

# Celecoxib

[Sell-e-COX-ib]  
Celebrex®

<http://Rheuminfo.com>  
your rheumatology resource

## How to use this medication

### What is it



Celecoxib is a medication used to treat different types of pain and arthritis. Celecoxib is known as a Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID).

### Take it once or twice a day



This medicine is taken once or twice a day.

### Capsules



Celecoxib comes in 100 mg and 200 mg capsules. Your doctor will tell you the dose that is right for you.

## What you need to do

### Watch your stomach



Celecoxib can irritate the stomach. Let your doctor know if:

- You have any stomach pain, nausea, or vomiting
- You have heartburn or indigestion
- You notice black or bloody stools
- You are vomiting blood or “coffee ground” material

### Do not take if you have an allergy to ASA



Don't take celecoxib if you have an allergy to aspirin or other NSAIDs.

### Don't take with NSAIDs or blood thinners



Don't take celecoxib with other NSAIDs (ibuprofen, naproxen etc). This can increase the risk of stomach problems. Be careful taking celecoxib with blood thinners such as warfarin (Coumadin).

## Side effects & important facts

### Kidney problems



You should be careful using celecoxib if you have kidney problems. Please talk to your doctor.

### Blood pressure



Celecoxib can cause an increase in your blood pressure. Your doctor will monitor this. Tell your doctor if you have high blood pressure.

### Leg swelling



Celecoxib can cause swelling of the legs. It can also worsen a condition called congestive heart failure (CHF). Tell your doctor if you have CHF or if you develop leg swelling.

### Heart attack & stroke



Patients who have had a recent heart attack or stroke or experienced serious chest pain from heart disease should not take celecoxib.

### Headache



Celecoxib can rarely cause a headache or dizziness.

### Skin rash



Celecoxib can rarely cause an allergic rash. Stop the medicine and let your doctor know if you develop a rash, hives, or blisters.

### Pregnancy & breastfeeding



Celecoxib has not been studied in pregnancy. Let your doctor know if you are planning to get pregnant or if you are breastfeeding.

## When should I call my doctor

### Please call if you need to stop



- If you feel sick and want to stop
- If you are concerned about any side effects
- If you want to or have already stopped the medicine

### Other reasons to call your doctor:



Rash



Severe leg swelling



Shortness of breath or chest pain



Allergic reaction



Stomach pain, nausea, vomiting, black or bloody stools

## Other important information

### Stopping celecoxib



You can simply stop taking celecoxib.