



[Home](#)

2. Flomax

Flomax

Generic name: [tamsulosin](#) [*tam-soo-LOE-sin*]

Drug class: [Alpha blockers](#)

Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Mar 26, 2025.

[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#) [FAQ](#)

What is Flomax?

Flomax (tamsulosin) belongs to in a class of medications called alpha blockers. It works by relaxing the muscles in the prostate and bladder so that urine can flow easily.

Flomax capsules are used in men to treat the symptoms of an enlarged prostate ([benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH](#)) which include difficulty urinating (hesitation, dribbling, weak stream, and incomplete bladder emptying), painful urination, and urinary frequency and urgency.

Flomax capsules are not approved for use in women or children.

Warnings

You should not use Flomax if you are allergic to tamsulosin. Do not take tamsulosin with other similar medicines such as alfuzosin (Uroxatral), doxazosin (Cardura), prazosin (Minipress), silodosin (Rapaflo), or terazosin (Hytrin).

Flomax may cause dizziness or fainting, especially when you first start taking it or when you start taking it again. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be alert. Avoid standing for long periods of time or becoming overheated during exercise and in hot weather. Avoid getting up too fast from a sitting or lying position, or you may feel dizzy.

If you stop taking this medicine for any reason, call your doctor before you start taking it again. You may need a dose adjustment.

Tamsulosin can affect your pupils during cataract surgery. Tell your eye surgeon ahead of time that you are using this medication. Do not stop using Flomax before surgery unless your surgeon tells you to.

There are many other drugs that can interact with this medicine. Tell your doctor about all medications you use.

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 Flomax if you are allergic to tamsulosin.

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

- [prostate cancer](#);
- [low blood pressure](#);
- an allergy to [sulfa drugs](#); or
- liver or kidney disease.

Tamsulosin can affect your pupils. If you have cataract surgery, tell the surgeon you use this medicine.

Ask your doctor about prostate [cancer](#) screening before and while taking this medicine.

Flomax capsules are not approved for use in women.

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

How should I take Flomax?

Take Flomax capsules exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets.

Flomax capsules are usually taken once a day, within 30 minutes after the same meal each day.

Swallow the capsule whole and do not crush, chew, break, or open it.

Your blood pressure will need to be checked often.

If you stop using this medicine, do not start it again without your doctor's advice.

Store tightly closed at room temperature, away from moisture and heat.

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

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.

If you stop using this medicine for several days in a row, do not start it again without your doctor's advice.

Dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia:

0.4 mg orally once a day; the dose may be increased to 0.8 mg orally once a day in patients who fail to respond to 0.4 mg once a day within 2 to 4 weeks

Comments:

-This drug should be administered approximately one-half hour following the same meal each day.

Use: Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)

 [Detailed Flomax dosage information](#)

What happens if I overdose?

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

What should I avoid while taking Flomax?

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

Avoid getting up too fast from a sitting or lying position, or you may feel dizzy.

Flomax side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to Flomax** (hives, difficult breathing, swelling in your face or throat) **or a severe skin reaction** (fever, sore throat, burning eyes, skin pain, red or purple skin rash with blistering and peeling).

Tamsulosin may lower your blood pressure and may cause dizziness or fainting, especially when you first start taking it or your dose changes.

Tamsulosin may cause serious side effects. Stop using Flomax and call your doctor at once if you have:

- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out; or
- a painful erection that lasts 4 hours or longer.

Common Flomax side effects may include:

- abnormal ejaculation, decreased amount of semen;
- dizziness, drowsiness, weakness;
- runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, cough;
- back pain, chest pain, headache;
- nausea, diarrhea;
- tooth problems;
- blurred vision;
- sleep problems (insomnia); or
- decreased interest in sex.

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.

Related/similar drugs

Cialis

Cialis (tadalafil) increase increases blood flow to a certain area of the body and is used to treat ...

Reviews & ratings

8.6 / 10

[554 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Proscar

Proscar (finasteride) is used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia (enlarged prostate). Includes ...

Reviews & ratings

[4 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

FEATURED

Omvox

Omvox is used to treat moderate to severe ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease in adults. This ...

Reviews & ratings

[1 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Cardura

Cardura (doxazosin) is used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia (enlarged prostate) and high ...

Reviews & ratings

[6 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Dutasteride

Dutasteride (brand name Avodart) is used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia (enlarged prostate ...

Reviews & ratings

6.3 / 10

[69 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Terazosin

Terazosin is used to treat hypertension (high blood pressure) and benign prostatic hyperplasia ...

Reviews & ratings

6.7 / 10

[54 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Doxazosin

Doxazosin is used to treat hypertension (high blood pressure) and benign prostatic hyperplasia ...

Reviews & ratings

5.4 / 10

[68 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

Finasteride

Finasteride is used for hair loss in men (androgenetic alopecia) and benign prostatic hyperplasia ...

Reviews & ratings

4.8 / 10

[301 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

What other drugs will affect Flomax?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medicines at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other

drugs you use, which may increase side effects or make the medicines less effective.

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

- [cimetidine](#);
- medicine to treat [impotence](#) or pulmonary arterial hypertension--[avanafil](#) ([Stendra](#)), [sildenafil](#) ([Viagra](#), [Revatio](#)), [tadalafil](#) ([Adcirca](#), [Cialis](#)), or [vardenafil](#) ([Levitra](#), [Staxyn](#)); or
- drugs to treat [high blood pressure](#) or a prostate disorder--[alfuzosin](#), [doxazosin](#), [prazosin](#), [terazosin](#), [silodosin](#).

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

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

Does Flomax interact with my other drugs?

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

Flomax

+

Enter a drug name

Add

Popular FAQ

Does Flomax make you pee more?	▼
How quickly does Flomax work?	▼
Does Flomax help with kidney stones?	▼
Can I stop taking Flomax after TURP?	▼
Does Flomax lower blood pressure?	▼
Why is Flomax given at night?	▼
Do I have to take Flomax forever?	▼

References

1. [Flomax Prescribing Information](#)

More about Flomax (tamsulosin)

- [Check interactions](#)

- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Pricing & coupons](#)
- [Reviews \(297\)](#)
- [Drug images](#)
- [Side effects](#)
- [Dosage information](#)
- [Patient tips](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [Support group](#)
- [Drug class: alpha blockers](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)
- [En español](#)

Professional resources

- [Flomax prescribing information](#)
- [Tamsulosin \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia](#)

Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Flomax 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](#)

Copyright 1996-2025 Cerner Multum, Inc. Version: 11.01.

DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

[Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



10+
years

Approval History
FDA approved 1997



User Reviews & Ratings

5.9 / 10

[297 Reviews](#)

Images

[Flomax 0.4 mg \(Flomax 0.4 mg BI 58\)](#)

Drugs.com Mobile App

Access drug & treatment information, identify pills, check interactions and set up personal medication records.



About

[About Drugs.com](#)

[Advertising policy](#)

[Attribution & citations](#)

Terms & privacy

[Terms of use](#)

[Editorial policy](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

Support

[Help center](#)

[Sitemap](#)

[Contact us](#)



[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) for the latest medication news, new drug approvals and FDA alerts.

Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Data sources include Micromedex (updated 7 Apr 2025), Cerner Multum™ (updated 13 Apr 2025), ASHP (updated 10 Apr 2025) and others.



Ad Choices
ADVERTISEMENT



Copyright © 2000-2025 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.