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2. Dextromethorphan/guaifenesin

Dextromethorphan and guaifenesin

Generic name: dextromethorphan and guaifenesin [*DEX-troe-meth-OR-fan-and-gwye-FEN-e-sin*]

Brand names: Alka-Seltzer Plus Maximum Strength, Children Giltuss Cough and Chest Congestion, Children's Delsym Cough+Chest Congest DM, Children's Robitussin Cough and Chest, Children's Robitussin Cough and Chest Congestion DM, ... [show all 227 brands](#)

Dosage forms: oral capsule (10 mg-200 mg), oral granule (5 mg-100 mg), oral liquid (10 mg-100 mg/10 mL; 10 mg-100 mg/5 mL; 10 mg-187 mg/5 mL; 10 mg-200 mg/5 mL; 15 mg-200 mg/5 mL; 20 mg-200 mg/10 mL; 20 mg-200 mg/20 mL; 20 mg-400 mg/20 mL; 20 mg-400 mg/5 mL; 5 mg-100 mg/5 mL), ... [show all 6 dosage forms](#)

Drug class: [Upper respiratory combinations](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Apr 4, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

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What is dextromethorphan and guaifenesin?

[Dextromethorphan](#) and [guaifenesin](#) is a combination medicine used to treat cough and chest congestion caused by allergies, the [common cold](#), or the flu.

Dextromethorphan and guaifenesin may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Dextromethorphan and guaifenesin 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.

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

- mood changes;
- severe [headache](#); or
- severe dizziness or anxiety, feeling like you might pass out.

Common side effects of dextromethorphan and guaifenesin may include:

- dizziness, [drowsiness](#);
- sleep problems ([insomnia](#));
- diarrhea; or
- feeling nervous, restless, anxious, or irritable.

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.

 [Dextromethorphan / guaifenesin side effects](#) (more detail)

Related/similar drugs

Benadryl

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

Reviews & ratings

7.0 / 10

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Reviews & ratings

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Mucinex

Mucinex (guaifenesin) is used to relieve the symptoms of cough and loosen mucus in the chest ...

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6.3 / 10

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Vicodin

Vicodin (acetaminophen and hydrocodone) is used to relieve moderate to severe pain. Includes ...

Reviews & ratings

7.7 / 10

[146 Reviews](#)

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Warnings

Do not use this medicine if you are using or 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](#), and [tranylcypromine](#).

Before taking this medicine

You should not take dextromethorphan and guaifenesin if you are allergic to it.

Do not use dextromethorphan and guaifenesin if you are using or 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, and tranylcypromine.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if this medicine is safe to use if you have:

- a cough with mucus; or
- asthma, [emphysema](#), or [chronic bronchitis](#).

This medicine may contain phenylalanine and could be harmful if you have [phenylketonuria](#) (PKU).

Ask a doctor before using this medicine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

How should I take dextromethorphan and guaifenesin?

Use exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor. Cold or cough medicine is only for short-term use.

Your dose needs may change if you switch to a different brand, strength, or form of this medicine. **Avoid medication errors by using exactly as directed on the label, or as prescribed by your doctor.**

Do not give this medicine to a child without medical advice. Follow all directions when giving this medicine to a child. **Do not use the medicine to make a child sleepy.** Misuse of this medicine may cause death in very young children.

Measure **liquid medicine** with the supplied measuring device (not a kitchen spoon).

You may need to shake the liquid before you measure a dose. Follow all directions on the label.

Swallow the **extended-release tablet** whole and do not crush, chew, or break it.

Dissolve the **effervescent tablets** in at least 4 ounces of water. Stir and drink right away. Add more water to the glass, swirl and drink.

Sprinkle the **granules** directly onto your tongue and swallow right away.

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

Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve after 7 days, or if you have a fever, rash, or headaches.

Follow the storage instructions provided with this medicine. Your pharmacist can provide more information about how to store this medicine.

 [Detailed Dextromethorphan / guaifenesin dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

dextromethorphan and guaifenesin is used when needed. If you are on a dosing schedule, skip any missed dose. **Do not** use 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.

What should I avoid while taking dextromethorphan and guaifenesin?

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

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before taking other cough or cold medicines that may contain similar ingredients.

Drinking alcohol with this medicine can cause side effects.

What other drugs will affect dextromethorphan and guaifenesin?

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicines that can cause drowsiness (such as opioid medication, sleep medicine, a muscle relaxer, or medicine for anxiety or [seizures](#)). Tell your doctor about all other medicines you use. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#). **Not all possible interactions are listed here.**

 [Dextromethorphan / guaifenesin drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does dextromethorphan/guaifenesin interact with my other drugs?

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

dextromethorphan/guaifenesin

+

Enter a drug name

Add

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Patient resources

Other brands

[Mucinex DM](#), [Mucinex DM Maximum Strength](#), [Tussin DM](#), [Guaifenesin DM](#), ... +26 more

Professional resources

- [Guaifenesin-DM NR prescribing information](#)

Other brands

[Mucinex DM](#), [Mucinex DM Maximum Strength](#), [Tussin DM](#), [Mucinex Children's Cough](#), ... +2 more

Related treatment guides

- [Expectoration](#)
- [Cough](#)

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.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)


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DRUG STATUS

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

5.6 / 10

[42 Reviews](#)

Images

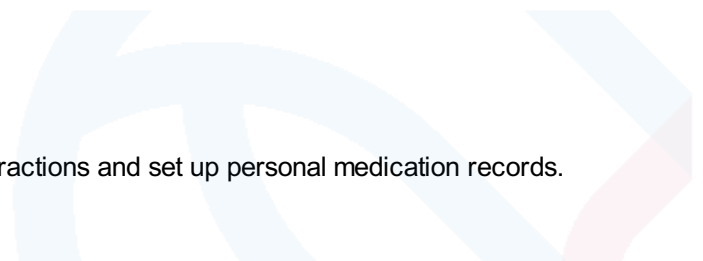
[Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide and Guaifenesin Extended Release 60 mg / 1200 mg \(L812\)](#)



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