

ADVERTISEMENT

**Find us on: facebook®**
Get news & drug alerts [GO](#)



enter a search term [Search](#)

Browse all medications [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](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Phonetic Search](#)

[Home](#) [Drugs A to Z](#) [Pill Identifier](#) [Interactions Checker](#) [News & Alerts](#) [Health Professionals](#) [Community](#)

Mednotes

[Drugs A to Z](#) [Drugs by Condition](#) [Drugs by Class](#) [Side Effects](#) [Dosage](#) [Pregnancy](#) [Natural Products](#) [Vet Drugs](#) [Symptom Checker](#) [Harvard Health Topics](#) [MEUP](#) [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [RSS](#)

[Home](#) > [Drugs A to Z](#) > [V](#) > [Vi](#) > Vioxx Consumer Information [Print](#) [Save or Share](#)

Vioxx

Generic Name: rofecoxib (oral) (row feh COCK sib)
Brand Names: *Vioxx*

Ads by Google

[Help for Chronic Wounds](#)
[centegra.org/woundcare](#) Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber Treatment Physician-based Center in Huntley

[I Defeated Fibromyalgia](#)
[www.MagnesiumDirect.com](#) I Finally Discovered Something That Relieves My Fibromyalgia Pain

[Back Pain Medicine](#)
[www.LaserSpineInstitute.com/Back](#) Safe Outpatient Procedure. Relief From Back Pain In Less Than 1 Week!

What is the most important information I should know about Vioxx?

Vioxx was withdrawn from the U.S. market in 2004.

The manufacturer of Vioxx has announced a voluntary withdrawal of the drug from the U.S. and worldwide market. This withdrawal is due to safety concerns of an increased risk of cardiovascular events (including heart attack and stroke) in patients taking Vioxx.

Notify your doctor immediately if you develop abdominal pain, tenderness, or discomfort; nausea; blood in your vomit; bloody, black, or tarry stools; unexplained weight gain; swelling or water retention; fatigue or lethargy; a [skin](#) rash; itching; yellowing of your skin or eyes;"flu-like" symptoms; or unusual bruising or bleeding. These symptoms could be early signs of dangerous side effects.

What is Vioxx?

Vioxx was withdrawn from the U.S. market in 2004.

Vioxx is in a class of drugs called nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). Vioxx works by reducing substances that cause inflammation, pain, and fever in the body.

Sign In or Register [Forgot password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

Related Vioxx Information

**Approval History**
Suspension; Oral FDA approved 1999

**CSA Schedule**
Not a controlled drug

**Availability**
Discontinued

Reviews **Average User Rating**

25 User Reviews**8.5** [Rate it!](#)

Related Pages

[Detailed Side Effects](#) [Pregnancy & Breastfeeding](#)
[Drug Interactions](#) [Drug Images](#)
[Support Group Q & A](#)

Drug Class

[Cox-2 inhibitors](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Related Drugs

Migraine
[diclofenac](#),
[metoclopramide](#), [Reglan](#),
[Imitrex](#), [sumatriptan](#),
[cyproheptadine](#), [More...](#)

Period Pain
[naproxen](#), [ibuprofen](#),
[Celebrex](#), [diclofenac](#),
[Voltaren](#), [Naprosyn](#),
[More...](#)

Rheumatoid Arthritis
[prednisone](#), [naproxen](#),
[Humira](#), [meloxicam](#),
[aspirin](#), [ibuprofen](#), [More...](#)

Osteoarthritis
[prednisone](#), [naproxen](#),
[Cymbalta](#), [meloxicam](#),
[aspirin](#), [ibuprofen](#), [More...](#)

[1 more conditions...](#)

Vioxx is used to reduce pain, inflammation, and stiffness caused by osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and certain forms of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis; to manage acute pain in adults; to treat migraines; and to treat menstrual pain.

Vioxx may also be used for purposes other than those listed in this medication guide.

What should I discuss with my healthcare provider before taking Vioxx?

The manufacturer of Vioxx has announced a voluntary withdrawal of the drug from the U.S. and worldwide market. This withdrawal is due to safety concerns of an increased risk of cardiovascular events (including heart attack and stroke) in patients taking Vioxx.

