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------	--------------------	------------------	---------	-----------------------	-----------------	-----------------	-------------	---------------------	------------

home > chronic pain center > chronic pain a-z list > cyclobenzaprine index > cyclobenzaprine, flexeril, amrix drug monograph

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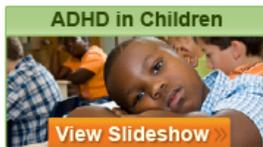
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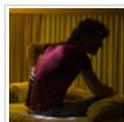
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1 2 **NEXT**

cyclobenzaprine, Flexeril, Amrix



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GENERIC NAME: cyclobenzaprine

BRAND NAME: Flexeril, Amrix

DRUG CLASS AND MECHANISM: Cyclobenzaprine is a muscle relaxant. Specifically, cyclobenzaprine relieves muscle spasm when the spasm is due to local problems, that is, in the muscle itself and not in the nerves controlling the muscles. Cyclobenzaprine has no effect on muscle function. Cyclobenzaprine seems to accomplish its beneficial effect through a complex mechanism within the nervous system, probably in the brainstem. The FDA approved cyclobenzaprine in August 1977.

PRESCRIPTION: Yes

GENERIC AVAILABLE: Yes

PREPARATIONS: Tablets: 5 and 10 mg. Capsules (Extended Release): 15 and 30 mg.

STORAGE: Tablets should be stored between 15-30 C (59-86 F).

PRESCRIBED FOR: Cyclobenzaprine is used with rest and physical therapy for short-term relief of [muscle spasms](#) associated with acute painful muscle and skeletal conditions. It is only for short-term use, up to two or three weeks.

DOSING: The recommended dose of cyclobenzaprine dose is 5 or 10 mg three times daily using immediate release tablets or 15 or 30 mg once daily using extended release tablets.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Cyclobenzaprine is chemically related to the tricyclic class of [antidepressants](#) (for example, [amitriptyline](#) [Elavil, Endep], [nortriptyline](#) [Pamelor]). As such, it should not be taken with or within two weeks of any monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor, for example.

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cyclobenzaprine, Flexeril, Amrix

Fibromyalgia »

"Fibromyalgia facts

Fibromyalgia causes pain, stiffness, and tenderness of muscles, tendons, and joints without detectable inflammation. Fibromyalgia does not cause body damage or deformity. Fatigue oc"...

[Read the Fibromyalgia article »](#)

isocarboxazid (Marplan), phenelzine (Nardil), tranylcypromine (Parnate), and procarbazine (Matulane). High [fever](#), convulsions, and even death can occur when these drugs are used together. Additionally, cyclobenzaprine interacts with other medications and drugs that slow the brain's processes, such as alcohol, barbiturates, [benzodiazepines](#) (for example, [diazepam](#) [Valium], [lorazepam](#) [Ativan]), and narcotics.

PREGNANCY: There are no adequate studies of cyclobenzaprine in pregnant women. However, studies in animals suggest no important effects on the fetus. Cyclobenzaprine therefore can be used in [pregnancy](#) if the physician feels that it is necessary.

NURSING MOTHERS: It is not known whether cyclobenzaprine is secreted in milk. However, since it is related to the tricyclic antidepressants, some of which are excreted in breast milk, caution is advised in using this medication in women who are [breastfeeding](#).

SIDE EFFECTS: Common side effects of cyclobenzaprine include drowsiness, dry mouth, fatigue, [headaches](#), and [dizziness](#). Other reported side effects include [nausea](#), [constipation](#), [blurred vision](#), unpleasant taste, nervousness, [confusion](#), [acid reflux](#), and [abdominal pain](#) or discomfort. Abrupt cessation after prolonged therapy may cause withdrawal symptoms such as headaches, nausea, and [weakness](#).

Reference: FDA Prescribing Information

Last Editorial Review: 7/28/2010

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1 2 **NEXT**

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You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit the [FDA MedWatch](#) website or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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6 articles

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Lower Back Pain

> There are many causes of back pain. Pain in the low back can relate to the bony lumbar spine, discs between the vertebrae, ligaments around the spine and

Muscle Spasms

> Muscle spasms are involuntary muscle contractions that come on suddenly and are usually quite painful. Dehydration, doing strenuous exercise in a hot environment,

Ankle Pain

> Ankle pain is commonly due to a sprain or tendinitis. The severity of ankle sprains ranges from mild (which can resolve within 24 hours) to severe (which

Fibromyalgia

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- Diseases & Conditions
- Symptoms & Signs
- Procedures & Tests
- Medications
- Healthy Living
- Vitamins & Supplements
- Image Collection
- Quizzes
- MedTerms Dictionary
- Pet Health

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- Blood Pressure
- Cancer
- Chronic Pain
- Cold & Flu
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- Diabetes
- Digestion
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