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2. Lithobid

# Lithobid

**Generic name:** [lithium](#) [ *LITH-ee-um* ]

**Drug class:** [Antimanic agents](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Aug 4, 2023. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

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## What is Lithobid?

Lithobid is a mood stabilizer that is used to treat or control the manic episodes of [bipolar disorder](#) ([manic depression](#)). Manic symptoms include hyperactivity, rushed speech, poor judgment, reduced need for sleep, aggression, and anger. This medicine also helps to prevent or lessen the intensity of manic episodes.

Lithobid is for use in adults and children at least 7 years old.

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

## Lithobid side effects

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

**Too much Lithobid in your body can cause death.** This medicine toxicity can occur if you take only slightly more than a recommended dose.

**Stop using Lithobid and call your doctor right away if you have symptoms of lithium toxicity:** muscle weakness, twitching, drowsiness, feeling light-headed, mood changes, blurred vision, ringing in your ears, irregular heartbeats, confusion, slurred speech, clumsiness, trouble breathing, or seizures.

**Lithobid may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:**

- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out;
- [shortness of breath](#);
- fever, increased thirst or urination;
- weakness, dizziness or spinning sensation;
- memory problems, hallucinations;
- problems with balance or muscle movement;

- loss of bowel or bladder control;
- a seizure (blackout or convulsions);
- **low sodium level** --headache, confusion, slurred speech, severe weakness, vomiting, loss of coordination, feeling unsteady;
- **thyroid problems**--weight gain or loss, [muscle pain](#), tremors, feeling hot or cold, changes in your skin or hair, sweating, feeling weak or tired, fast or pounding heartbeats, increased bowel movements, feeling anxious or agitated;
- **dehydration symptoms**--feeling very thirsty or hot, being unable to urinate, heavy sweating, or hot and dry skin; or
- **increased pressure inside the skull**--severe headaches, ringing in your ears, dizziness, nausea, vision problems, pain behind your eyes.

**Seek medical attention right away if you have symptoms of serotonin syndrome, such as:** agitation, hallucinations, fever, sweating, shivering, [fast heart rate](#), muscle stiffness, twitching, loss of coordination, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

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

- dizziness, drowsiness;
- tremors in your hands;
- trouble walking;
- dry mouth, increased thirst or urination;
- nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite;
- rash; or
- blurred vision.

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.

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

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## Warnings

**Lithobid toxicity (too much this medicine in your body) can cause death.** This medicine toxicity can occur if you take only slightly more than a recommended dose.

Stop using Lithobid and call your doctor right away if you have symptoms of **lithium toxicity**: muscle weakness, twitching, drowsiness, feeling light-headed, mood changes, blurred vision, ringing in your ears, irregular heartbeats, confusion,

slurred speech, clumsiness, trouble breathing, or seizures.

## Before taking this medicine

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

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- breathing problems;
- [heart disease](#);
- kidney disease;
- a thyroid disorder;
- an abnormal electrocardiograph or ECG (sometimes called an EKG);
- fainting spells; or
- a family member who died before age 45.

Some medicines can interact with Lithobid and cause a serious condition called **serotonin syndrome**. Be sure your doctor knows if you also take stimulant medicine, opioid medicine, [herbal products](#), or medicine for depression, mental illness, [Parkinson's disease](#), migraine headaches, serious infections, or prevention of nausea and vomiting. **Ask your doctor before making any changes in how or when you take your medications.**

It is not known whether Lithobid will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

You should not breast-feed while using this medicine.

Lithobid is not approved for use by anyone younger than 7 years old.

## How should I take Lithobid?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose. **Never use Lithobid in larger amounts, or for longer than prescribed.** This medicine overdose can occur if you take only slightly more than a recommended dose.

Swallow the **tablet** whole and do not crush, chew, or break it.

Measure **liquid medicine** carefully. Use the dosing syringe provided, or use a medicine dose-measuring device (not a kitchen spoon).

Call your doctor if you are sick with a fever and vomiting or diarrhea, or if you are sweating more than usual. You can easily become dehydrated while taking Lithobid, which may affect your dose needs. Do not change your dose or medication schedule without your doctor's advice.

Drink extra fluids each day to prevent [dehydration](#).

It may take up to 3 weeks before your symptoms improve. Keep using the medication as directed and tell your doctor if your symptoms do not begin to improve after 1 week of treatment.

You may need frequent blood tests.

If you need surgery, tell the surgeon ahead of time that you are using Lithobid.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep the bottle tightly closed when not in use.

 [Detailed Lithobid 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?

Stop taking Lithobid and seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

**Early signs of lithium toxicity include:** vomiting, diarrhea, drowsiness, muscle weakness, or loss of coordination.

## What should I avoid while taking lithium?

Avoid driving or hazardous activity until you know how Lithobid will affect you. Your reactions could be impaired.

Avoid becoming overheated or dehydrated during exercise, in hot weather, or by not drinking enough fluids. Follow your doctor's instructions about the type and amount of liquids you should drink. In some cases, drinking too much liquid can be as unsafe as not drinking enough.

Do not change the amount of salt you consume in your diet. Changing your salt intake could change the amount of lithium in your blood.

## What other drugs will affect Lithobid?

**Tell your doctor about all your current medicines.** Many drugs can affect Lithobid, especially:

- buspirone;
- fentanyl;
- [St. John's wort](#);
- tramadol;
- a "triptan" [migraine headache](#) medicine;
- [tryptophan](#);
- an antidepressant or antipsychotic medication; or
- an **MAO inhibitor**--[isocarboxazid](#), linezolid, [methylen blue](#) injection, [phenelzine](#), [rasagiline](#), selegiline, [tranylcypromine](#), and others.

**This list is not complete and many other drugs may affect Lithobid.** This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Not all possible [drug interactions](#) are listed here.

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

## Does Lithobid interact with my other drugs?

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

Lithobid

+

Enter a drug name

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## Frequently asked questions

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

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## Patient resources

### Other brands

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

## Professional resources

- [Lithobid prescribing information](#)
- [Lithium \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

## Related treatment guides

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

## 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](#)

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### 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

7.0 / 10

[17 Reviews](#)

## Images

[Lithobid 300 mg \(SOLVAY 4492\)](#)



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