

ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID (*Aspirin*) (C)

(Revised: January 2010)



TYPE:	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug [S2]
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PRESENTATION:	300mg – tablet
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ACTIONS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Inhibits platelet function (for up to 7 days)2. Suppresses inflammation, reduces fever, relieves pain (Rapidly absorbed from the stomach and small bowel)
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USE:	ICP Suspected myocardial ischaemia – reducing platelet aggregation and limiting clot development	AP
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ADVERSE EFFECTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Allergic reactions (e.g. asthma, angioneurotic oedema, urticaria, rhinitis, shock). CHECK FOR PREVIOUS REACTIONS!2. Aggravation of bleeding tendencies3. Gastric irritation (unlikely with 1 tablet only)
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CONTRA-INDICATIONS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Known or suspected allergy to salicylates2. Known or suspected active bleeding3. Known bleeding tendency4. Chest pain associated with psychostimulant overdose (due to an increased risk of cerebral haemorrhage)
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DOSE:

ADULT:		
ICP	1 tablet (300mg) – chewed and swallowed, or dissolved in a small amount of water. ½ tablet (150mg) if on warfarin. Single dose only. Administer even when patient is on slow release aspirin.	AP