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2. Relpax

Relpax

Generic name: [eletriptan](#) [*EL-e-TRIP-tan*]

Drug class: [Antimigraine agents](#)

Medically reviewed by [Sophia Entringer, PharmD](#). Last updated on Aug 2, 2024.

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What is Relpax?

Relpax is a headache medicine that narrows blood vessels around the brain. Eletriptan also reduces substances in the body that can trigger headache pain, nausea, sensitivity to light and sound, and other migraine symptoms.

Relpax is used to treat [migraine headaches](#) with or without aura in adults. Relpax will only treat a headache that has already begun. It will not prevent headaches or reduce the number of attacks.

Relpax should not be used to treat a common [tension headache](#), a headache that causes loss of movement on one side of your body, or any headache that seems to be different from your usual migraine headaches. **Use this medicine only if your condition has been confirmed by a doctor as migraine headaches.**

Warnings

You should not use Relpax if you have ever had heart disease, [coronary artery disease](#), blood circulation problems, [Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome](#), uncontrolled [high blood pressure](#), severe liver disease, a [heart attack](#) or stroke, or if your headache seems to be different from your usual migraine headaches.

Do not take Relpax within 24 hours before or after using another [migraine headache](#) medicine.

Do not use Relpax within 72 hours before or after taking: [clarithromycin](#), troleandomycin, [itraconazole](#), [ketoconazole](#), [nefazodone](#), [ritonavir](#), or nelfinavir.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Relpax if you are allergic to eletriptan, or if you have:

- heart problems, or a stroke (including "mini-stroke");
- circulation problems affecting your legs, arms, stomach, intestines, or kidneys;
- a heart disorder called Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome;
- uncontrolled high blood pressure; or

- a headache that seems different from your usual migraine headaches.

Do not take Relpax within 24 hours before or after using another migraine headache medicine, including:

- **medicines like eletriptan** - [almotriptan](#), [frovatriptan](#), [naratriptan](#), [rizatriptan](#), [sumatriptan](#), [zolmitriptan](#), and others; or
- **ergot medicine** - [dihydroergotamine](#), [ergotamine](#), ergonovine, [methylergonovine](#).

Do not use Relpax within 72 hours before or after taking: clarithromycin, troleandomycin, itraconazole, [ketoconazole](#), nefazodone, ritonavir, or nelfinavir.

To make sure this medicine is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- liver or renal disease;
- heart problems or stroke; or
- risk factors for coronary artery disease (such as high blood pressure, [high cholesterol](#), diabetes, [menopause](#), [smoking](#), a family history of coronary artery disease, being [overweight](#), or being older than 40 and a man).

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 eletriptan and cause a serious condition called serotonin syndrome.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known whether eletriptan will harm an unborn baby. However, having migraine headaches during pregnancy may cause complications such as high blood pressure or eclampsia (dangerously high blood pressure that can lead to medical problems in both mother and baby). The benefit of treating migraines may outweigh any risks to the baby.

It may not be safe to breastfeed while using Relpax. Ask your doctor about any risk.

Relpax is not approved for use by anyone younger than 18 years old.

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

How should I take Relpax?

Take Relpax exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose.

Take Relpax as soon as you notice migraine symptoms.

After taking a tablet: If your headache does not completely go away, or goes away and comes back, take a second tablet 2 hours after the first. Do not take more than 80 mg of Relpax in 24 hours. If your symptoms have not improved, contact your doctor before taking any more tablets.

Call your doctor if your headache does not go away at all after taking the first Relpax tablet.

If you use this medicine long-term, your heart function may need to be checked using an electrocardiograph or ECG (sometimes called an EKG).

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

Dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Migraine:

Use only after a clear diagnosis of migraine has been established

Initial dose: 20 mg or 40 mg orally, once

-Provided there has been some response to first dose, a second dose may be administered at least 2 hours later if migraine returns or symptoms recur.

Maximum dose: 80 mg in a 24-hour period

Comments:

-Doses should be individualized as responses vary; in clinical trials, benefit was observed with 20 mg, 40 mg, and 80 mg doses; however an increased incidence of side effects was observed at the 80 mg dose.

-This drug should not be used to treat basilar or hemiplegic migraines because these patients are at a greater risk of stroke.

-The safety of treating an average of 3 or more migraine attacks in a 30-day period has not been established.

Use: For the acute treatment of migraine with or without aura.

 [Detailed Relpax dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Since Relpax is used as needed, it does not have a daily dosing schedule. Call your doctor promptly if your symptoms do not improve after using Relpax.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

What to avoid

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

Relpax side effects

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

Call your doctor at once if you have:

- fast, slow, or uneven heart rate;
- sudden severe stomach pain (especially after meals), [constipation](#) or [diarrhea](#), [weight loss](#);
- fever, diarrhea that is bloody;
- numbness, tingling, cold feeling or burning pain in your feet or toes;

- tightness or heavy feeling in your legs, pale or blue-colored appearance in your fingers or toes;
- severe headache, blurred vision, pounding in your neck or ears; or
- **signs of a stroke** - sudden numbness or weakness (especially on one side of the body), sudden severe headache, slurred speech, problems with vision or balance.

Stop using Relpax and call your doctor at once if you have:

- **heart attack symptoms** - chest pain or pressure, pain spreading to your jaw or shoulder, [nausea](#), sweating.

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 Relpax side effects may include:

- [dizziness](#), drowsiness;
- nausea; or
- weakness, feeling tired.

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.

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

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What other drugs will affect Relpax?

Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially an antidepressant.

Other drugs may interact with eletriptan, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

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

Does Relpax interact with my other drugs?

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

Relpax

+

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1. [Relpax Product Label](#)

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Professional resources

- [Relpax prescribing information](#)
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Related treatment guides

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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 Relpax 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
10+ years FDA approved 2002



User Reviews & Ratings

8.6 / 10

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