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2. Anacin

Anacin

Generic name: [aspirin and caffeine](#) [ASP-rin-and-KAF-eeen]

Drug class: [Analgesic combinations](#)

Medically reviewed by [Melisa Puckey, BPharm](#). Last updated on Mar 1, 2024.

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What is Anacin?

Anacin is a combination of a salicylate and a stimulant. It works by reducing substances in the body that cause pain, fever, and inflammation. Caffeine is used in this product to increase the pain relieving effects of aspirin.

Anacin is used to treat [headaches](#), muscle pain, minor arthritis pain, and [fever](#) or body aches caused by the [common cold](#). Anacin is sometimes used to treat or prevent heart attacks, strokes, and chest pain (angina). Anacin should be used for cardiovascular conditions only under the supervision of a doctor.

Warnings

Aspirin may cause stomach or intestinal bleeding, which can be fatal.

Aspirin can also cause a severe allergic reaction. Get emergency medical help if you have hives, wheezing, or swelling in your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

You should not use Anacin if you have an active bleeding disorder such as hemophilia.

Do not give this medication to a child or teenager with a fever, flu symptoms, or chicken pox. **Aspirin can cause Reye's syndrome, a serious and sometimes fatal condition in children.**

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Anacin if you are allergic to aspirin or caffeine, or if you have:

- a recent history of stomach or intestinal bleeding;
- active bleeding caused by hemophilia or another blood-clotting disorder; or
- an allergy to an NSAID (nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug) such as Advil, Motrin, Aleve, Orudis, Indocin, Lodine, Voltaren, Toradol, Mobic, Relafen, Feldene, and others.

Do not give this medication to a child or teenager with a fever, flu symptoms, or chicken pox. **Aspirin can cause Reye's syndrome, a serious and sometimes fatal condition in children.**

Anacin may cause stomach or intestinal bleeding, which can be fatal. These conditions can occur without warning while you are taking this medicine, especially:

- if you are age 60 or older;
- if you have a stomach ulcer or a history of stomach or intestinal bleeding;
- if take a blood thinner (warfarin, Coumadin) or steroid medicine;
- if you drink more than 3 alcoholic beverages per day; or
- if you take the medicine for longer than recommended.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist if it is safe for you to take this medicine if you have other medical conditions, especially:

- any bleeding disorder or stomach problems;
- heart disease, high blood pressure;
- asthma or seasonal allergies;
- liver or kidney disease;
- gout; or
- diabetes.

This medicine may be harmful to an unborn baby's heart, and may also reduce birth weight or have other dangerous effects. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant while you are taking Anacin.

Aspirin and caffeine can pass into breast milk and may harm a nursing baby. You should not breast-feed while using this medicine.

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

How should I take Anacin?

Use Anacin 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.

Take with food if Anacin upsets your stomach.

Dissolve the powder or effervescent tablet in at least 4 ounces of water. Stir and drink this mixture right away.

If you need surgery, tell the surgeon ahead of time that you are using Anacin. You may need to stop using the medicine for a short time.

Do not take this medication if you smell a strong vinegar odor in the Anacin bottle. The medicine may no longer be effective.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

 [Detailed Anacin dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Since this medicine is used when needed, you may not be on a dosing schedule. If you are on a schedule, use the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not use 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

If you are taking Anacin to prevent heart attack or stroke, avoid also taking ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin). Ibuprofen may make Anacin less effective. If you must use both medications, take the ibuprofen at least 8 hours before or 30 minutes after you take the Anacin (non-enteric coated form).

Avoid drinking alcohol while you are taking Anacin. Alcohol may increase your risk of stomach bleeding.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using any cold or allergy medicine, diet pills, or pain medication. Many medicines available over the counter contain aspirin or caffeine. Taking certain products together can cause you to get too much of this type of medication. Check the label to see if a medicine contains aspirin, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, naproxen, or caffeine.

Ask your doctor before using Anacin if you take an antidepressant such as citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine (Prozac), fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline (Zoloft), trazodone, or vilazodone. Taking any of these medicines with an NSAID may cause you to bruise or bleed easily.

Anacin side effects

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

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

- ringing in your ears, confusion, hallucinations, rapid breathing, seizure (convulsions);
- severe nausea, vomiting, or stomach pain;
- bloody or tarry stools, coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds;
- fever lasting longer than 3 days; or
- swelling, or pain lasting longer than 10 days.

Common Anacin side effects may include:

- upset stomach, heartburn;
- drowsiness; or
- mild headache.

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.

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

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What other drugs will affect Anacin?

Other drugs may interact with aspirin and caffeine, 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.

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

Does Anacin interact with my other drugs?

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

Anacin

+

Enter a drug name

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Patient resources

Other brands

[Back & Body Extra Strength, P-A-C](#)

Other formulations

- [Anacin Extra Strength](#)
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Related treatment guides

- [Pain](#)

Further information

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

OTC Over the counter

Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



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Images

Anacin aspirin 400 mg / caffeine 32 mg (Logo Logo)



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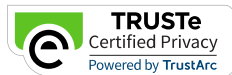
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