Aspirin is used to treat pain, fever, and inflammation. It may also be used to reduce the chance of blood cloting, and the risk of heart attack or stroke. It is common for people, who take aspirin to reduce the chance of blood clotting, to need lifelong treatment.

Aspirin is part of a medicine group called Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs). Other common medicines that are also NSAIDs are naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn), ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), diclofenac (Voltaren), celecoxib (Celebrex), etc.

Do not take aspirin if you had an allergic reaction to aspirin or other NSAIDs, or if you have a history of asthma with nasal polyps and rhinitis. You may take aspirin only if a doctor has approved for you to take aspirin.

How to use this medicine

- Your doctor will tell you how much medicine to use. Do not use more than directed.
- Do not stop taking this medicine unless you are told to do so by your doctor. If you have an upcoming scheduled surgery, be sure to ask your doctor if you should continue aspirin therapy.
- It is best to take this medicine with food or milk.
- **Capsule, tablet, or coated tablet:** Swallow whole. Do not crush, break or chew it.
- **Chewable tablet:** You may chew it completely or swallow it whole.
- **Gum:** Chew completely to make sure you get as much medicine as possible. Drink a full glass (8 ounces) of water after chewing the gum.
- Swallow the extended-release capsule whole. Do not crush, break or chew it. Take the capsule with a full glass of water at the same time each day.
- The term “baby aspirin” is sometimes used for the 81 milligram (mg) small dose.
- Follow the instructions on the medicine label if you are using this medicine without a prescription.
- **Missed dose:** If you miss a dose of Durlaza™, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not take extra medicine to make up for a missed dose.
- Store the medicine in a closed container at room temperature, away from heat, moisture and direct light.
**Drugs and foods to avoid**

Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medicine, including over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and herbal products.

- Some foods and medicines can affect how aspirin works. Tell your doctor if you are using any of the following:
  - Medicines that reduce the chance of blood clotting, including clopidogrel (Plavix), ticagrelor (Brilinta), prasugrel (Effient), dipyridamole (Persantine), warfarin (Coumadin, Jantoven), apixaban (Eliquis), edoxaban (Savaysa), betrixaban (Bevyxxa), enoxaparin (Lovenox) and fondaparinux (Arixtra).
  - Methotrexate, probenecid, sulfinpyrazone.
  - Blood pressure medicine.
  - Medicine to treat seizures, including phenytoin and valproic acid.
  - Steroid medicine, including dexamethasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, prednisolone and prednisone.
  - Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs), including naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn), ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), diclofenac (Voltaren) and celecoxib (Celebrex):
    - **Talk with your doctor if you plan to use aspirin together with another NSAID medicine as this combination should be avoided in some patients.**
    - If your doctor approves use of aspirin with another NSAID, they may also order a medicine to limit acid production in your stomach, or your doctor may provide special instructions for timing of when to take aspirin. For example, one hour before ibuprofen to allow aspirin time for full effect.
- Do not take Durlaza™ 2 hours before or 1 hour after you drink alcohol or take medicines that contain alcohol.

**Warnings while using aspirin**

- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Do not use this medicine during the later part of a pregnancy unless your doctor tells you to.
- Tell your doctor if you have kidney disease, liver disease, high blood pressure, heart disease, or a history of stomach bleeding or ulcers.
- This medicine may increase your risk for bleeding, including stomach ulcers.
- Do not give aspirin to a child or teenager who has chickenpox or flu symptoms, unless the doctor says it is okay. Aspirin can cause a life-threatening reaction called Reye’s syndrome.
- Tell any doctor or dentist who treats you that you are using this medicine. This medicine may affect certain medical test results.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children. Never share your medicine with anyone.
Possible side effects while using this medicine

Call your doctor right away if you notice any of these side effects:

• Allergic reaction: Itching or hives, swelling in your face or hands, swelling or tingling in your mouth or throat, chest tightness, trouble breathing
• Bloody or black stools, bloody vomit or vomit that looks like coffee grounds
• Chest tightness, wheezing
• Ringing in the ears
• Severe stomach pain
• Unusual bleeding, bruising or weakness

If you notice other side effects that you think are caused by this medicine, tell your doctor.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

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Talk to your doctor or health care team if you have any questions about your care.

For more health information, contact the Library for Health Information at 614-293-3707 or e-mail health-info@osu.edu.

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