

Diagnosed with moderate to severe Rheumatoid Arthritis?
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Cataflam

Generic Name: [diclofenac potassium](#) (dye KLOE fen ak poe TASS ee um)
 Brand Names: *Cambia, Cataflam, Voltaren, Voltaren-XR, Zipsor, Zorvolex*

- Overview
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Related Information

- Rx** **Availability**
Prescription only
- D** **Pregnancy Category**
Positive evidence of risk
- N/A** **CSA Schedule**
Not a controlled drug
- Approval History**
Drug history at FDA

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What is Cataflam?

Cataflam (diclofenac potassium) is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID). This medicine works by reducing substances in the body that cause pain and inflammation.

Cataflam is used to treat mild to moderate pain and to treat the signs and symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. Cataflam is also used to treat cramping pain in the lower abdomen associated with menstruation.

Important information

You should not use Cataflam if you have a history of [allergic reaction](#) to aspirin or NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs).

Cataflam may increase your risk of heart attack or stroke, especially if you use it long term or have

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Cataflam may also cause stomach or intestinal bleeding, which can be fatal. These conditions can occur without warning while you are taking this medicine.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use Cataflam if you have a history of [allergic](#) reaction to aspirin or NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory



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Manufacturer

Novartis Corporation

Drug Class

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents

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Ankylosing Spondylitis

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drugs).

Cataflam may increase your risk of heart attack or stroke, especially if you use it long term or have heart disease. Do not use this medicine just before or after heart bypass surgery (coronary artery bypass graft, or CABG).

Cataflam may also cause stomach or intestinal bleeding, which can be fatal. These conditions can occur without warning while you are taking Cataflam.

To make sure Cataflam is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- heart disease, high blood pressure, or history of heart attack, stroke, or blood clot;
- a history of stomach ulcers or bleeding;
- liver or kidney disease,
- asthma;
- polyps in your nose;
- a bleeding or blood clotting disorder; or
- if you smoke.

FDA pregnancy category D. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant during treatment. Taking Cataflam during the last 3 months of pregnancy may harm the unborn baby. Do not take Cataflam during pregnancy unless your doctor has told you to.

See also: [Pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (in more detail)

It is not known whether diclofenac potassium passes into breast milk or if it could harm a [nursing](#) baby. You should not breast-feed while using this medicine.

Do not give this medicine to a child younger than 18 years old without medical advice.

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How should I take Cataflam?

Take Cataflam exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Always use the lowest effective dose for the shortest duration needed to [achieve](#) the required pain relief. Follow all directions on your prescription label. Do not take Cataflam in larger amounts or for longer than recommended.

If you switch brands of diclofenac, your dose needs may change. Follow your doctor's instructions about how much medicine to take.

If you use Cataflam long-term, you may need frequent medical tests at your doctor's office.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

[diclofenac](#), [More...](#)

▶ [7 more conditions...](#)



Cataflam (diclofenac) Images



Cataflam (diclofenac) diclofenac potassium 50 mg

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What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

What should I avoid?

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using any cold, allergy, or pain medication. Many medicines available over the counter contain aspirin or other medicines similar to diclofenac. Taking certain products together can cause you to get too much of this type of medication. Check the label to see if a medicine contains aspirin, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, or naproxen.

Avoid drinking alcohol. It may increase your risk of stomach bleeding.

Avoid exposure to sunlight or tanning beds. Cataflam can make you sunburn more easily. Wear protective clothing and use sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) when you are outdoors.

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Cataflam side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have any of these signs of an allergic reaction to Cataflam: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Stop using Cataflam and call your doctor at once if you have:

- sudden numbness or weakness (especially on one side of the body), sudden severe headache, slurred speech, problems with vision or balance;
- chest pain, sudden cough, wheezing, rapid breathing;
- bloody or tarry stools, coughing up blood or vomit that looks like coffee grounds;
- little or no urinating;
- swelling, rapid weight gain;
- nausea, upper stomach pain, itching, diarrhea, loss of appetite, dark urine, clay-colored stools, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- bruising, severe tingling, numbness, pain, muscle weakness;
- pale skin, feeling light-headed or short of breath, rapid heart rate, trouble concentrating;
- fever, neck stiffness, increased sensitivity to light, purple spots on the skin, and/or seizure (convulsions); or
- severe skin reaction -- fever, sore throat, swelling in your face or tongue, burning in your eyes, skin pain, followed by a red or purple skin rash that spreads (especially in the face or upper body) and causes blistering and peeling.

Common Cataflam side effects may include:

- upset stomach, mild heartburn or stomach pain, bloating, gas;

- mild diarrhea, constipation;
- dizziness, mild headache;
- mild skin rash; or
- ringing in your ears.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

See also: [Side effects](#) (in more detail)

Cataflam dosing information

Usual Adult Dose of Cataflam for Osteoarthritis:

50 mg orally 2 to 3 times. Doses greater than 150 mg/day are not recommended for osteoarthritis.

Usual Adult Dose of Cataflam for Pain or Dysmenorrhea:

50 mg orally 3 times a day. In some patients an initial dose of 100 mg of Cataflam, followed by 50 mg doses, will provide better relief. After the first day, the total daily dose should generally not exceed 150 mg.

Usual Adult Dose of Cataflam for Rheumatoid Arthritis:

50 mg orally 3 to 4 times a day.

What other drugs will affect Cataflam?

Ask your doctor before using Cataflam if you take an antidepressant such as citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine (Prozac), fluvoxamine, paroxetine, sertraline (Zoloft), trazodone, or vilazodone. Taking any of these medicines with an NSAID may cause you to bruise or bleed easily.

Tell your doctor about all medicines you use, and those you start or stop using during your treatment with Cataflam, especially:

- cyclosporine;
- lithium;
- methotrexate;
- rifampin;
- antifungal medication--fluconazole, voriconazole;
- a blood thinner (warfarin, Coumadin);
- a diuretic or "water pill";
- heart or blood pressure medication--amiodarone, benazepril, captopril, enalapril, fosinopril, lisinopril, moexipril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril, ortrandolapril; or
- other NSAIDs--aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), naproxen (Aleve), celecoxib, indomethacin, meloxicam, and others.

This list is not complete. Other drugs may interact with Cataflam, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products. Not all possible interactions are listed in this medication guide.

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Consumer resources

- [Cataflam immediate-release tablets](#)
- [Cataflam](#) (Advanced Reading)
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Professional resources

- [Cataflam](#) (FDA)
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Where can I get more information?

- Your pharmacist can provide more information about Cataflam.

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(buprenorphine and naloxone) CIII. Find a doctor.



Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use Cataflam only for the indication prescribed.

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