

Dexamphetamine

Brand names: Dexamphetamine Aspen®

Core Colour: White

Shape: Round

Markings: D 5

Scoring: Yes

Strength: 5mg

Diameter: 8mm



What is it used for? Narcolepsy and hyperkinetic behaviour disorders in children (ie ADHD).

What do I need to consider before starting treatment? You will be asked about psychiatric and cardiac history for the patient and immediate family.

What is a “normal” dose? It varies however recommended in children over 3 years of age start with 2.5 mg daily. Then the daily dosage may be raised in 2.5 mg increments, at weekly intervals, until the optimal response is obtained.

What is the maximum dose? Generally up to a maximum of 40 mg daily in two divided doses.

When should you take it? It is best taken in the morning, and if a second dose is required 4-6 hours after morning dose (or no later than 2pm) – this is to avoid insomnia.

How do I take it? The tablets can be swallowed whole, chewed, crushed, or dissolved in water (won't dissolve completely)

Does it interact with anything? Yes, vitamin C and fruit juices lower absorption so best to separate these by at least 2 hours

What side effects are there? The most common ones are palpitations, overstimulation, restlessness, insomnia, headache, dry mouth and weight loss. There are a number of other less common side effects please refer to <https://www.nps.org.au/medicine-finder/aspens-dexamfetamine-tablets>

How quickly will it work? Dexamphetamine is rapidly absorbed reaching peak levels in approximately 2 hours post-administration

What else is in the tablets (excipients)? Lactose monohydrate, povidone, wheat starch and magnesium stearate.