

Aciphex (rabeprazole) basics

Treats heartburn and ulcers. Aciphex (rabeprazole) is good for treating heartburn and ulcers, but should not be used long-term.

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

- Take the pill with or without food. Swallow the pill whole. Do not chew, crush, or split.
- If you have difficulty with swallowing the pill, ask your doctor to prescribe the capsule formulation. Open the capsule and sprinkle contents on soft food (like applesauce or yogurt) or liquid. Take within 15 minutes of mixing.
- Take 30 minutes before eating a meal.
- Not for immediate relief of acid reflux or ulcers. Aciphex (rabeprazole) usually takes a few days to start working.
- May interfere with how some medicines work. Make sure your doctor or pharmacist are aware of all the medicines or supplements you take.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Stomach cancer

Heartburn and upset stomach can be warning signs of more serious stomach problems. Call your doctor if you have throat pain, chest pain, belly pain, difficulty swallowing, dark bloody stools, or bloody vomiting. These may be signs of a more serious health problem.

Kidney inflammation

Some people taking Aciphex (rabeprazole) may experience kidney inflammation. This can occur at any time during treatment and is generally caused by an allergic reaction. Signs of kidney problems include inability to urinate, changes in urinary frequency, and blood in the urine.

Severe diarrhea

Aciphex (rabeprazole) can increase the risk for an infectious form of diarrhea associated with an organism called *Clostridium difficile*. Call your doctor right away if you have stomach pain or cramps, very loose or watery stools, or bloody stools. Do not try to treat loose stools without first checking with your doctor.