Do not take Vioxx without first talking to your doctor if you have experienced asthma, hives, or an allergic reaction after taking aspirin or another NSAID such as ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil, Nuprin), naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn, Anaprox), ketoprofen (Orudis KT, Orudis, Oruvail), diclofenac (Voltaren, Cataflam), diflunisal (Dolobid), etodolac (Lodine), fenoprofen (Nalfon), flurbiprofen (Ansaid), indomethacin (Indocin), ketorolac (Toradol), nabumetone (Relafen), oxaprozin (Daypro), piroxicam (Feldene), sulindac (Clinoril), tolmetin (Tolectin), celecoxib (Celebrex), valdecoxib (Bextra), or meloxicam (Mobic). You may experience a similar reaction to Vioxx.

Before taking Vioxx, tell your doctor if you

- smoke;
- drink alcohol;
- have ever had an [ulcer](#) or bleeding in your stomach;
- have liver disease;
- have kidney disease;
- have asthma;
- have congestive heart failure;
- have fluid retention;
- have heart disease;
- have high blood pressure;
- have a coagulation (bleeding) disorder or are taking an anticoagulant (blood thinner) such as warfarin (Coumadin); or
- are taking a steroid medicine such as prednisone (Deltasone and others), methylprednisolone (Medrol and others), prednisolone (Prelone, Prediapred, and others), and others.

You may not be able to take Vioxx, or you may require a dosage adjustment or special monitoring during treatment if you have any of the conditions, or are taking any of the medicines, listed above.

Vioxx is in the FDA pregnancy category C. This means that it is not known whether it will harm an unborn baby. Vioxx should not be taken late in pregnancy (the third trimester) because it may affect the formation of the baby's heart. Do not take Vioxx without first talking to your doctor if you are pregnant or could become pregnant during treatment. It is not known whether Vioxx passes into breast milk. Do not take Vioxx without first talking to your doctor if you are breast-feeding. If you are over the age of 65 years, you may be more likely to experience side effects from Vioxx. You may require a lower dosage or special monitoring during treatment.

[Ads by Google](#)

[SUBOXONE® Sublingual Film](#)
(buprenorphine and naloxone) CIII: Learn how treatment has evolved at [SUBOXONE.com](#)

[Safe Anxiety Treatments](#)
Safe Biofeedback Treatments for ADD, ADHD, Anxiety, Autism & More!
[www.NwBioFeedback.org](#)

[Acid Reflux Symptoms](#)

Drug Images



Vioxx 12.5 mg



Vioxx 25 mg

[View all 3 images](#)

Get Updates by Email

Email me about Vioxx:

News and Warnings related to this drug

Also send the Drugs.com monthly newsletter
FDA Medwatch Alerts for all medications

[Get Notified](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Lower Your Blood Pressure - The All Natural Way

The only non-drug medical device clinically proven to lower blood pressure [www.resperate.com](#)

\$350,000 in Life Insurance

Protect Your Family Today. Coverage as low as \$13.04/month. Free Quote Here [BestQuoteMarket.com](#)

Weight Loss Medicine

Immediate weight loss - reduces fat absorbtion - less fat means less pounds [www.pharmcom.com](#)

Related News and Articles

Certain Painkillers Appear to Boost Odds for Heart Attack

11 Jan 2011

Common painkillers taken to treat inflammation, such as Celebrex and Advil, can raise the risk of heart attack, stroke or death, a review of existing research ...

Vioxx Problems Known Years Before Recall

1 Dec 2009

Problems with the popular arthritis drug Vioxx, including increased risk for heart attack, stroke and death, were

Learn more about the Symptoms of GERD. Sign up and Save up to \$55.
www.AcidRefluxLife.com

How should I take Vioxx?

Take Vioxx exactly as directed by your doctor. If you do not understand these instructions, ask your pharmacist, nurse, or doctor to explain them to you.

Take each dose with a full glass of water. Shake the Vioxx suspension well before measuring a dose. Use a dose-measuring cup or spoon, not a regular table spoon, to measure the liquid form of Vioxx to ensure that you measure the correct amount of medicine. If you do not have a dose-measuring device, ask your pharmacist where you can get one. Vioxx can be taken with or without food or milk.

