

# Sulfasalazine



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## *Sulfasalazine Use in Rheumatic Conditions*

Sulfasalazine is a medication used to treat rheumatic conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and ankylosing spondylitis. It is an anti-inflammatory medication that helps to reduce inflammation and pain associated with these conditions. Sulfasalazine can be taken orally, and it is important to follow your doctor's instructions carefully when taking this medication.



## *What is Sulfasalazine?*



Sulfasalazine is a type of medication called a disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD). It works by reducing inflammation and pain associated with rheumatic conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and ankylosing spondylitis. Sulfasalazine can also be used to treat inflammatory bowel disease.

## *Indications or Uses*

Sulfasalazine is primarily used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and ankylosing spondylitis. It can also be used to treat inflammatory bowel disease, such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Sulfasalazine is often used when other treatments have failed or in combination with other medications to improve treatment effectiveness.



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## How to Take Sulfasalazine



Sulfasalazine is taken orally, usually two to four times a day, depending on the dosage prescribed by your doctor. It is important to take it at the same time each day. You should take sulfasalazine with food or a full glass of water to help prevent stomach upset.

Your doctor may adjust your dose of sulfasalazine based on your response to the medication and any side effects you experience. It may take several weeks to see the full benefits of sulfasalazine, so it is important to continue taking it as directed by your doctor

## Side Effects



Like all medications, sulfasalazine can cause side effects. Some common side effects of sulfasalazine include:



Headaches



Dizziness



Nausea and vomiting



Diarrhea



Loss of appetite

Less common but more serious side effects of sulfasalazine include liver damage, low blood counts, and allergic reactions. It is important to tell your doctor if you experience any side effects while taking sulfasalazine.

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## Precautions

Sulfasalazine can interact with other medications, so it is important to tell your doctor about all medications you are taking, including over-the-counter medications and supplements.



Sulfasalazine can also cause a yellowing of the skin or eyes, so it is important to tell your doctor if you experience this symptom.

Because sulfasalazine can affect blood counts, it is important to have regular blood tests while taking this medication. Sulfasalazine can also increase the risk of certain infections, so it is important to avoid contact with people who have contagious illnesses.

## Conclusion

Sulfasalazine is a medication used to treat rheumatic conditions, including rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and ankylosing spondylitis. It is an anti-inflammatory medication that helps to reduce inflammation and pain associated with these conditions. Sulfasalazine can be taken orally, and it is important to follow your doctor's instructions carefully when taking this medication. Like all medications, sulfasalazine can cause side effects, and it is important to tell your doctor if you experience any side effects while taking this medication. It is also important to have regular blood tests while taking sulfasalazine and to avoid contact with people who have contagious illnesses.

