

iMedix: Your Personal Health Advisor.

Allegra

Allegra provides fexofenadine, a non-drowsy antihistamine, designed to offer relief from common allergy symptoms such as sneezing, runny nose, itchy/watery eyes, and skin hives, by selectively blocking histamine's effects. Its formulation aims for effective symptom control without significant sedation.

- **ActiveIngredient:** Fexofenadine Hydrochloride
 - **DosageForm:** Oral tablet
 - **Dosage:** 30mg, 60mg, 120mg, 180mg
 - **Indications:** Relief of symptoms associated with seasonal allergic rhinitis (hay fever) and chronic idiopathic urticaria (hives of unknown cause).
 - **Manufacturer:** Sanofi
 - **Storage:** Store at controlled room temperature (20-25°C or 68-77°F). Protect from excessive moisture.
 - **Market Price:** 0.29
 - **Drug Status:** Over-the-Counter
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Description

Allegra's Profile: Fexofenadine in the Fight Against Allergy's Annoyances Allegra. A name recognized. Its core strength? Fexofenadine Hydrochloride. This agent isn't an old-guard antihistamine; it's newer, a selective interrupter of peripheral H1-receptors. Allegra's chief purpose: to bring calm where allergic reactions stir trouble. Think hay fever's miseries—sneezing, a nose that won't stop running, eyes that itch and stream. Or consider chronic idiopathic urticaria—those persistent, maddening skin hives that appear without a clear “why.” Allegra steps in for these. **The How-It-Works Story: Fexofenadine's Method for Quieting Allergic Uproar** Fexofenadine, the power inside Allegra, mutes allergy's shout by precisely meddling with the body's histamine-driven alarms: **Shutting Down Histamine's Entry Points (H1 Receptors):** Imagine an allergic event. It's like your body's defense system misidentifying a harmless visitor—pollen, perhaps—as a threat. This triggers a chemical red alert: histamine floods out from certain immune cells. Histamine then scrambles to “plug into” specific molecular sockets, the H1 receptors, found on cells in your nose, eyes, skin. Once histamine connects, the familiar allergy cascade ignites: sneezes erupt, itches begin, tissues swell, mucus flows. Fexofenadine plays defense. It gets to those H1 sockets first, occupying them. But it doesn't set off the alarm. It just blocks histamine from getting in. No connection, no allergic overreaction. Simple, yet effective. **Keeping a Clear Head: The Non-Drowsy Edge of Peripheral Action:** Here's a key difference with fexofenadine, a second-wave antihistamine. It's smart. It mostly ignores H1 receptors in the brain. Older antihistamines? They'd barge into the brain, hitting H1 receptors there too—the ones involved in keeping you awake. Result: drowsiness. Fexofenadine, however, largely stays out of the brain. The blood-brain barrier, a tight security gate, limits its access. So, at typical doses, it fights allergy symptoms without making most people feel sleepy or foggy. That's a major plus. **Allegra's Place: From Pioneer Brand to Widespread Generic** Allegra. That was the first flag planted for fexofenadine hydrochloride, by Sanofi (a company with roots in Hoechst Marion Roussel/Aventis). Patents, however, don't last forever. When Allegra's exclusivity ended, the gates opened. Many other drug makers began producing generic fexofenadine hydrochloride. So, while “Allegra” is still a familiar brand, the actual workhorse, the allergy-fighting substance, is fexofenadine. That's the name you'll see on its generic equivalents. **How Allegra Reaches You: Forms, Strengths, and Different Preparations** **Standard Oral Tablets & Capsules:** For adults and older children, Allegra and its generic kin often come as straightforward oral tablets. Common strengths

you'll see are 60mg, 120mg, and 180mg of fexofenadine. Some versions might also be found in capsule form. Melt-in-Your-Mouth Orally Disintegrating Tablets (ODT): Got trouble swallowing pills? Or just prefer convenience? Allegra ODT (and generic fexofenadine ODTs) are made for this. They dissolve quickly right on your tongue. No water needed. Strengths like 30mg and others are typical here. Liquid Help for Younger Folks (Oral Suspension): For children too young for tablets or ODTs, a liquid version of fexofenadine—an oral suspension—is available. This allows for careful dosing based on a child's age or weight, often in a 30mg per 5mL concentration. What Sets Allegra (Fexofenadine) Apart: Its Key Therapeutic Strengths Wakeful Allergy Relief: Its Standout Trait. The big news with fexofenadine? It's a non-drowsy antihistamine for most. At recommended amounts, it tackles allergy symptoms effectively but generally leaves your alertness and mental sharpness intact. A big shift from older antihistamines. Targeted Action: Peripheral H1 Receptor Focus. Fexofenadine's knack for mostly ignoring brain-based H1 receptors is why it usually doesn't cause sleepiness. Smart pharmacology. Broad Symptom Coverage: Nose, Eyes, Skin. It offers a wide shield against common allergy attacks: sneezing, runny/itchy nose, watery/itchy eyes, and skin hives or itching. Relatively Quick to Act: Relief Isn't Far Off. Fexofenadine usually starts to ease allergy symptoms within about an hour after you take it. Fairly prompt comfort. User-Friendly Dosing: Once or Twice a Day. Depending on the specific product strength and what it's being used for, Allegra can often be taken just once or twice daily. This makes for sustained symptom control with an easy-to-follow schedule for many.

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Disclaimer

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