

# Loratadine

**Pronunciation:** lor-A-ta-deen

**Generic Name:** Loratadine

**Brand Name:** Examples include Claritin 24 Hour Allergy and Tavist ND

## Loratadine is used for:

Relieving symptoms of seasonal allergies such as runny nose; sneezing; itchy, watery eyes; or itching of the nose and throat. It may also be used for other conditions as determined by your doctor.

Loratadine is an antihistamine. It works by blocking a substance in the body called histamine. This helps to decrease allergy symptoms.

## Do NOT use Loratadine if:

- you are allergic to any ingredient in Loratadine

Contact your doctor or health care provider right away if any of these apply to you.

## Before using Loratadine:

Some medical conditions may interact with Loratadine. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have any medical conditions, especially if any of the following apply to you:

- if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding
- if you are taking any prescription or nonprescription medicine, herbal preparation, or dietary supplement
- if you have allergies to medicines, foods, or other substances
- if you have kidney or liver problems

Some MEDICINES MAY INTERACT with Loratadine. Tell your health care provider if you are taking any other medicines, especially any of the following:

- Amiodarone because the risk of severe irregular heartbeat may be increased

Ask your health care provider if Loratadine may interact with other medicines that you take. Check with your health care provider before you start, stop, or change the dose of any medicine.

## How to use Loratadine:

Use Loratadine as directed by your doctor. Check the label on the medicine for exact dosing instructions.

- Take Loratadine by mouth with or without food.
- If you miss a dose of Loratadine, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not take 2 doses at once.

Ask your health care provider any questions you may have about how to use Loratadine.

## Important safety information:

- Taking Loratadine in high doses may cause drowsiness. Do NOT take more than the recommended dose without checking with your doctor.
- Loratadine may interfere with skin allergy tests. If you are scheduled for a skin test, talk to your doctor. You may need to stop taking Loratadine for a few days before the tests.
- Loratadine should not be used in CHILDREN younger than 6 years old without checking with the child's doctor; safety and effectiveness in these children have not been confirmed.
- PREGNANCY and BREAST-FEEDING: If you become pregnant, contact your doctor. You will need to discuss the benefits and risks of using Loratadine while you are pregnant. Loratadine is found in breast milk. If you are or will be breast-feeding while you use Loratadine, check with your doctor. Discuss any possible risks to your baby.

## Possible side effects of Loratadine:

All medicines may cause side effects, but many people have no, or minor, side effects. No COMMON side effects have been reported with this product. Seek medical attention right away if any of these SEVERE side effects occur:

Severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue); severe or persistent dizziness.

This is not a complete list of all side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, contact your health care provider. Call your doctor for medical

advice about side effects. To report side effects to the appropriate agency, please read the [Guide to Reporting Problems to FDA](#).

## If OVERDOSE is suspected:

Contact 1-800-222-1222 (the American Association of Poison Control Centers), your local [poison control center](#), or emergency room immediately. Symptoms may include fast or irregular heartbeat; severe drowsiness or headache.

### Proper storage of Loratadine:

Store Loratadine at room temperature, between 68 and 77 degrees F (20 and 25 degrees C), in a tightly closed container. Store away from heat, moisture, and light. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep Loratadine out of the reach of children and away from pets.

## General information:

- If you have any questions about Loratadine, please talk with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Loratadine is to be used only by the patient for whom it is prescribed. Do not share it with other people.
- If your symptoms do not improve or if they become worse, check with your doctor.
- Check with your pharmacist about how to dispose of unused medicine.

This information is a summary only. It does not contain all information about Loratadine. If you have questions about the medicine you are taking or would like more information, check with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.

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