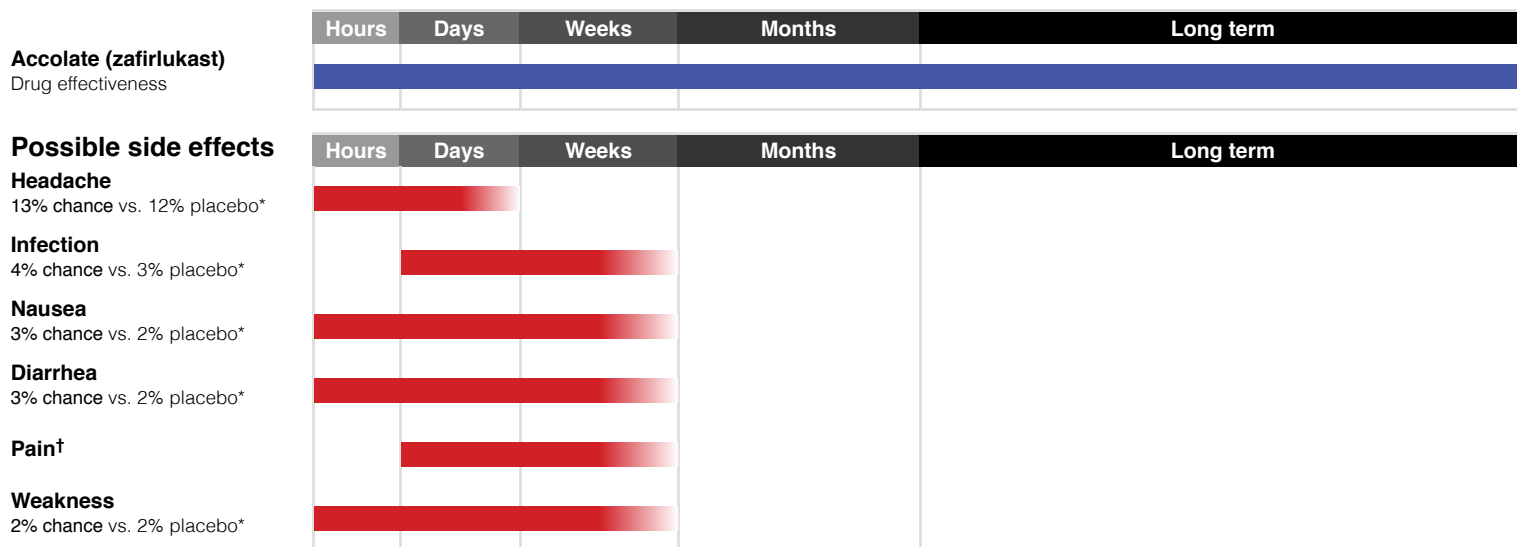


Accolate (zafirlukast) basics

Controls asthma. Although it's less effective than inhaled steroid medications for controlling asthma, Accolate (zafirlukast) has less side effects.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- This medication is for children 5 or older and adults.
- Take on an empty stomach, 1 hour before meals or 2 hours after meals.
- Make sure to keep this medication in the original bottle.
- People with liver problems should not take Accolate (zafirlukast).
- Accolate (zafirlukast) can help control your asthma, but it won't stop an asthma attack. Always have your rescue inhaler around.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Liver damage

Some people taking Accolate (zafirlukast) have had liver failure, which can be dangerous. If you have abdominal pain, nausea, tiredness, yellowing in your skin or whites of the eyes, dark stool, flu-like symptoms or loss of appetite, talk to your doctor right away.

Not for sudden asthma attack

While Accolate (zafirlukast) can control your asthma, it can't stop an asthma attack that's already happening. Make sure to always have your rescue inhaler with you at all times.

Behavior changes

Rarely, Accolate (zafirlukast) can cause insomnia and depression. Talk to your doctor right away if you notice a change in your thought or behavior.