

Nitroglycerin

Nitroglycerin is a medicine used to treat chest pain called angina. Take nitroglycerin as directed by your doctor.

- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, **talk to your doctor** before using this medicine.
- Always keep your nitroglycerin with you.
- This medicine may make you dizzy or lightheaded when you stand up or get out of bed. Get up slowly from a sitting or lying position.
- Avoid alcohol while using nitroglycerin.
- Keep nitroglycerin in its original bottle to keep its strength. The medicine should cause a sting or a tingle under your tongue.
- Keep the medicine out of the reach of children.

If you use tablets:

1. Sit down and rest 2-3 minutes.
2. If you have chest pain or discomfort that is not better with rest, place 1 tablet under your tongue. Do not swallow the tablet.
3. If you still have chest pain after 5 minutes, put a second tablet under your tongue.
4. If the chest pain does not go away after another 5 minutes, use a third tablet. You may take up to 3 tablets in 15 minutes.
5. If you still have pain, **call 911**. Do not drive yourself to the hospital because you may be having a heart attack.

If you use spray:

1. Sit down and rest for 2-3 minutes.
2. If you have chest pain or discomfort that is not better with rest, hold the can up with the spray button on top as close to your mouth as you can.
3. Press down on the button and spray the medicine onto your tongue or under it. Don't swallow right away. Wait 10 seconds.
4. If your chest pain lasts longer than 5 minutes, spray a second dose into your mouth.
5. If the chest pain does not go away after another 5 minutes, spray a third dose. You may use up to 3 sprays in 15 minutes.
6. If you still have pain, **call 911**. Do not drive yourself to the hospital because you may be having a heart attack.

Call your doctor **right away** if you have any of these side effects:

- Blurred vision
- Trouble breathing
- Fainting, dizziness or severe weakness
- Flushed or hot face
- Fast heartbeat
- Headache
- Nausea

Talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you have any questions or concerns about taking nitroglycerin.