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2. Anafranil

Anafranil

Generic name: [clomipramine](#) [*kloe-MI-pra-meen*]**Drug class:** [Tricyclic antidepressants](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Jun 3, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is Anafranil?

Anafranil is a tricyclic antidepressant that is used to treat symptoms of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), such as recurrent thoughts or feelings and repetitive actions.

Anafranil is for use in adults and children at least 10 years old.

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

Anafranil side effects

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

Seek medical treatment if you have a serious drug reaction that can affect many parts of your body. Symptoms may include: skin rash, fever, swollen glands, muscle aches, severe weakness, unusual bruising, or yellowing of your skin or eyes.

Report any new or worsening symptoms to your doctor, such as: mood or behavior changes, anxiety, [panic attacks](#), trouble sleeping, or if you feel impulsive, irritable, agitated, hostile, aggressive, restless, hyperactive (mentally or physically), more depressed, or have thoughts about suicide or hurting yourself.

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

- **low sodium level** --headache, confusion, slurred speech, severe weakness, vomiting, loss of coordination, feeling unsteady;
- blurred vision, tunnel vision, eye pain or swelling, or seeing halos around lights;
- confusion, extreme fear, thoughts of hurting yourself;
- pain or burning when you urinate; or
- a seizure (convulsions).

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 Anafranil may include:

- feeling dizzy, drowsy, tired, or nervous;
- tremors, jerking muscle movements;
- sweating;
- changes in appetite or weight;
- urination problems;
- vision changes; or
- decreased sex drive, impotence, or difficulty having an orgasm.

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.

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

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Warnings

You should not use Anafranil if you have recently had a heart attack.

Do not use this medicine if you have used an MAO inhibitor in the past 14 days, such as [isocarboxazid](#), linezolid, [methylene blue](#) injection, phenelzine, rasagiline, selegiline, or [tranylcypromine](#).

Some young people have thoughts about suicide when first taking an antidepressant. Stay alert to changes in your mood or symptoms. **Report any new or worsening symptoms to your doctor.**

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Anafranil if you are allergic to it, or if you have:

- you have recently had a heart attack; or
- you are allergic to [antidepressants](#) such as [amitriptyline](#), amoxapine, trimipramine, desipramine, doxepin, imipramine, [nortriptyline](#), or [protriptyline](#).

Do not use Anafranil if you have used an MAO inhibitor in the past 14 days. A dangerous [drug interaction](#) could occur. MAO inhibitors include isocarboxazid, linezolid, methylene blue injection, phenelzine, rasagiline, selegiline, tranylcypromine, and others.

Tell your doctor if you have used an "SSRI" antidepressant in the past 5 weeks, such as citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine (Prozac), fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline (Zoloft), trazodone, or vilazodone.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- liver disease;
- kidney disease;
- [bipolar disorder](#) (manic-depression), [schizophrenia](#) or other mental illness;
- alcoholism;
- a seizure or a head injury;
- [heart disease](#);
- [low blood pressure](#);
- narrow-angle glaucoma;
- overactive thyroid or adrenal gland tumor ([pheochromocytoma](#) or [neuroblastoma](#)); or
- urination problems.

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. **These medicines may interact with Anafranil and cause a serious condition called serotonin syndrome.**

Some young people have thoughts about suicide when first taking an antidepressant. Your doctor should check your progress at regular visits. Your family or other caregivers should also be alert to changes in your mood or symptoms.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to get pregnant. **Taking this medicine during late pregnancy may cause withdrawal symptoms in the newborn.**

You should not breastfeed while using Anafranil.

How should I take Anafranil?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

It may take up to 4 weeks before your symptoms improve. Keep using the medication as directed and tell your doctor if your symptoms do not improve after 4 weeks of treatment.

Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve, or if they get worse.

If you need surgery, tell your surgeon you currently use Anafranil. You may need to stop for a short time.

Do not stop using Anafranil suddenly, or you could have unpleasant withdrawal symptoms. Ask your doctor how to safely stop using this medicine.

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

 [Detailed Anafranil 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. **An overdose of Anafranil can be fatal.**

Overdose symptoms may include irregular heartbeats, feeling restless or agitated, confusion, severe sweating, slow or jerky muscle movements, extreme drowsiness, slow breathing, feeling like you might pass out, seizure, or coma.

What should I avoid while taking clomipramine?

Avoid drinking alcohol. Dangerous side effects could occur.

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

What other drugs will affect Anafranil?

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

Many drugs can affect Anafranil. 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.

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

Does Anafranil interact with my other drugs?

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

Anafranil

+

Enter a drug name

Add

Frequently asked questions

- [What are some common side effects of antidepressants?](#)

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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.

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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

10+ years FDA approved 1989



User Reviews & Ratings

8.0 / 10

[98 Reviews](#)

Images

[Anafranil 50 mg \(ANAFRANIL 50 mg\)](#)



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