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2. Mucinex

# Mucinex

**Generic name:** [guaifenesin](#) [ *gwye-FEN-e-sin* ]

**Drug class:** [Expectorants](#)

Medically reviewed by [Melisa Puckey, BPharm](#). Last updated on Feb 29, 2024.

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## What is Mucinex?

Mucinex is an expectorant. It helps loosen congestion in your chest and throat, making it easier to cough out through your mouth.

Mucinex is used to reduce chest congestion caused by the [common cold](#), infections, or [allergies](#).

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

## Warnings

Follow all directions on your medicine label and package. Tell each of your healthcare providers about all your medical conditions, allergies, and all medicines you use.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use Mucinex if you are allergic to guaifenesin.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if it is safe for you to use Mucinex if you have other medical conditions.

It is not known whether Mucinex will harm an unborn baby. **Ask a doctor before using this medicine if you are pregnant.**

It is not known whether guaifenesin passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. **Ask a doctor before using this medicine if you are breast-feeding a baby.**

Do not give Mucinex to a child without medical advice.

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

## How should I take Mucinex?

Use Mucinex exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor. Do not use in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended. Cough medicine is usually taken only for a short time until your symptoms clear up.

Take Mucinex with food if it upsets your stomach.

Measure liquid medicine with the dosing syringe provided, or with a special dose-measuring spoon or medicine cup. If you do not have a dose-measuring device, ask your pharmacist for one.

Drink extra fluids to help loosen the congestion and lubricate your throat while you are taking this medication.

Store at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light.

 [Mucinex patient tips](#) (more detail)

## Dosing information

### Usual Adult Dose of Mucinex for Cough:

- **Immediate release formulation:** 200 to 400 mg orally every 4 hours as needed, not to exceed 2.4 g/day
- **Sustained release formulation:** 600 to 1200 mg orally every 12 hours, not to exceed 2.4 g/day

### Usual Pediatric Dose of Mucinex for Cough:

#### Immediate release formulation:

- *Less than 2 years:* 12 mg/kg/day orally in 6 divided doses
- *2 to 5 years:* 50 to 100 mg orally every 4 hours as needed, not to exceed 600 mg/day
- *6 to 11 years:* 100 to 200 mg orally every 4 hours as needed, not to exceed 1.2 g/day
- *12 years or older:* 200 to 400 mg orally every 4 hours as needed, not to exceed 2.4 g/day

#### Sustained release formulation:

- *2 to 5 years:* 300 mg orally every 12 hours, not to exceed 600 mg/day
- *6 to 11 years:* 600 mg orally every 12 hours, not to exceed 1.2 g/day
- *12 years or older:* 600 to 1200 mg orally every 12 hours, not to exceed 2.4 g/day

 [Detailed Mucinex dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Since cough or cold medicine is taken when needed, you may not be on a dosing schedule. If you are taking the medication regularly, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

## What happens if I overdose?

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

## What to avoid

Mucinex may impair your thinking or reactions. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be alert.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using any other cold, or cough medicine. Many combination medicines contain Mucinex. Taking certain products together can cause you to get too much of a certain drug. Check the label to see if a medicine contains an expectorant.

## Mucinex side effects

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

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

- dizziness;
- headache;
- rash;
- nausea;
- vomiting;
- stomach upset.

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.

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

## Related/similar drugs

### Augmentin

Augmentin is a prescription antibiotic combining amoxicillin and clavulanate to treat bacterial ...

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Diphenhydramine is an antihistamine used to treat sneezing, runny nose, itching, hives and other ...

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Benzonatate is a non-narcotic cough medicine used to relieve coughing. Includes benzonatate side ...

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### Azithromycin

Azithromycin is an antibiotic used to treat many different types of infections caused by bacteria ...

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### Doxycycline

Doxycycline is a tetracycline antibiotic used to treat many different bacterial infections such as ...

#### Reviews & ratings

6.4 / 10

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## What other drugs will affect Mucinex ?

Other drugs may interact with guaifenesin, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Tell each of your health care providers about all medicines you use now and any medicine you start or stop using.

### Does Mucinex interact with my other drugs?

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

Mucinex

+

Enter a drug name

Add

## Popular FAQ

Does Mucinex help you get pregnant?



Can you take Mucinex and Nyquil together?



Does Mucinex help with Covid?



Does Mucinex help with a sore throat?



## More FAQ

- [I have high blood pressure. Can I take Mucinex DM safely?](#)
- [What is the difference between Mucinex D and Mucinex DM?](#)
- [Can I take Claritin with Mucinex DM?](#)
- [Has anyone used expired Mucinex and had it worked?](#)
- [Is it OK to take Excedrin with Mucinex D?](#)

[View more FAQ...](#)

## References

1. [Mucinex Product Label](#)

## More about Mucinex (guaifenesin)

- [Compare alternatives](#)
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- [Support group](#)
- [Drug class: expectorants](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)
- [En español](#)

## Patient resources

### Other brands

[Robitussin Chest Congestion](#), [Tussin](#), [Tussin Expectorant](#), [Guiatuss](#), ... +8 more

## Professional resources

- [Mucinex prescribing information](#)
- [Guaifenesin \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

## Other formulations

- [Mucinex DM](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Bronchitis](#)
- [Bronchiectasis](#)
- [Cough](#)

## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Mucinex 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

Rx

OTC

Availability

Rx and/or OTC

Pregnancy & Lactation

Risk data available

CSA Schedule\*

N/A Not a controlled drug

Approval History

Drug history at FDA



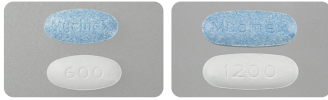
## User Reviews & Ratings

6.2 / 10

[155 Reviews](#)

## Images

[Mucinex 600 mg \(Mucinex 600\)](#)



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