

# Acetylsalicylic Acid

## GENERIC NAME

Aspirin

## TRADE NAME

Acetylsalicylic Acid

## DESCRIPTION

Aspirin works by inhibiting platelet aggregation, which reduces the formation of blood clots. It makes platelets less sticky, helping to prevent clots that can lead to myocardial infarction (MI) or cardiac ischemia.

## HOW SUPPLIED

Tablets: 81 mg

## INDICATIONS

- Chest pain or discomfort suggestive of myocardial infarction (MI) or cardiac ischemia.

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Hypersensitivity or allergy to aspirin.

## PRECAUTIONS

1. Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) protocol allows patients to self-administer aspirin. Verify the amount taken before administering additional doses.
2. Aspirin may be taken in conjunction with anticoagulants like Coumadin.
3. Do not administer if there is evidence of active bleeding.

## MECHANISM OF ACTION

Aspirin decreases platelet aggregation and reduces inflammation, which helps prevent blood clot formation in the cardiovascular system.

## SIDE EFFECTS

- Gastritis
- Nausea and vomiting

## AUTHORIZATION

**EMT:** Standing Order

**AEMT:** Standing Order

**Paramedic:** Standing Order

## DOSAGE

- **Adult:** 324 mg, chewed and swallowed (use baby aspirin if available).
- **Pediatric:** Not authorized

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