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2. Caltrate

# Caltrate

**Generic name:** [Calcium Carbonate Capsules and Tablets](#) [ *KAL-see-um-KAR-bo-nate* ]

**Drug classes:** [Antacids](#), [Minerals and electrolytes](#)

[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com. Last updated on Jan 26, 2024.

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## Uses of Caltrate:

- It is used to treat or prevent low calcium levels.
- It may be given to you for other reasons. Talk with the doctor.

## What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take Caltrate?

- If you have an [allergy](#) to calcium or any other part of Caltrate ([calcium carbonate](#) capsules and tablets).
- If you are allergic to Caltrate (calcium carbonate capsules and tablets); any part of Caltrate (calcium carbonate capsules and tablets); or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have high calcium levels.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with Caltrate (calcium carbonate 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 Caltrate (calcium carbonate 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 Caltrate?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take Caltrate (calcium carbonate capsules and tablets). This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- If you are allergic to soy, talk with your doctor. Some products have soy.
- This medicine may prevent other drugs taken by mouth from getting into the body. If you take other drugs by mouth, you may need to take them at some other time than Caltrate (calcium carbonate capsules and tablets). Talk with your doctor.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan on getting pregnant. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks of

using Caltrate (calcium carbonate capsules and tablets) while you are pregnant.

- Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about any risks to your baby.

## How is this medicine (Caltrate) best taken?

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

- Take with meals.

### 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.

**i** [Detailed Caltrate 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.
- Very bad [constipation](#).

**i** [Caltrate side effects](#) (more detail)

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## What are some other side effects of Caltrate?

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:

- Constipation.

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 Caltrate?

- 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.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about Caltrate (calcium carbonate capsules and tablets), please talk with your doctor, nurse, 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.

## More about Caltrate (calcium carbonate)

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
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## Patient resources

### Other brands

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- [Hypocalcemia](#)

## 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

OTC Over the counter

#### [Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

**CSA Schedule\***



N/A Not a controlled drug

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