

# Allopurinol - Chronic Gout Treatment: What You need to know About Allopurinol

**A**llopurinol (which goes by the brand names Aloprim and Zyloprim) is a drug that belongs to a class of drugs called xanthine oxidase inhibitors. Allopurinol is prescribed for the treatment of chronic **gout** and also can be used to prevent rather than treat **gout attacks**.

The medicine works by blocking **uric acid** production. **Uric acid** is a waste product typically present in the blood as a result of the breakdown of **purines**. Excessive amounts of uric acid can cause crystals to form in the joints, which can lead to gout.

## When is Allopurinol Prescribed?

Allopurinol is prescribed to prevent longterm gout attacks, manage high **uric acid levels** caused by cancer medications, and also handle kidney stones. There are also a number of off-label uses for which your doctor may prescribe allopurinol.

## What is the Accessibility to Allopurinol?

Allopurinol is available as a 100 mg. pill. It is taken a couple of times daily, usually carrying out a meal.

## Are There Any Special Directions Concerning How to Take Allopurinol?

Patients are advised to follow the prescribing instructions exactly. It is common for the starting serving of allopurinol being low and gradually increased. Noticeable benefit from taking allopurinol may take months. In fact, during the first few months of use, the medication may actually increase the number of gout attacks. Eventually, allopurinol will prevent gout episodes. In the interim, colchicine may be prescribed as well. Do not stop taking allopurinol even if you're feeling well.

## Are There Patients Who Should Not Take Allopurinol?

Patients who are known to be allergic to allopurinol obviously should not take the medication. Patients taking any of the following medications should notify their particular doctor simply because they may require a dosage adjustment:

*AmoxicillinAmpicillinCoumadinCytosarPurinetholDiabineseDiureticsImmunosuppressantsOther gout medicationsWhat common side effects can occur with allopurinol?*

- Allopurinol can cause upset stomach, diarrhea, and drowsiness.
- Rash is one of the more common side effects and can occur even with months or years of treatment.

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## Are There More Severe Side Effects Connected With Allopurinol?

Uncommon side effects that are more severe if they occur include:

*Hypersensitivity reactionsItchingBlood inside urine or pain when urinatingEye irritationSwelling around mouth or even lipsSigns of infectionLoss of appetite or unexpected weight lossWhat special alerts and precautions are associated with allopurinol?*

- Patients are advised to drink 8 glasses of water daily (unless a doctor instructs otherwise).
- Alcoholic drinks may decrease the effectiveness of allopurinol.
- Drinks or supplements containing vitamin c may be problematic in large quantities.
- Excessive vitamin C and allopurinol can combine to make urine acidic and also cause kidney stones.
- Patients with kidney problems may need dose adjustment regarding allopurinol.



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## Are There Special Instructions for With Child or Even Nursing Women?

You are expecting, breastfeeding, or thinking about becoming pregnant, discuss allopurinol with your doctor. Few reports of allopurinol use during pregnancy exist. Although no adverse fetal outcomes associated with allopurinol have been observed in humans, allopurinol should only be used after weighing benefit to the patient as opposed to risk to the fetus.

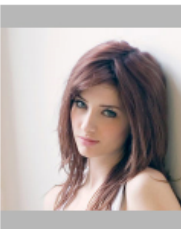
## How is It Decided that Allopurinol is an Effective Treatment?

Certain laboratory tests are periodically bought which help to determine if the drug is working successfully.

## The **Gout Remedy Report**

To stop this (gout) happening to you, please now go to the **Gout Remedy Report** where you'll also get the facts on a devastatingly basic 2 hour remedy. Just click here.

*Chris Randon is a nutritionist specialized in human health, which is based in Los angeles, Carlifornia.*

“ **Susie Hart**

*Susie is a leading curator at omex3.com, a resource about alternative natural health. Last year, Susie worked as a post curator at a well-known tech web site. When she's not sourcing web posts, Susie enjoys working out and skateboarding.*

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