

Albendazole is an antiparasitic medication used to treat a wide range of worm infections. It works by disrupting the energy production of parasites, leading to their death. It's commonly prescribed for tapeworms, roundworms, and other intestinal parasites.

🔎 Chemical Composition

- **Active Ingredient:** *Albendazole*
- **Molecular Formula:** $C_{12}H_{15}N_3O_2S$
- **Drug Class:** Anthelmintic (benzimidazole derivative)
- **Formulations:**
 - Tablets: 200 mg, 400 mg
 - Chewable tablets: 400 mg
 - Oral suspension: 200 mg/5 mL

🌐 Dosage & Administration

- **Route:** Oral
- **Typical Adult Dosage:**
 - *Single-dose deworming:* 400 mg once
 - *Neurocysticercosis or hydatid disease:* 400 mg twice daily for 8-30 days
- **Pediatric Dosage:**
 - Children over 2 years: 400 mg once
 - Under 2 years: 200 mg once
- **Administration Tips:**
 - Take with food, preferably a fatty meal to enhance absorption
 - Duration varies based on infection type

💊 Medical Uses

- **Primary Indications:**
 - *Neurocysticercosis* (pork tapeworm infection in the brain)
 - *Hydatid disease* (dog tapeworm infection)
 - *Ascariasis* (roundworm)
 - *Hookworm*
 - *Pinworm*
 - *Strongyloidiasis*
 - *Trichuriasis* (whipworm)
- **Mechanism of Action:**
 - Inhibits microtubule synthesis in parasites
 - Depletes parasite energy stores, leading to immobilization and death

⚠️ Side Effects

Common:

- Headache

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Fever

****Serious:****

- Liver enzyme elevation
- Bone marrow suppression (rare)
- Allergic reactions (rash, swelling)
- Hair loss (temporary)

☈ Risks & Precautions

- **Contraindications:**
 - Known allergy to albendazole or benzimidazoles
 - Pregnancy (especially first trimester)
- **Pregnancy & Breastfeeding:**
 - Avoid during pregnancy; use contraception during and after treatment
- **Drug Interactions:**
 - May interact with cimetidine, dexamethasone, and praziquantel
- **Monitoring:**
 - Liver function tests and blood counts during prolonged therapy

☺ Patient Feedback & Complaints

****Positive Feedback:****

- Effective single-dose treatment for common worms
- Easy to administer, especially chewable tablets
- Widely available and affordable

****Common Complaints:****

- Mild gastrointestinal discomfort
- Bitter taste in suspension
- Headache or dizziness
- Concerns about side effects with long-term use

📊 Summary Table

| Category | Details |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Drug Name | Albendazole |
| Active Ingredient | Albendazole |

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|---------------------------|---|
| Use | Treatment of parasitic worm infections |
| Dosage | 400 mg once or twice daily depending on condition |
| Common Side Effects | Headache, nausea, dizziness, fever |
| Serious Risks | Liver issues, bone marrow suppression, allergic reactions |
| Patient Feedback concerns | Effective; mild GI upset, bitter taste, long-term safety |
| Contraindications | Pregnancy, allergy to benzimidazoles |

Sources:

- [Drugs.com - Albendazole Overview](<https://www.drugs.com/mtm/albendazole.html>)
- [Practo - Albendazole Details](<https://www.practo.com/medicine-info/albendazole-7-api>)
- [Medindia - Albendazole Drug Information](https://www.medindia.net/doctors/drug_information/albendazole.htm)
