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information sheet

# Aspirin, NSAID and other Medications

This information sheet is for people with asthma and their carers. It lists medications that may aggravate asthma symptoms in some people.

## ***What medications aggravate asthma?***

There are a number of medications available that can aggravate asthma symptoms. The medications are usually those containing aspirin, or aspirin like substances, as well as medications taken for heart disease, hypertension, blood pressure and eye treatments. Not everyone with asthma is sensitive to medications. **Before you take any of these medications you should speak to your doctor.**

## ***How will I know if a medication contains aspirin?***

Always read the information leaflet and any warning labels on all products. This includes medicines from the pharmacy, supermarket, health food shops and other sources, as asthma can also be triggered by some natural medications. Whenever consulting anyone about your health, make sure that you tell him or her if you have asthma.

## ***Aspirin and Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAID's) medications***

People with asthma are advised to use caution when taking products containing aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, as 10-15% of these people may experience adverse reactions. Such reactions can include deterioration of asthma symptoms such as a wheeze, difficulty breathing and in some people can lead to a life threatening attack. The following medications are aspirin and anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID's) that may have an effect of asthma:

Actin	Codiphen	Mobilis
Act-3	Codis	Morphalgin
Actiprofen	Codox	Naprogenic
Aleve	Cold tablets	Naprosyn
Alkaseltzer	Crysanal	Nurofen
Anaprox	Diclofenal	Orudis
Arthrexin	Dispirin	Oruvail
Arthrotec	Dispirin forte	Pirohexal-D
Asasantin SR	Piroxicam	Ponstan
Aspalgin	Clinoril	Proxen SR
Aspirin	Crysanal	Rafen
Aspro	Diclofenac-BC	Rosig
Astrix	Diclohexal	Solprin
Bex	Dinac	Spren
Brufen	Dolobid	Surgam
Bugesic	Ecotrin	Tilcotil
Bex	Feldene	Toradol
Cardiprin	Fenac	Tri-profen
Cartia	Hexaldiclac	Veganin
Candyl	Inza	Vincent's Powders
Celebrex	Mefic	Voltaren
Codral	Mobic	Vioxx

### **Beta-Blockers**

The following are Beta-blocker medications, which are commonly used to control high blood pressure and may have an effect on asthma.

Atenolol (Noten, Tenormin, Anselol, Atehexal, Tensig)  
Bisoprolol (Bicor)  
Carvedilol (Dilatrend, Kredex)  
Labetalol (Trandate, Presolol)  
Metoprolol (Betaloc, Lopresor, Minax, Metohexal, Metolol)  
Oxprenolol (Corbeton)  
Pindolol (Barbloc, Visken)  
Propranolol (Inderal, Deralin)  
Sotalol (Cardol, Solavert, Sotab, Sotacor, Sotahexal)

### **Beta- Blocker Eye Drops**

The following medications are Beta-blocker eye drops (for Glaucoma), which may have an effect on asthma.

Timolol (Timoptol, Tenopt, Cosopt, Eye Drops, Optimol, Timpilo, Xalacom Eye Drops)  
Betaxolol (Betoptic)  
Levobunolol (Betagan)

### **Ace Inhibitors**

The following medications are Ace Inhibitors, which are commonly used to control high blood pressure and may produce a dry cough similar to an asthma symptom.

Captopril (Capoten, Acenorm, Captohexal, Topace)  
Enalapril (Amprace, Renitec, Alphapril, Auspril, Enahexal)  
Fosinopril (Monopril, Monoplus)  
Lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril, Fibsol, Lisodur)  
Perindopril (Coversyl)  
Quinapril (Accupril, Accuretic, Asig)  
Ramipril (Ramace, Tritace)  
Tranolapril (Gopten, Odrik)

It is advisable to have a written Asthma Action Plan prepared with your doctor and always take worsening asthma symptoms seriously.

If a reaction or worsening asthma symptoms are experienced following the use of any medication or product, use your reliever medication and follow the instructions on your Asthma Action Plan (follow your first aid plan) and report the adverse reaction to your doctor. If the symptoms are severe, call an ambulance.

**Information Sheets are also available on Royal Jelly and anaesthetics.**

For further information contact your local doctor  
or call Asthma Victoria on 1800 645 130 or visit Asthma Victoria's website: [www.asthma.org.au](http://www.asthma.org.au)

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