**Information about the Use of Drug**

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**Introduction**

A Drug is defined as an agent intend for use in the diagnosis, mitigation, treatment cure or prevention of disease in man or in other animals. All the drugs are chemical components, the action depends on the proper use. So various types of informations are required for our own safety health and well being. Because of the food habit most of the people are suffering from hyper acidity. So General information about Antacids are important.

**Antacids:**

Taken orally to relieve heartburn, sour stomach or acid indigestion. They work by neutralizing excess stomach acid. Some antacids combination also contain simethicone, Which may relieve the symptoms of excess gass. Antacids alone or in combination with simethicone may also be used to treat the symptom of stomach or duodenal Weers.

Antacids is the combination of magnesium having laxative effect and aluminium having the cathartic effect.

**Before using this Medicine**

If you are taking this medicine without a prescription carefully read and follow any precautions on the table. For antacids the following should be considered.

**Allergies:**

Tell your health care professional if you have ever had any allergic reaction.

**Diet:**

Tell if you are on a low-sodium diet some antacids contain large amounts of sodium.

**Pregnancy:**

Studies on effects in pregnancy have not been done in either humans or animals. However prolong use of high dose antacid may affect the fealus. Also sodium containing medicines should be avoided if you tend to retain body water.

**Breast-feeding:**

Some aluminum, calcium or magnesium-containing antacids may pass in to breast milk, however these medicines have not been reported to cause problems in nursing babies.

**Children:**

Since children cannot usually describe their symptom very well, a doctor should first check the child, precaution should be taken for premature or very young child for those who have kidney problems.

**Older adults:**

Aluminum-containing antacids should not be used by elderly persons with bone problems. The aluminum may cause their condition to get worse.

**Other Medicines:**

Although certain medicines should not be used together at in other cases different medicines may be used together even if on interaction might occur. When you are taking antacids, it is especially important that your health care professionals know if you are taking any of the following:

- Fluroquinolones: (Ciprofloxacin, Norfloxacin, Ofloxacin and Acrorsoxacin) -- Antacid may decrease the effects of these medicines.
- Isoniagid taken by mouth : Aluminum, containing antacids may decrease the effects by decreasing the absorption. Isoniagid should be taken at least 1 hour before or after the antacid.
- Ketoconazoic (eg. Nizoral) or Methenamine : Antacids may decrease the effects or Ketoconazoic or Methenamine : These medicines should be taken 3 hours before the antacid.
- Tetracycline- Antacids may decrease the absorption of tetracyclines, antacids should not be taken within 3 to 4 hours of tetracyclines.

**Other Medical Problems:**

The presence of other medicines problems may effect the use of antacids make sure you tell your Doctor if you have any other medical problems, especially.
Alzheimer's disease (for aluminum-containing antacid only)
• Appendicitis
• Bone Fractures
• Colitis
• Constipation (Severe and Continuing)
• Hemorrhoids
• Intestinal Blockage
• Intestinal or rectal bleeding-Antacids may make these condition worse
• Colostomy or
• Inflamed bowel- Use of antacids may cause the body to retain water and electrolytes such as sodium and or potassium.
• Diarrhea (Continuing) Aluminum containing antacids may cause the body to lose too much phosphorus, magnesium-Containing antacids may make diarrhea worse.
• Edema (swelling of feet or lower legs)
• Heart disease
• Liver disease
• Toxemia of pregnancy- Use of sodium containly antacids may cause the body to retain water.
• Kidney disease- Antacids may cause higher blood levels of aluminum, calcium or magnesium which may increase the risk of serious side effects.
• Sarcoidosis Use of calcium containing antacids may cause kidney problems or too much calcium in the blood.
• Underactive- Parathyroid glands- Use with calcium containing antacids may cause too much calcium in the blood.

Proper use this medicine:
For patients taking the chewable tablets of this medicine
• Chew - the tablet well before swallowing. This is to allow the medicine to work faster and be more effective. This tablet do not have disintegrating agent.

