

[Home](#)2. [Reglan](#)

Reglan

Generic name: [metoclopramide](#) [*MET-oh-KLOE-pra-mide*]**Drug classes:** [GI stimulants](#), [Miscellaneous antiemetics](#)Medically reviewed by [Sophia Entringer, PharmD](#). Last updated on Aug 21, 2023.[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#)

What is Reglan?

Reglan increases muscle contractions in the upper digestive tract. This speeds up the rate at which the stomach empties into the intestines and may help with nausea.

Reglan is used for 4 to 12 weeks to treat [heartburn](#) caused by gastroesophageal [reflux](#) in people who have used other medications without relief.

Reglan is also used to treat [gastroparesis](#) (slow stomach emptying) in people with diabetes, which can cause heartburn and stomach discomfort after meals.

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

Warnings

Do not use Reglan if you've ever had muscle movement problems after using metoclopramide or similar medicines, or if you've had a movement disorder called [tardive dyskinesia](#). You also should not use this medicine if you've had stomach or intestinal problems (a blockage, bleeding, or a hole or tear), [epilepsy](#) or other seizure disorder, or an adrenal gland tumor (pheochromocytoma).

NEVER USE METOCLOPRAMIDE IN LARGER AMOUNTS THAN RECOMMENDED, OR FOR LONGER THAN 12 WEEKS. High doses or long-term use can cause a serious movement disorder that may not be reversible. The longer you use metoclopramide, the more likely you are to develop this movement disorder. The risk of this side effect is higher in diabetics and older adults (especially women).

Before you take Reglan, tell your doctor if you have kidney or liver disease, congestive heart failure, high blood pressure, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, or a history of depression.

Do not drink alcohol. It can increase some of the side effects of metoclopramide.

Stop using Reglan and call your doctor at once if you have tremors or uncontrolled muscle movements, fever, stiff muscles, confusion, sweating, fast or uneven heartbeats, rapid breathing, depressed mood, thoughts of suicide or hurting yourself, hallucinations, anxiety, agitation, seizure, or jaundice (yellowing of your skin or eyes).

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Reglan if you are allergic to metoclopramide, or if you have:

- tardive dyskinesia (a disorder of involuntary movements);
- stomach or intestinal problems such as a blockage, bleeding, or perforation (a hole or tear in your stomach or intestines);
- epilepsy or other seizure disorder;
- an adrenal gland tumor (pheochromocytoma); or
- if you've ever had muscle movement problems after using metoclopramide or similar medicines.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- liver or kidney disease;
- problems with muscle movements;
- congestive [heart failure](#) or a heart rhythm disorder;
- [high blood pressure](#);
- [seizures](#);
- [breast cancer](#);
- [Parkinson's disease](#);
- diabetes; or
- [depression](#) or mental illness.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant before taking metoclopramide.

It may not be safe to breast-feed a baby while you are using this medicine. Ask your doctor about any risks.

Reglan is not FDA-approved for use by anyone younger than 18 years old.

 [Reglan pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

How should I use Reglan?

Take Reglan exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow the directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Reglan should be taken for only 4 to 12 weeks.

NEVER USE REGLAN IN LARGER AMOUNTS THAN RECOMMENDED, OR FOR LONGER THAN 12 WEEKS. High doses or long-term use of metoclopramide can cause a serious movement disorder that may not be reversible. The longer you use metoclopramide, the more likely you are to develop this movement disorder. The risk of this side effect is higher in diabetics and older adults (especially women).

Reglan is usually taken 30 minutes before meals and at bedtime, or only with meals that usually cause heartburn. Follow your doctor's dosing instructions very carefully.

Do not use two different forms of metoclopramide (such as tablets and oral syrup) at the same time.

Store at room temperature in a tightly-closed container, away from moisture and heat. Keep the bottle tightly closed.

After you stop taking Reglan, you may have unpleasant withdrawal symptoms such as [headache](#), [dizziness](#), or nervousness.

Dosing information

Usual Adult Dose of Reglan for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease:

Oral: 10 to 15 mg up to 4 times a day 30 minutes before meals and at bedtime, depending upon symptoms being treated and clinical response. Therapy should not exceed 12 weeks.

Usual Adult Dose of Reglan for Gastroparesis:

During the earliest manifestations of diabetic gastric stasis, oral administration may be initiated. If severe symptoms are present, therapy should begin with IM or IV administration for up to 10 days until symptoms subside at which time the patient can be switched to oral therapy. Since diabetic gastric stasis is often recurrent, therapy should be reinstituted at the earliest manifestation.

