on a low-salt diet, tell your doctor. It will change the way your body handles the lithium.
- Talk with your doctor before you drink alcohol.
- Fever, [infection](#), throwing up, diarrhea, or sweating a lot may change how much of Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) is in your blood. If any of these happen, talk with the doctor.
- Be careful in hot weather or while being active. Drink lots of fluids to stop fluid loss.
- Tell your doctor if you have signs of [high blood sugar](#) like confusion, feeling sleepy, more thirst, more hungry, passing urine more often, flushing, fast breathing, or breath that smells like fruit.
- A certain heart problem (Brugada Syndrome) has shown up in some people taking Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets). These people had this problem but did not know it at the time. People with Brugada Syndrome have a heartbeat that is not normal and are at risk for sudden death. Talk with the doctor.
- Brain problems have rarely happened in people taking Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) with certain other drugs like [haloperidol](#). Sometimes, these brain problems have led to long-lasting brain damage. Talk with the doctor.
- A severe and sometimes deadly problem called serotonin syndrome may happen. The risk may be greater if you also take certain other drugs. Call your doctor right away if you have [agitation](#); change in balance; confusion; hallucinations; fever; fast or abnormal heartbeat; flushing; [muscle twitching](#) or stiffness; [seizures](#); shivering or shaking; sweating a lot; severe diarrhea, [upset stomach](#), or throwing up; or very bad [headache](#).
- Raised pressure in the brain and swelling in the eye has happened with Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets). This can lead to eyesight problems like loss of eyesight. Call your doctor right away if you have a very bad headache; ringing in the ears; or eyesight problems like blurred eyesight, seeing double, or loss of eyesight.
- Call your doctor right away if you have signs of kidney problems like not able to pass urine; change in how much urine is passed; bloody, brown, or foamy urine; [shortness of breath](#) or cough; or puffy or swollen face, feet, or hands.
- If you are 65 or older, use Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) with care. You could have more side effects.
- This medicine may cause harm to the unborn baby if you take it while you are pregnant. If you are pregnant or you get pregnant while taking Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets), call your doctor right away.
- Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. This medicine passes into breast milk and may harm your baby.

How is this medicine (Eskalith) best taken?

Use Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- Take with or without food. Take with food if it causes an upset stomach.
- Keep your salt use the same from day to day.
- Follow what your doctor has told you about the type of liquids to drink and how much liquid to drink while you take Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets).

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it.
- If it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal time.
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses.
- If you are not sure what to do if you miss a dose, call your doctor.

 [Detailed Eskalith dosage information](#)

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like rash; hives; itching; red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without fever; [wheezing](#); tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Signs of too much acid in the blood ([acidosis](#)) like confusion; fast breathing; [fast heartbeat](#); a heartbeat that does not feel normal; very bad stomach pain, upset stomach, or throwing up; feeling very sleepy; shortness of breath; or feeling very tired or weak.
- Signs of thyroid problems like change in weight; feeling nervous, excitable, restless, or weak; hair thinning; [depression](#); neck swelling; not able to focus; trouble with heat or cold; menstrual changes; shakiness; or sweating.
- Signs of fluid and electrolyte problems like mood changes, confusion, [muscle pain](#) or weakness, a heartbeat that does not feel normal, very bad dizziness or passing out, fast heartbeat, more thirst, seizures, feeling very tired or weak, not hungry, unable to pass urine or change in the amount of urine produced, [dry mouth](#), dry eyes, or very bad upset stomach or throwing up.
- Bloating.
- Diarrhea.
- Giddiness.
- Trouble walking.
- Trouble controlling body movements, twitching, change in balance, trouble swallowing or speaking.
- Muscle weakness.

- Feeling sluggish.
- Not able to control eye movements.
- Mood changes.
- Fever.
- Hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that are not there).
- Memory problems or loss.
- Restlessness.
- Shortness of breath, a big weight gain, or swelling in the arms or legs.
- A change in weight without trying.
- Not able to control bladder.
- Not able to control bowels.
- Sex problems.