Store Vioxx at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the dose you missed and take only the next regularly scheduled dose as directed. Do not take a double dose of this medication unless your doctor directs otherwise.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention.
Symptoms of a Vioxx overdose are not known.

What should I avoid while taking Vioxx?

There are no restrictions on food, beverages, or activity during treatment with Vioxx, unless otherwise directed by your doctor.

Ads by Google

[Back Pain Treatment](#)
Read the Benefits of Our Minimally Invasive AccuraScope™ Procedure!
www.NorthAmericanSpine.com

[Chronic Arthritis Pain?](#)
Discover Laser Treatments & Be Pain Free! Have Our Experts Contact You.
www.zerospinepain.com/Arthritis

[Warfarin Testing at Home](#)
Finally, a safe, easy Warfarin test taken at home - fewer office visits
www.ptinr.com

What are the possible side effects of Vioxx?

Notify your doctor immediately if you develop abdominal pain, tenderness, or discomfort; nausea; blood in your vomit; bloody, black, or tarry stools; unexplained weight gain; swelling or water retention; fatigue or lethargy; a skin rash; itching; yellowing of your skin or eyes;"flu-like" symptoms; or unusual bruising or bleeding. These symptoms could be early signs of dangerous side effects.

If you experience any of the following serious side effects, stop taking Vioxx and seek medical treatment or contact your doctor immediately:

- an allergic reaction (difficulty breathing; closing of your throat; swelling of your lips, tongue, or face; or hives);
- abdominal pain, tenderness, or discomfort;

known for years before the drug's voluntary ...

Vioxx's Heart Risk Lingered Long After Use Ended

13 Oct 2008
When the pain killer Vioxx was pulled from over concerns that it increased the risk of heart attack many assumed that stopping the drug would end the ...

COX-2 Selective and Non-Selective Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) FDA Medwatch Alert

15 Jun 2005
After concluding that the overall risk versus benefit profile is unfavorable, FDA has requested Pfizer, Inc. to voluntarily withdraw Bextra (valdecoxib) from ...

Vioxx (rofecoxib) FDA Medwatch Alert

15 Jun 2005
FDA has requested that sponsors of all non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) make labeling changes to their products. FDA recommended proposed labeling ...

 [View more...](#)

Help and Support

Looking for answers? [Ask a question](#) or go join the [Vioxx support group](#) to connect with others who have similar interests.



Harvard Health Publications
SPECIAL HEALTH REPORT



Joint Pain Relief
Healing exercises for your shoulders, hips, knees, & ankles
Available in print with Free Shipping or instant download.
[Learn More](#) **Save 30%**

- bloody, black, or tarry stools;
- nausea or heartburn;
- blood in your vomit;
- unexplained weight gain;
- swelling or water retention;
- unusual fatigue or lethargy;
- a skin rash or itching;
- yellowing of your skin or eyes;
- "flu-like" symptoms; or
- unusual bruising or bleeding.

Other, less serious side effects may be more likely to occur. Continue to take Vioxx and talk to your doctor if you experience

- dizziness;
- mild fatigue or weakness; or
- diarrhea.

Side effects other than those listed here may also occur. Talk to your doctor about any side effect that seems unusual or that is especially bothersome.

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

What other drugs will affect Vioxx?

Before taking Vioxx, tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following drugs:

- aspirin or an aspirin-like medication such as salsalate (Disalcid), choline salicylate-magnesium salicylate (Trilisate, Tricosal, others), and magnesium salicylate (Doan's, Bayer Select Backache Formula, others);
- an over-the-counter cough, cold, allergy, or pain medicine that contains aspirin, ibuprofen, naproxen, or ketoprofen;
- a diuretic (water pill) such as furosemide (Lasix), hydrochlorothiazide (Hydrodiuril, others), chlorothiazide (Diuril, others), chlorthalidone (Hygroton, Thalitone), and others;
- an angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibitor (ACE inhibitor) such as benazepril (Lotensin), captopril (Capoten), enalapril (Vasotec), lisinopril (Prinivil, Zestril), moexipril (Univasc), quinapril (Accupril), and others;
- a steroid medicine such as prednisone (Deltasone and others), methylprednisolone (Medrol and others), prednisolone (Prelone, Pediapred, and others), and others;
- an anticoagulant (blood thinner) such as warfarin (Coumadin);
- methotrexate (Rheumatrex, Folex);
- theophylline (Theo-Dur, Theobid, and others);
- lithium (Eskalith, Lithobid, others); or
- rifampin (Rimactane, Rifadin, Rifater).

