

5-ASA or Mesalamine (Oral)

MEZERA®, MEZAVANT®, PENTASA®, SALOFALK®, OCTASA®



What this medication is used for

Widely used for children and adults with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.



Health Canada also approved for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis in adults.



How this medication works

5-ASA work locally to reduce inflammation in the intestine.

There are a number of 5-ASA medications, which differ based on route of administration and medication coating. The currently approved oral 5-ASA medications in Canada for IBD include: Mezavant, Pentasa, Salofalk and Octasa.



How to use this medication

-Available as a tablet: Mezavant, Octasa, Pentasa, Salofalk 5-ASA tablets should be swallowed whole and not be chewed, crushed, cut or dissolved in liquid.

Although some individuals receive benefit quite quickly, it can take a little longer in others. Keep taking your medication.



Where treatment is administered

Fill your prescription at your pharmacy.



Vaccines

✓ Live vaccines
- Safe

✓ Inactivated vaccines
- Safe



How long to use this medication

This medication will be used to get your IBD under control and keep it under control long-term.



Monitoring during treatment

Regular blood tests, stool tests, endoscopy and/or other imaging will be done to monitor for response and side-effects to medication.



Side Effects

Abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea or headaches can occur.

-Inflammation of the pancreas, lungs, liver, kidneys and heart may very rarely occur.



When I should call my doctor

Please call if:

-You want to or have already stopped the medicine

-If you are concerned about any side effects

-Worsening IBD symptoms such as blood in the stool, diarrhea and/or abdominal pain

-If you become pregnant