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product	ORIGINAL	
country	Great Britain	
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# **Alka-Seltzer**. ORIGINAL Aspirin

### Read all of this leaflet carefully because it contains important information for you.

2.

IN THIS LEAFLET:

is it used for?

4. Possible side effects

6. Further information

This medicine is available without prescription. However, you still need to use Alka-Seltzer Original carefully to get the best results from it.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again. Ask your pharmacist if you need more information or advice.
- You must contact a doctor if your symptoms worsen or do not improve after 3 days.
- If you have any unusual effects after using this product, tell your doctor or pharmacist.
- product, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

1. WHAT IS ALKA-SELTZER® ORIGINAL AND WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

## Alka-Seltzer Original can be used for the:

Alka-Seltzer Original are effervescent tablets which dissolve in water to give a sparkling solution. The active substance is aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid).

Aspirin belongs to a group of medicines known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS). It is used for the treatment of pain and reduction of fever and also has anti-inflammatory properties. Treatment of mild to moderate pain including

1. What is Alka-Seltzer Original and what

Before you take Alka-Seltzer Original

3. How to take Alka-Seltzer Original

5. How to store Alka-Seltzer Original

- headache, migraine, backache (including lumbago), nerve pain (neuralgia and sciatica), period pain, toothache and sore throat.
- Symptomatic relief of colds and influenza.
   Relief of rheumatic pain (arthritis), muscle tenderness and stiffness (including fibrositis), muscular aches and pains, the pain of joint swelling and stiffness, strains and sprains.
- Effective reduction of high temperature.

## 2. BEFORE YOU TAKE ALKA-SELTZER® ORIGINAL

### DO NOT take Alka-Seltzer Original if you:

- Are allergic (hypersensitive) to aspirin, any other salicylates (eg aloxiprin) or any of the other ingredients of Alka-Seltzer Original (*see Section 6, Further Information*).
- Have history of hypersensitivity reactions (eg asthma, rhinitis, urticaria) induced by pain relieving or anti-inflammatory medicines (eg NSAIDS or salicylates).
- Have severe kidney or liver problems.
- Have severe heart problems.
- Have a disorder which causes excessive bleeding such as haemophilia.
- Have, or have had, a stomach or duodenal ulcer.
  Are on a high dose of methotrexate (15mg per week or more). If you are not sure, check with your doctor. *Also see 'Using other medicines'*.
  Are pregnant or breast-feeding, unless advised by a doctor.

### Speak to your doctor before taking Alka-Seltzer Original if you:

- Are allergic (hypersensitive) to any other pain relieving, anti-rheumatic or anti-inflammatory medicines (eg NSAIDS). For more information see section 4 'Possible Side Effects'.
- Suffer from tightness in the chest or asthma.
- Have low uric acid excretion, which is
- commonly associated with gout. Have a history of gastrointestinal disorders
- (regular stomach upsets). Have a deficiency in glucose-6-phosphate
- dehydrogenase (G6PD), since you may
- experience anaemia.
- Have kidney, liver, heart or blood circulation problems.
- Are about to have surgery. Before the operation tell the doctor or surgeon that you are taking aspirin.

If you are not sure whether any of the above apply to you, speak to a doctor or pharmacist before taking Alka-Seltzer Original.

## Important information about some of the ingredients:

#### ingredients: This medicine contains 477 mg sodium

This medicine contains 477 mg sodium (main component of cooking/table salt) in each table

maximum daily dietary intake of sodium for an adult.

### Use in children:

Aspirin can cause Reye's syndrome when it is given to children. Reye's syndrome is a very rare disease, which can be fatal. For this reason aspirin should not be given to children under 16 years, unless your doctor tells you to.

## Using other medicines:

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Aspirin can affect the way in which some medicines work. These medicines include:

- Medication to prevent blood clotting (eg warfarin, heparin, ticlopidine).
- Medication to treat heart problems or to lower blood pressure (eg ACE inhibitors or digoxin).
- Medication to treat gout.
- Diuretics (to treat water retention).Medication to treat epilepsy (eg sodium)
- valproate, phenytoin).Medication to lower blood sugar if you are
- diabetic.
- Methotrexate (to treat psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and some types of cancer).
- Any pain-relieving or anti-inflammatory medicines.
- Some antidepressants known as SSRIs (eg fluoxetine, paroxetine).
- Medication to treat Addison's disease
- (eg corticosteroids except hydrocortisone).Corticosteroids

**Taking Alka-Seltzer Original with food and drink:** Avoid taking alcohol while taking Alka-Seltzer Original.

## Pregnancy and breast-feeding:

Do not take Alka-Seltzer Original if you are pregnant, breast-feeding or trying for a baby unless directed by your doctor. Aspirin can prolong labour and affect blood clotting in the mother or baby.

Always ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice

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