You may not be able to take an Vioxx, or you may require a dosage adjustment or special monitoring during treatment if you are taking any of the medicines listed above.

Drugs other than those listed here may also interact with Vioxx. Talk to your doctor and pharmacist before taking any prescription or over-the-counter medicines, including herbal products.

More Vioxx resources

- [Vioxx Side Effects](#) (in more detail)
- [Vioxx Use in Pregnancy & Breastfeeding](#)
- [Drug Images](#)
- [Vioxx Drug Interactions](#)
- [Vioxx Support Group](#)

• [25 Reviews for Vioxx](#) - [Add your own review/rating](#)

Advanced [Vioxx Advanced Consumer](#) (Micromedex) - Includes Dosage Information

Compare Vioxx with other medications

- [Migraine](#)
 - [Pain](#)
 - [Rheumatoid Arthritis](#)
- [Osteoarthritis](#)
 - [Period Pain](#)

Where can I get more information?

- Your pharmacist has additional information about Vioxx written for health professionals that you may read.

What does my medication look like?

Vioxx was withdrawn from the U.S. market in 2004.

[Printable Version](#)

[Email](#)

[Recommend](#)

[Tweet](#)

[Save or Share](#)

Ads by Google

Femara® Side Effects

See if Femara® (letrozole) tablets are right for you. Visit today.
[www.Femara.com](#)

Drug Safety Information

Get Specialized Resources At The Official Pfizer Professional Site.
[www.PfizerPro.com/Relpax](#)

- Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.
- Every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided by Cerner Multum, Inc. ('Multum') is accurate, up-to-date, and complete, but no guarantee is made to that effect. Drug information contained herein may be time sensitive. Multum information has been compiled for use by healthcare practitioners and consumers in the United States and therefore Multum does not warrant that uses outside of the United States are appropriate, unless specifically indicated otherwise. Multum's drug information does not endorse drugs, diagnose patients or recommend therapy. Multum's drug information is an informational resource designed to assist licensed healthcare practitioners in caring for their patients and/or to serve consumers viewing this service as a supplement to, and not a substitute for, the expertise, skill, knowledge and judgment of healthcare practitioners. The absence of a warning for a given drug or drug combination in no way should be construed to indicate that the drug or drug combination is safe, effective or appropriate for any given patient. Multum does not assume any responsibility for any aspect of healthcare administered with the aid of information Multum provides. The information contained herein is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, warnings, drug interactions, allergic reactions, or adverse effects. If you have questions about the drugs you are taking, check with your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

Copyright 1996-2009 Cerner Multum, Inc. Version: 8.01. Revision Date: 2/22/07 2:45:34 PM.

enter a search term

Search

Ads by Google [Drug Rehab](#) [Drug Treatment](#) [Drug Center](#) [Holistic Drug](#)

Support	About Drugs.com	Your Privacy
Advertise With Us Frequently Asked Questions Pharmaceutical Companies Widgets for your Website Content Submissions About Drugs.com	Drugs.com provides accurate and independent information on more than 24,000 prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines & natural products. This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not to be used for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Data sources include Micromedex™ (updated Apr 2nd, 2011), Cerner Multum™	TRUSTe CERTIFIED PRIVACY Verify Here We comply with the HONcode standard for trustworthy health information. Verify here

Visited 04/7/2011

[Contact Us](#)
[Sitemap](#)

Follow us on:  

(updated Mar 18th, 2011), Wolters Kluwer™ (updated Apr 4th, 2011) and others. To view content sources and attributions, refer to our [editorial policy](#).

Copyright © 2000-2011 Drugs.com. All rights reserved.



Ad Choices

[Terms of Use](#) · [Privacy Policy](#)

(web4)