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2. Vytorin

# Vytorin

**Generic name:** [ezetimibe and simvastatin](#) [ ez-ET-i-mibe-and-SIM-va-stat-in ]**Drug class:** [Antihyperlipidemic combinations](#)Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Oct 24, 2024.[Uses](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Side effects](#) [Interactions](#)

## What is Vytorin?

Vytorin contains a combination of [ezetimibe](#) and [simvastatin](#). Ezetimibe reduces the amount of cholesterol absorbed by the body.

Simvastatin belongs to a group of drugs called HMG CoA reductase inhibitors, or "[statins](#)."

Vytorin is used to lower blood levels of "bad" cholesterol (low-density lipoprotein, or LDL) and triglycerides, to increase levels of "good" cholesterol (high-density lipoprotein, or HDL), and to lower triglycerides (a type of fat in the blood).

Vytorin is used together with a low-fat diet and other treatments to [lower total cholesterol](#) in adults and children who are at least 10 years old. It is not known whether this medicine reduces your risk of heart disease.

## Warnings

You should not use Vytorin if you have active liver disease or abnormal liver function tests.

Do not use Vytorin if you are pregnant or if you could become pregnant. Use effective birth control.

Do not breastfeed while using ezetimibe and simvastatin.

The following drugs should not be used while you are taking Vytorin: boceprevir, cyclosporine, danazol, gemfibrozil, nefazodone, telaprevir, certain antibiotics (clarithromycin, erythromycin, telithromycin), antifungal medication (itraconazole, ketoconazole, posaconazole, voriconazole), or certain HIV/AIDS medication (atazanavir, cobicistat (Stribild, Tybost), indinavir, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir, tipranavir).

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use Vytorin if you are allergic to simvastatin (Zocor) or ezetimibe (Zetia), or if you have:

- active liver disease; or
- abnormal liver function tests.

**Do not use if you are pregnant.** This medicine can harm an unborn baby. Use effective birth control to prevent pregnancy. Stop taking this medicine and tell your doctor at once if you become pregnant.

**Ezetimibe and simvastatin can cause the breakdown of muscle tissue, which can lead to kidney failure.** This happens more often in women, in older adults, in people of Chinese descent, and in people who have kidney disease or poorly controlled hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid).

Other medicines may increase your risk of serious muscle problems if you take them together with Vytorin. **Do not take these medicines at the same time:**

- cyclosporine;
- danazol;
- gemfibrozil;
- nefazodone;
- an antibiotic - clarithromycin, erythromycin, telithromycin;
- antifungal medication - itraconazole, ketoconazole, posaconazole, voriconazole;
- hepatitis C medications - boceprevir, telaprevir; or
- HIV/AIDS medication - atazanavir, cobicistat, indinavir, nelfinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir, tipranavir.

Your doses of certain other medicines may need to be adjusted while you are taking Vytorin. This includes:

- amiodarone or dronedarone;
- amlodipine (sometimes in combination medicines - Azor, Caduet, Consensi, Exforge, Lotrel, Prestalia, Twynsta, Tribenzor);
- colchicine;
- diltiazem, verapamil;
- fenofibrate, fenofibric acid;
- lomitapide;
- ranolazine; or
- medicines that contain niacin, nicotinic acid, or vitamin B3, such as Advicor, Niaspan, Niacor, Simcor, Slo-Niacin, and others.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- unexplained weakness or muscle pain;
- a thyroid disorder;
- liver or kidney disease;
- liver problems caused by alcohol;
- a habit of drinking more than 2 alcoholic drinks per day; or
- if you are older than 65.

Vytorin is not approved for use by anyone younger than 10 years old.

This medicine should not be given to a girl who has not yet had menstrual periods.

**i** [Vytorin pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I take Vytorin?

Take Vytorin exactly as prescribed. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Your doctor may occasionally change your dose. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Take this medicine in the evening, with or without food.

While using ezetimibe and simvastatin, you may need frequent blood tests.

Make sure any doctor caring for you knows you that you use Vytorin, especially if you have an infection, injury or surgery.

Vytorin is only part of a complete program of treatment that also includes diet, exercise, and weight control. Follow your doctor's instructions very closely.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep the bottle tightly closed when not in use.

**i** [Detailed Vytorin dosage information](#)

## 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.

## What happens if I overdose?

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

## What to avoid

[Grapefruit](#) may interact with ezetimibe and simvastatin and lead to unwanted side effects. Avoid the use of grapefruit products.

Avoid drinking alcohol. It can raise triglyceride levels and may increase your risk of liver damage.

Avoid eating foods high in fat or cholesterol, or ezetimibe and simvastatin will not be as effective.

## Vytorin side effects

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

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

- unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness;

- muscle weakness in your hips, shoulders, neck, and back;
- trouble lifting your arms, trouble climbing or standing;
- fever, unusual tiredness;
- upper stomach pain, loss of appetite;
- dark colored urine; or
- [jaundice](#) (yellowing of the skin or eyes).

Common Vytorin side effects may include:

- [headache](#);
- muscle pain;
- abnormal liver function tests;
- [diarrhea](#); or
- [cold symptoms](#) such as stuffy nose, sneezing, [sore throat](#).

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.

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

## Related/similar drugs

### Lipitor

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## What other drugs will affect Vytorin?

If you also take [cholestyramine](#), [colesevelam](#), or [colestipol](#): Take your ezetimibe and simvastatin dose 2 hours before or 4

hours after you take the other medicine.

Tell your doctor about all your current medicines. Many drugs can interact with ezetimibe and simvastatin, especially:

- a blood thinner such as [warfarin](#), [Coumadin](#), or [Jantoven](#); or
- heart or blood pressure medication.

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

**i** [Vytorin drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does Vytorin interact with my other drugs?

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

+

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## Professional resources

- [Vytorin prescribing information](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [High Cholesterol](#)
- [High Cholesterol, Familial Heterozygous](#)
- [High Cholesterol, Familial Homozygous](#)

## Further information

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

 Drug history at FDA



## User Reviews & Ratings

7.0 / 10

[20 Reviews](#)

## Images

[Vytorin 10 mg / 20 mg \(312\)](#)



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