

# Allegra (fexofenadine) basics

**Treats allergy symptoms.** Allegra (fexofenadine) relieves allergy symptoms without making you feel drowsy.

## What to expect when starting

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

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
<b>Allegra (fexofenadine)</b> Drug effectiveness					
<b>Possible side effects†</b>					
<b>Headache</b>					
<b>Vomiting</b>					
<b>Drowsiness/tiredness</b>					
<b>Diarrhea</b>					
<b>Upper airway infection</b>					
<b>Cough</b>					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- Works best when taken regularly, even before symptoms appear.
- Do not take with fruit juices and avoid taking antacids-containing aluminum or magnesium within 30 minutes before or after taking Allegra (fexofenadine).
- Take the oral disintegrating pill on an empty stomach.
- Follow age-specific dosing on the package label and don't take more than recommended.
- Allegra (fexofenadine) starts working in 1 to 2 hours, depending on what dosage form you're taking.
- Talk with your doctor if your symptoms get worse or you need to use Allegra (fexofenadine) for more than a few weeks.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Driving impairment

Allegra (fexofenadine) can lower your ability to focus, think, and react. Avoid activities that require you to be alert, like driving a car or operating machinery, until you know how this medication affects you.

### Brain damage from too much phenylalanine

Some forms of Allegra (fexofenadine) contain the amino acid phenylalanine, found in the artificial sweetener aspartame. People who have phenylketonuria (PKU) can't break down phenylalanine, which then builds up and causes serious medical problems. If you have PKU, check to see which medications you can use.