For patients taking this medicine for a stomach or duodenal ulcer
• Take it exactly as directed and for the full time of treatment as directed by doctor to obtain maximum relief of your symptoms.
• Take it 1 & 3 hours after means and at bedtime for best result unless otherwise specifies.

For patients taking aluminium carbonate: aluminium hydroxide to prevent kidney stones
• Drink plenty of fluids for best result unless otherwise directed by Doctor.

For patients taking aluminium carbonate: aluminium hydroxide for hyperphosphatemia
• Your Doctor may want you to follow a low phosphate diet. If you have any questions about this check with your Doctor.

Dosing: The dose of an antacid will be different for different patients. Follow our Doctor's one for the directions on the table.

Miss Dose : If your Doctor has told you to take this medicines on a regular schedule and miss dose, take it as soon as possible. However if it is almost time for your next dose skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not double doses.

Storage : To store this medicine
• Keep out of the reach of children
• Store away from heat and direct lights
• Do not store the capsule, table or Lozenge for this medicine in the bathroom. Near a kitchen sink or in other damp places. Heat and moistures may causes the medicine to break down
• Do not keep outdated medicine or medicine longer needed. Be sure that any discarded medicine is out of the reach of children

Precaution while using this medicines:
If the doctor prescribe large doses for long time the doctor should check the progress of the patient. This is to make sure the medicine does not cause unwanted effects.

Do not take this medicine:
• If you have any signs of appendicitis, inflamed bowel (such as stomach or lower abdominal pain, cramping abdominal pain, nausea or vomiting) instead check with your doctor as possible.
• Within 1 to 2 hours or more of taking this medicine by mouth. To do so may keep other medicine from working properly.

For patients on a sodium-restricted diet:
• Sodium bicarbonate containing antacids high sodium contains. For patient taking this medicine for increased stomach acid.
- Do not take it for more than 2 weeks unless otherwise directed by doctor. Antacid should be use only for occasional relief.

- If your stomach problem not helped by the antacid or if it keeps coming back. Check with your doctor.

- Using magnesives or sodium bicarbonate-Containing antacids too often, or it high doses may produce a laxative effect. This happens fairly often and depends on the individual sensitivities to the medicine.

For patient taking calcium or sodium bicarbonate-containing antacids

Side effects of this medicine

Along with its needed effects, a medicine may cause some unwanted effects. Although the following side effects occur very rarely when this medicine is taken as recommended, they may be more likely to occur if:

- Too much medicine is taken
- It is taken large dose
- It is taken for a long time
- It is taken by patients with kidney disease

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if any of the following side effects (which may be signs or overdose) occur.

For Aluminium-containing antacids (including magaldrate).

Bone Pain: Constipation (severe and continuing) feeling of discomfort (continuing); loss of appetite (continuing); mood and mental change, muscle weakness; swelling of wrists or ankles; weight loss (unusual)

For Calcium-containing antacids:

Constipation (severe and continuing); difficult or painful urination; frequent urge to urinate; headache (continuing); loss of appetite (continuing); mood or mental changes; muscle pain or twitching; nausea or vomiting; nervousness or restlessness; slow breathing; unpleasant taste; unusual tiredness or weakness.

For Magnesium-containing antacids (including magaldrate).

Difficult or painful urination (with magnesium triplate); dizziness or light headness; feeling of discomfort (continuing); irregular heartbeat; loss of appetite (continuing) mood or mental change, muscle weakness; unusual tiredness or weakness weight loss (unusual)

For sodium bicarbonate-containing antacids:

Frequent urge to urinate, headache (continuing); loss of appetite (continuing); mood or mental changes; muscle pain, nausea or vomiting; nervousness or restlessness; slow breathing; swelling of feet or lower legs; unpleasant taste; unusual tiredness or weakness.

Other side effects not mention have may also occur in some patients. If any side effects seen consult your doctor.

Conclusion:

Although the aluminium & magnesium containing antacids are non-systemic antacids have the side effects, but less than that of systemic. The benefit of antacids and other drugs depends upon the proper use. So it is advised to take drug information from your health care professionals.