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

Related/similar drugs

Lybalvi

Lybalvi is used to treat adults with manic or mixed episodes associated with bipolar I disorder ...

Reviews & ratings

8.1 / 10

[16 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Fanapt

Fanapt (iloperidone) is an antipsychotic medication used to treat schizophrenia. Includes Fanapt ...

Reviews & ratings

6.4 / 10

[30 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

FEATURED

Caplyta

Caplyta (lumateperone) may be used to treat schizophrenia or depression

to treat schizophrenia or depression
associated with bipolar ...

Reviews & ratings

6.6 / 10

[184 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Abilify

Abilify is an antipsychotic medicine
used to treat the symptoms of
schizophrenia and bipolar ...

Reviews & ratings

6.1 / 10

[1,187 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Seroquel

Seroquel is used to treat the
symptoms of schizophrenia, bipolar
disorder and major depressive ...

Reviews & ratings

7.0 / 10

[694 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Risperidone

Risperidone is used to treat
schizophrenia and symptoms of
bipolar disorder. Learn about side ...

Reviews & ratings

5.6 / 10

[731 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Olanzapine

Olanzapine (brand name Zyprexa) is
an atypical antipsychotic that may be
used to treat adults and ...

Reviews & ratings

5.9 / 10

[1,091 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Aripiprazole

Easy-to-read patient leaflet for aripiprazole. Includes indications, proper use, special ...

Reviews & ratings

6.1 / 10

[1,540 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Quetiapine

Quetiapine is an atypical antipsychotic used to treat schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major ...

Reviews & ratings

7.2 / 10

[2,249 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

What are some other side effects of Eskalith?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Feeling dizzy, sleepy, tired, or weak.
- Upset stomach.
- Not hungry.
- Stomach pain.
- More saliva.
- Gas.
- Dry mouth.
- Headache.
- Dry or thin hair.
- [Hair loss.](#)

- Change in taste.
- [Joint pain.](#)

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at <https://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

If OVERDOSE is suspected:

If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

How do I store and/or throw out Eskalith?

- Store at room temperature.
- Store in a dry place. Do not store in a bathroom.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- This medicine comes with an extra patient fact sheet called a Medication Guide. Read it with care. Read it again each time Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets) is refilled. If you have any questions about Eskalith (lithium capsules and tablets), please talk with the doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

Frequently asked questions

- [What is a proper diet to go on with lithium?](#)

More about Eskalith (lithium)

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Reviews \(5\)](#)

- [Drug images](#)
- [Side effects](#)
- [Dosage information](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [Drug class: antimanic agents](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)

Patient resources

- [Eskalith advanced reading](#)

Other brands

[Lithobid](#), [Eskalith-CR](#)

Professional resources

- [Lithium monograph](#)
- [Lithium Oral Solution \(FDA\)](#)

Other brands

[Lithobid](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Bipolar Disorder](#)
- [Schizoaffective Disorder](#)
- [Mania](#)

Further information

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

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

DRUG STATUS

Availability

 Discontinued

[Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



Approval History



Drug history at FDA



User Reviews & Ratings

[5 Reviews](#)

Images

[Eskalith 300 mg \(ESKALITH SB ESKALITH SB\)](#)

Drugs.com Mobile App

Access drug & treatment information, identify pills, check interactions and set up personal medication records.



About

[About Drugs.com](#)

[Advertising policy](#)

[Attribution & citations](#)

Terms & privacy

[Terms of use](#)

[Editorial policy](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

Support

[Help center](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Contact us](#)



[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) for the latest medication news, new drug approvals and FDA alerts.

Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Data sources include Micromedex (updated 7 Apr 2025), Cerner Multum™ (updated 13 Apr 2025), ASHP (updated 10 Apr 2025) and others.



Ad Choices
ADVERTISEMENT

Copyright © 2000-2025 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.

