

Migraine Medicines



There are two kinds of medicines to treat migraine. Some work to treat a migraine and some work to prevent a migraine. A good treatment plan can be made just for you based on how often you have migraines and how severe they are.

Relief Medicines

What they are...

Relief medicines are taken to treat migraine attacks. Relief medicines should only be taken after a migraine attack starts. They work best when taken at the first sign of pain.

- Migraine-specific medicines work to treat all of your migraine symptoms.
- Talk to your doctor about which medicine is best for you.

How to take them...

Take your relief medicine at the first sign of pain.

Keep your relief medicine with you so you are ready if a migraine comes without warning.

Preventive Medicines

What they are...

Preventive medicines reduce the number and severity of migraine attacks. They are usually used for people who have several migraine attacks each month.

- Preventive medicines are taken every day, even when there is no headache.
- Preventive medicines do not prevent all headaches. You should notice fewer headaches. Your headaches may be less severe.

How to take them...

Take preventive medicines every day.

Be patient. Preventive medicines take time to start working. Don't stop taking your medicine without talking to your doctor.

Talking With Your Doctor

Together with your doctor, you can gain control of your migraines. Talk openly with your doctor about headaches and how they affect your daily activities.

Tell your doctor...

- If your medicine does not seem to be working
- If you notice lasting or unusual side effects
- If you become pregnant, are nursing, or are planning a pregnancy



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This information is not intended as a substitute for professional medical care. Always follow your healthcare provider's instructions.

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