

CROMOLYN SODIUM

LONG-TERM CONTROL ASTHMA MEDICINE

CROMOLYN SODIUM (BRAND NAME INTAL)

When a person has asthma, the airways are very sensitive to irritants and allergens. The inside walls of the airways tend to become swollen and covered with mucus, partially blocking the flow of air into and out of the lungs. During an asthma episode, the swelling becomes worse and more mucus is produced, making it very difficult to breathe. Cromolyn is used as a long term control medicine to stop the swelling which makes the lungs more sensitive.

Cromolyn is used to prevent symptoms from starting. You should consult with your doctor if asthma symptoms continue despite taking cromolyn every day.

Cromolyn does not stop an asthma episode once it has started and does not relieve symptoms.

How is Cromolyn taken?

Cromolyn is used in an inhaler (pump) or a nebulizer machine. Cromolyn must be taken four times a day and may take up to six weeks to take effect.

Exercise Induced Asthma

Cromolyn is sometimes prescribed for use just before exercising.

S i d e E f f e c t s :

Inhaled medicines cause fewer side effects because they go right to the lungs. Cromolyn is a very safe medicine for treating asthma. The only side effect may be dry cough right after taking the medicine. You can avoid this by rinsing your mouth and drinking a few sips of water after taking it.

- Intal is the brand name for Cromolyn Sodium. You can either buy the brand name or the generic drug.
- Tilade is the brand name for nedocromil which is similar to cromolyn and may be used for children over 12.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
ABOUT ASTHMA
CALL 311