Oral: 10 mg 4 times daily, 30 minutes before meals and at bedtime, for 2 to 8 weeks depending on clinical response.

 [Detailed Reglan 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. Overdose symptoms may include drowsiness, confusion, or uncontrolled muscle movements.

What to avoid

Drinking alcohol with this medicine can cause side effects.

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

Do not take Reglan with other medications that increase the risk of experiencing extrapyramidal reactions (eg, spasms, muscle contractions, jerky/rigid movements).

Reglan side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Reglan:** [hives](#); difficult breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Stop taking Reglan and call your doctor at once if you have any of these **SIGNS OF A SERIOUS MOVEMENT DISORDER, which may occur within the first 2 days of treatment:**

- tremors or shaking in your arms or legs;
- uncontrolled muscle movements in your face (chewing, lip smacking, frowning, tongue movement, blinking or eye movement); or
- any new or unusual muscle movements you cannot control.

Call your doctor at once if you have:

- confusion, depression, thoughts of suicide or hurting yourself;
- slow or jerky muscle movements, problems with balance or walking;
- mask-like appearance in your face;
- a seizure;
- [anxiety](#), [agitation](#), jittery feeling, trouble staying still, trouble sleeping;
- swelling, feeling short of breath, rapid [weight gain](#); or
- **severe nervous system reaction** very stiff (rigid) muscles, high [fever](#), sweating, confusion, fast or uneven heartbeats, tremors, feeling like you might pass out.

Common Reglan side effects may include:

- feeling restless;
- feeling drowsy or tired;
- lack of energy;
- nausea, [vomiting](#);
- headache, confusion; or
- sleep problems ([insomnia](#)).

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.

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

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What other drugs will affect Reglan?

Using Reglan with other drugs that make you drowsy can worsen this effect. Ask your doctor before you take opioid pain medication, a sleeping pill, a muscle relaxer, or medicine for anxiety, depression, or seizures.

Tell your doctor about all your current medicines. Many drugs can interact with metoclopramide, especially:

- cyclosporine (Gengraf, Neoral, Sandimmune);
- digoxin (digitalis, Lanoxin);
- glycopyrrolate (Robinul);
- insulin;
- levodopa (Larodopa, Atamet, Parcopa, Sinemet);
- mepenzolate (Cantil);
- tetracycline (Ala-Tet, Brodspec, Panmycin, Sumycin, Tetracap);
- atropine (Donnatal, and others), benztropine (Cogentin), dimenhydrinate (Dramamine), methscopolamine (Pamine), or scopolamine (Transderm-Scop);
- bladder or urinary medications such as darifenacin (Enablex), flavoxate (Urispas), oxybutynin (Ditropan, Oxytrol), tolterodine (Detrol), or solifenacin (Vesicare);
- blood pressure medications;
- bronchodilators such as ipratropium (Atrovent) or tiotropium (Spiriva);
- irritable bowel medications such as dicyclomine (Bentyl), hyoscyamine (Anaspaz, Cystospaz, Levsin), or propantheline (Pro-Banthine);
- an MAO inhibitor such as furazolidone (Furoxone), isocarboxazid (Marplan), phenelzine (Nardil), rasagiline (Azilect), selegiline (Eldepryl, Emsam, Zelapar), or tranylcypromine (Parnate); or
- medicines to treat psychiatric disorders, such as chlorpromazine (Thorazine), clozapine (Clozaril, FazaClo), haloperidol (Haldol), olanzapine (Zyprexa, Symbyax), prochlorperazine (Compazine), risperidone (Risperdal), thiothixene (Navane), and others.

This list is not complete and there are many other drugs that can interact with metoclopramide. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal products](#). Not all possible drug interactions are listed here.

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

Does Reglan interact with my other drugs?

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

Reglan

+

Enter a drug name

Add

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Patient resources

- [Reglan \(Metoclopramide Injection, Intravenous\) advanced reading](#)

Other brands

[Gimoti](#), [Metozolv ODT](#)

Professional resources

- [Reglan prescribing information](#)
- [Metoclopramide Hydrochloride \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

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Related treatment guides

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- [Lactation Augmentation](#)
- [GERD](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Reglan only for the indication prescribed.

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

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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

3.7 / 10

[352 Reviews](#)

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