

# Lialda (Mesalamine) basics

**Treats inflammatory bowel disease.** Lialda (Mesalamine) is an effective first-line medicine for inflammatory bowel disease. There isn't a generic version and you'll have to take it multiple times a day.

## 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

- Don't take Lialda (Mesalamine) if you're allergic to aspirin. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about any drug allergies you have before starting Lialda (Mesalamine).
- Taking antacids with Lialda (Mesalamine) can make your inflammation worse. Talk to your doctor before you make any changes.
- You can sunburn more easily when taking Lialda (Mesalamine). Use sunscreen and protective clothing when you go outdoors.
- Don't break, chew, or crush the tablets because they're coated and won't work as well.
- The suppositories should be kept in for at least 1 to 3 hours to get the most benefit.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Serious allergic reactions

Rarely, Lialda (Mesalamine) can cause serious allergic reactions. These reactions can make it difficult to breathe or cause a severe rash that can be life-threatening. Stop taking Lialda (Mesalamine) and report any skin rash, fever, swelling, or trouble breathing to a doctor right away.

### Serious allergic reactions

The formulation of Lialda (Mesalamine) known as Apriso contains phenylalanine, which can be harmful to people with phenylketonuria (PKU).

### Worsening kidney or liver function

Lialda (Mesalamine) is broken down by the kidney and liver. If you have kidney or liver problems, talk to your doctor because you may need to take a different dose of the medication.