

J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center

Patient Education Monograph

IMPORTANT NOTE: THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR, THE EXPERTISE AND JUDGEMENT OF YOUR PHYSICIAN, PHARMACIST OR OTHER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL. IT SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED TO INDICATE THAT USE OF THE DRUG IS SAFE, APPROPRIATE, OR EFFECTIVE FOR YOU. CONSULT YOUR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL BEFORE USING THIS DRUG.

CALCIUM CARBONATE/SIMETHICONE CHEWABLE - ORAL

USES: This combination medication is used to treat symptoms caused by too much stomach acid such as heartburn, upset stomach, or indigestion. It is also used to treat symptoms of extra gas such as bloating and feelings of pressure/discomfort in the stomach/gut. Calcium carbonate is an antacid that works by lowering the amount of acid in the stomach. Simethicone works by breaking up gas bubbles in the gut.

- Check the ingredients on the label even if you have used the product before. The manufacturer may have changed the ingredients. Also, products with similar names may contain different ingredients meant for different purposes. Taking the wrong product could harm you.

HOW TO USE: Take this product by mouth as directed. Chew the medication well before swallowing. Follow all directions on the product package. Do not take more than the maximum recommended dose stated on the product package. If you are uncertain about any of the information, consult your doctor or pharmacist.

- Tell your doctor if your condition persists or worsens. Do not take the maximum dose of the medication for more than 2 weeks unless directed by your doctor. If you think you may have a serious medical problem, seek immediate medical attention.

MISSED DOSE: Not applicable.

STORAGE: Store at room temperature away from light and moisture. See packaging for the exact temperature range. If you have any questions about storage, ask your pharmacist. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medicines away from children and pets.

- Do not flush medications down the toilet or pour them into a drain unless instructed to do so. Properly discard this product when it is expired or no longer needed. Consult your pharmacist or local waste disposal company for more details about how to safely discard your product.

SIDE EFFECTS: Constipation may occur. If this effect persists or worsens, tell your doctor or pharmacist promptly.

- If your doctor has directed you to use this medication, remember that he or she has judged that the benefit to you is greater than the risk of side effects. Many people using this medication do not have serious side effects.
- Tell your doctor immediately if any of these unlikely but serious side effects occur: loss of appetite, nausea/vomiting, unusual weight loss, bone/muscle pain, mental/mood changes (e.g., confusion), headache, increased thirst/urination, unusual weakness/tiredness.
- Tell your doctor immediately if any of these rare but very serious side effects occur: change in the amount of urine.
- A very serious allergic reaction to this drug is rare. However, seek immediate medical attention if you notice any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, including: rash, itching/swelling (especially of the face/tongue/throat), severe dizziness, trouble breathing.
- This is not a complete list of possible side effects. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.
- In the US -
- Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.
- In Canada - Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to Health Canada at 1-866-234-2345.

PRECAUTIONS: Before taking this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to calcium carbonate or simethicone; or if you have any other allergies. This product may contain inactive ingredients (such as soy), which can cause allergic reactions or other problems. Talk to your pharmacist for more details.

- This product should not be used if you have certain medical conditions. Before using this product, consult your doctor or pharmacist if you have: high calcium levels (hypercalcemia), stomach/intestinal blockage.
- If you have any of the following health problems, consult your doctor or pharmacist before using this product: kidney disease (e.g., kidney stones), severe loss of body water (dehydration).
- This medicine may contain sugar. If you have diabetes, consult your doctor or pharmacist about using this drug safely.
- If you are pregnant, tell your doctor before using this medication.
- Calcium carbonate passes into breast milk. It is not known if simethicone passes into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: If you are taking this product under your doctor's direction, your doctor or pharmacist may already be aware of possible drug interactions and may be monitoring you for them. Do not start, stop, or change the dosage of any medicine before checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.

- Before using this product, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you use any of the following products: digoxin, phosphate supplements (e.g., potassium phosphate), sodium polystyrene sulfonate.
- Calcium carbonate can decrease the absorption of other drugs such as tetracycline antibiotics (e.g., doxycycline, minocycline), bisphosphonates (e.g., alendronate), estramustine, iron, levothyroxine, strontium, and quinolone antibiotics (e.g., ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin). Therefore, separate your doses of these medications as far as possible from your doses of calcium carbonate. Ask your doctor or pharmacist about how long you should wait between doses and for help finding a dosing schedule that will work with all your medications.
- Check the labels on all your prescription and nonprescription/herbal products (e.g., supplements, vitamins) because they may contain calcium. Ask your pharmacist about using those products safely.
- This document does not contain all possible interactions. Therefore, before using this product, tell your doctor or pharmacist of all the products you use. Keep a list of all your medications with you, and share the list with your doctor and pharmacist.

NOTES: Keep all regular medical and laboratory appointments.

- Lifestyle changes such as stress reduction programs, stopping smoking, limiting alcohol, and diet changes (e.g., avoiding caffeine/certain spices) may help to reduce heartburn and other stomach acid problems. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about lifestyle changes that might benefit you.

OVERDOSE: If overdose is suspected, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately. US residents can call the US National Poison Hotline at 1-800-222-1222. Canada residents can call a provincial poison control center. Symptoms of overdose may include: nausea/vomiting, loss of appetite, mental/mood changes, headache, weakness, dizziness.