



### Featured Items

Soma  
Tetracycline  
Adipex-P  
Fioricet  
Tramadol

### Online Drugstore Prices

A - M      N - Z

### Health Directory

Weight Loss  
Antibiotics  
Pain Relief  
Muscle Relaxers  
Sleeping Aids  
Anxiety  
Women's Health  
Blood Pressure  
Sexual Health  
Headache  
Allergy Medicine  
Anti-Depressant  
Anti-Psychotics  
Chest Pain  
Herpes  
Men's Health  
Skin Care  
Asthma Medicine  
Diabetes  
Cholesterol  
Bladder Control  
Quit Smoking  
Upset Stomach  
Motion Sickness

## Pain Relief

### What drugs can treat chronic pain?

Many medicines can decrease pain, including the ones listed below. Each one may have side effects. Some side effects can be serious. It's important to listen to your family doctor carefully when he or she tells you how to use your pain medicine. If you have questions about side effects or about how much medicine to take, ask your doctor or your pharmacist.

### Acetaminophen

Acetaminophen (one brand name: Tylenol) helps many kinds of chronic pain. Remember, many over-the-counter and prescription pain medicines have acetaminophen in them. If you're not careful, you could take more acetaminophen than is good for you. Taking too much acetaminophen could cause liver damage. If you often have to take more than 2 acetaminophen pills a day, tell your doctor.

### Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

Other drugs that help with pain are called nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs. Examples include aspirin, ibuprofen (two brand names: Motrin, Advil), naproxen (two brand names: Aleve [over the counter], Naprosyn [prescription]), Diclofenac (brand name Cataflam). These medicines can be taken just when you need them, or they can be taken every day. When these medicines are taken regularly they build up in the blood to levels that fight the pain of inflammation (swelling) and also give general pain relief. Many of these medicines are available in low-dose forms without a prescription.

If your doctor wants you to take an NSAID, always take it with food or milk because the most common side effects are related to the stomach. If you are taking other pain medicines, don't take NSAIDs without first talking to your doctor.

### Narcotics

#### Fioricet

This medication is a pain reliever and sedative. It is used to relieve mild to moderate pain and tension headaches. [Fioricet Info](#)

#### Tramadol

Tramadol is used for pain relief. [Tramadol Info](#)

#### Ultracet

This medicine is an analgesic combination used to treat or prevent pain for a short period of time (usually 5 days or less). [Ultracet Info](#)

#### Ultram

Ultram is used for pain relief. [Ultram Info](#)

Narcotics can be addictive, so your family doctor will be careful about

prescribing them. For many people with severe chronic pain, these drugs are an important part of their therapy. If your doctor prescribes narcotics for your pain, be sure to carefully follow his or her directions. Tell your doctor if you are uncomfortable with the changes that may go along with taking these medicines, such as inability to concentrate or think clearly. Do not drive when taking these medicines.

When you're taking narcotics, it's important to remember that there is a difference between "physical dependence" and "psychological addiction." Physical dependence on a medicine means that your body gets used to that medicine and needs it to work properly. When you don't have to take the pain medicine any longer, your doctor can help you slowly and safely decrease the amount of medicine until your body no longer "needs" it.

Psychological addiction is the desire to use a drug whether or not it's needed to relieve pain. Using a narcotic this way can be dangerous and may not help your pain. If you have a psychological addiction to a narcotic, your doctor may give you another drug to help with your psychological problems. Or your doctor might recommend that you talk to a counselor. Your doctor might also change the medicine that you are addicted to by lowering the dose, changing to another drug or stopping the medicine altogether.

Narcotic drugs often cause constipation (difficulty having bowel movements). If you are taking a narcotic medicine, it's important to drink at least 6 to 8 glasses of water every day. Try to eat 2 to 4 servings of fresh fruits and 3 to 5 servings of vegetables every day. Be sure to tell your doctor if constipation becomes a problem for you. He or she may suggest taking laxatives to treat or prevent it.

## Other medicines

Many drugs that are used to treat other illnesses can also treat pain. For example, carbamazepine (one brand name: Tegretol) is a seizure medication that can treat some kinds of pain. Amitriptyline (one brand name: Elavil) is an antidepressant that can also help with chronic pain in many people. Your doctor may want you to try one of these medicines to help control your pain. It can take several weeks before these medicines begin to work well.

Remember -- if you are taking any pain medicine, be sure to ask your doctor or pharmacist before you take any other medicine, either prescription or over-the-counter.

## Are drugs the only way to treat chronic pain?

No. Many other treatments can also decrease pain. They can actually change the body's chemicals that produce pain. Almost anything we do to relax or get our minds off our problems may help control pain. It's important to add relaxing activities to your daily life, even if you are already taking medicine for pain. You might have to use stress reduction methods for several weeks before you notice a decrease in pain. Your doctor can give you tips about stress reduction and relaxation methods.

### Celebrex

This medication is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) which relieves pain and inflammation (swelling). It is used to treat pain, swelling and stiffness due to arthritis. [Celebrex Info](#)

### Naproxen

This medicine is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used to relieve pain and swelling (inflammation). It is also used to treat headaches, muscle aches, backaches, tendonitis, bursitis, dental pain, menstrual cramps, arthritis, or gout. Naproxen may be used to reduce fever, or relieve minor aches and pain due to the common cold or flu. It may be used to treat other conditions as

determined by your doctor. This medicine works by blocking the enzyme in your body that makes prostaglandins. Decreasing prostaglandins helps to reduce pain, swelling, and fever. [Naproxen Info](#)

**Vioxx**

Recalled by Merck. Product discovered to increase chances of stroke and/or heart attack.

**Bextra**

This medicine is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) known as a COX-2 inhibitor used to relieve the symptoms of arthritis (osteoarthritis, rheumatoid), and menstrual discomfort. This drug works by blocking the enzyme in your body that makes prostaglandins. Decreasing prostaglandins helps to reduce pain and swelling. [Bextra Info](#)

**Diclofenac**

This medicine is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used to treat minor aches and pains associated with the common cold, headache, muscle aches, backache, and arthritis. It may also be used to reduce fever. This medicine works by blocking the enzyme in your body that makes prostaglandins. Decreasing prostaglandins helps to reduce pain, swelling, and fever. [Diclofenac Info](#)

[View page as PDF](#)

---

**Find a prescription drug by** clicking on the first letter of the drug's name to show a list of all drugs starting with that letter:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Marketing Partners

