

Dextroamphetamine Immediate-Release (IR) Tablets

— Patient Information

What is dextroamphetamine IR?

Dextroamphetamine immediate-release (IR) is a prescription stimulant medication used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and narcolepsy (a sleep disorder that causes excessive daytime sleepiness). It works by increasing certain chemicals in the brain that help with focus, attention, and wakefulness.

This medication is a federally controlled substance (Schedule II) because it has a potential for abuse and dependence.

How to Take This Medication

- Take your first dose when you wake up in the morning.
 - If additional doses are prescribed, take them at 4- to 6-hour intervals throughout the day.
 - Avoid taking this medication in the late evening, as it can cause difficulty sleeping.
 - Swallow the tablet whole. It may be taken with or without food.
 - Take exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Do not change your dose without talking to your doctor first.
 - If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember — but skip it if it is close to your next scheduled dose or late in the day. Never take a double dose.
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Common Side Effects

- Decreased appetite or weight loss
- Trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- Dry mouth or unpleasant taste

- Headache
- Restlessness or nervousness
- Stomach discomfort, nausea, diarrhea, or constipation
- Increased heart rate or palpitations

Many of these side effects improve over time. Talk to your doctor if they are bothersome or do not go away.

Serious Side Effects — Contact Your Doctor Right Away If You Experience:

- Chest pain, shortness of breath, or fainting
 - Fast or irregular heartbeat
 - New or worsening mood changes, anxiety, agitation, or aggression
 - Hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that are not there)
 - Signs of mania (feeling extremely "high," racing thoughts, reckless behavior)
 - Signs of circulation problems in fingers or toes (numbness, pain, skin color changes)
 - Muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness (may be a sign of a rare condition called rhabdomyolysis)
 - Signs of an allergic reaction (rash, hives, swelling of face/lips/tongue, difficulty breathing)
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Important Safety Information

- **Heart risks:** This medication can raise blood pressure and heart rate. Your doctor should monitor these regularly. People with serious heart problems, structural heart defects, or severe high blood pressure should not take this medication.
- **Mental health:** This medication may worsen symptoms in people with a history of psychosis or bipolar disorder. It can also cause new psychiatric symptoms even in people without a prior history.

- **Growth in children:** Long-term use may slow growth and cause weight loss in children. Your child's height and weight should be monitored regularly.
 - **Pregnancy and breastfeeding:** Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding. This medication may not be safe during pregnancy.
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Medications to Avoid

Tell your doctor about all medications you take, including over-the-counter drugs and supplements. The following are especially important:

- **MAO inhibitors** (e.g., phenelzine, selegiline, linezolid): Do not take dextroamphetamine if you have taken an MAO inhibitor within the past 14 days. This combination can cause a dangerous spike in blood pressure.
 - **Serotonin-affecting drugs** (e.g., certain antidepressants like SSRIs and SNRIs, triptans for migraines, tramadol, St. John's Wort): Taking these with dextroamphetamine may increase the risk of a serious condition called serotonin syndrome. Symptoms include agitation, confusion, rapid heartbeat, high body temperature, and muscle stiffness.
 - **Antacids and alkalinizing agents** (e.g., sodium bicarbonate): These can increase the effects of dextroamphetamine and should be avoided unless directed by your doctor.
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Storage and Safety

- Store in a safe, secure place — preferably locked — to prevent misuse or theft.
 - Do not share this medication with anyone else, even if they have similar symptoms. Sharing is illegal and dangerous.
 - Dispose of unused medication properly. Ask your pharmacist about drug take-back programs.
 - Keep out of reach of children.
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When to Call Your Doctor

- If your symptoms are not improving or are getting worse
 - If you experience any serious side effects listed above
 - Before starting or stopping any other medication
 - If you become pregnant or plan to become pregnant
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Important Reminders

- Attend all scheduled follow-up appointments so your doctor can monitor your progress, blood pressure, heart rate, and (in children) growth.
- Do not stop this medication suddenly without talking to your doctor.
- This medication may impair your ability to drive or operate machinery until you know how it affects you.
- Avoid alcohol while taking this medication.

If you have questions or concerns, contact your doctor or pharmacist.