

# iMedix: Your Personal Health Advisor.

## Vicks Dayquil

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Search for medical details concerning Vicks DayQuil Cold and Flu Relief oral on iMedix including its uses, side effects and safety, interactions, pictures, warnings and user ratings.

- **ActiveIngredient:**
  - **DosageForm:**
  - **Dosage:**
  - **Indications:**
  - **Manufacturer:**
  - **Storage:**
  - **Market Price:**
  - **Drug Status:**
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### Description

Side Effects Dizziness, drowsiness, headache, nausea, nervousness, or trouble sleeping may occur. If any of these effects last or get worse, contact your doctor or pharmacist promptly. If your doctor has directed you to use this medication, remember that your doctor has judged that the benefit to you is greater than the risk of side effects. Many people using this medication do not have serious side effects. Tell your doctor right away if you have any serious side effects, including: mental/mood changes (such as confusion, hallucinations), shaking (tremors), weakness, problems urinating. Get medical help right away if you have any very serious side effects, including: chest pain, fast/irregular heartbeat. A very serious allergic reaction to this drug is rare. However, get medical help right away if you notice any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, including: rash, itching/swelling (especially of the face/tongue/throat), severe dizziness, trouble breathing. This is not a complete list of possible side effects. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist. In the US – Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or at [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch). In Canada – Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to Health Canada at 1-866-234-2345. How long does it take for this medicine to take effect? The onset of action for the components of DayQuil varies: Acetaminophen is absorbed rapidly from the gastrointestinal tract with analgesic and antipyretic effects beginning within 30 minutes of ingestion. Dextromethorphan typically begins to exert its cough suppressant effects within 15 to 30 minutes of administration. Phenylephrine has a variable onset of action due to its less efficient absorption through the gastrointestinal tract, but effects can generally be noticed within 30 minutes to an hour. Overall, symptomatic relief from DayQuil can be expected to begin within 30 minutes to one hour after dosing. How long do the effects of this medicine last? Acetaminophen has a duration of action of about 4 to 6 hours. Dextromethorphan can last up to 5 to 6 hours. Phenylephrine offers relief for 3 to 4 hours. Consequently, DayQuil's effects typically last for 4 to 6 hours, and dosing may be repeated as directed on the label or by a healthcare provider. Is it safe to consume alcohol while taking this medicine? Consuming alcohol while taking medications containing acetaminophen, such as DayQuil, is generally advised against due to the increased risk of liver damage. Alcohol can enhance the hepatotoxic potential of acetaminophen, even at lower doses. Additionally, alcohol may exacerbate drowsiness or dizziness, side effects potentially induced by the medication. Is this a habit forming medicine? DayQuil is not known to be habit-forming when used as directed. The components of DayQuil do not possess addictive properties, and the medication is intended for short-term use to alleviate symptoms of cold and flu. Can this medicine be taken during pregnancy? The use

of DayQuil during pregnancy should be approached with caution. Acetaminophen is generally considered safe during pregnancy when used in recommended doses. However, the safety of dextromethorphan and phenylephrine is less clear, and they should be used only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. Pregnant women should consult a healthcare provider before using DayQuil. Can this medicine be taken while breast-feeding? Acetaminophen is considered safe for use during breastfeeding in recommended doses. Dextromethorphan is also generally considered safe but should be used cautiously. Phenylephrine may reduce milk supply and should be used with caution in nursing mothers. Breastfeeding mothers should consult a healthcare provider before using DayQuil to weigh the risks and benefits and consider safer alternatives if necessary.

**Uses** This combination medication is used to temporarily treat cough, stuffy nose, body aches, and other symptoms (such as fever, headache, sore throat) caused by the common cold, flu, or other breathing illnesses (such as sinusitis, bronchitis). Dextromethorphan is a cough suppressant that affects a certain part of the brain (cough center), reducing the urge to cough. Decongestants help to relieve stuffy nose symptoms. This product also contains acetaminophen, a non-aspirin pain reliever and fever reducer. This medication is usually not used for ongoing coughs from smoking, asthma, or other long-term breathing problems (such as emphysema), or for coughs with a lot of mucus, unless directed by your doctor. Cough-and-cold products have not been shown to be safe or effective in children younger than 6 years. Do not use this product to treat cold symptoms in children younger than 6 years unless specifically directed by the doctor. Some products (such as long-acting tablets/capsules) are not recommended for use in children younger than 12 years. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for more details about using your product safely. These products do not cure or shorten the length of the common cold and may cause serious side effects. To decrease the risk for serious side effects, carefully follow all dosage directions. Do not use this product to make a child sleepy. Do not give other cough-and-cold medication that might contain the same or similar ingredients. Ask the doctor or pharmacist about other ways to relieve cough and cold symptoms (such as drinking enough fluids, using a humidifier or saline nose drops/spray).

**How to use Vicks Dayquil** If you are taking the over-the-counter product, read all directions on the product package before taking this medication. If you have any questions, consult your pharmacist. Take this medication by mouth with or without food or as directed by your doctor. This medication can be taken with food or milk if stomach upset occurs. If you are using a liquid form, carefully measure your prescribed dose using a medication-measuring device or spoon. Do not use a household spoon because you may not get the correct dose. If your liquid form is a suspension, shake the bottle well before each dose. Chewable forms of this medication should be chewed thoroughly before swallowing. The dosage is based on your age. Do not increase your dose or take this medication more often than directed without your doctor's approval. Improper use of this medication (abuse) may result in serious harm (such as brain damage, seizure, death). Tell your doctor if your condition lasts for more than 1 week, if it gets worse, or if it occurs with headache that doesn't go away, rash, or fever lasting more than 3 days. These may be symptoms of a serious medical problem and should be checked by a doctor.

**Warnings** One ingredient in this product is acetaminophen. Taking too much acetaminophen may cause serious (possibly fatal) liver disease. Adults should not take more than 4000 milligrams (4 grams) of acetaminophen a day. People with liver problems and children should take less acetaminophen. Ask your doctor or pharmacist how much acetaminophen is safe to take. Do not use with any other drug containing acetaminophen without asking your doctor or pharmacist first. Acetaminophen is in many nonprescription and prescription medications (such as pain/fever drugs or cough-and-cold products). Check the labels on all your medicines to see if they contain acetaminophen, and ask your pharmacist if you are unsure. Get medical help right away if you take too much acetaminophen (overdose), even if you feel well. Overdose symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, sweating, stomach/abdominal pain, extreme tiredness, yellowing eyes/skin, and dark urine. Daily alcohol use, especially when combined with acetaminophen, may damage your liver. Avoid alcohol.

**Interactions** Drug interactions may change how your medications work or increase your risk for serious side effects. This document does not contain all possible drug interactions. Keep a list of all the products you use (including prescription/nonprescription drugs and herbal products) and share it with your doctor and pharmacist. Do not start, stop, or change the dosage of any medicines without your doctor's approval. Taking certain MAO inhibitors with this medication may cause a serious (possibly fatal) drug interaction. Avoid taking isocarboxazid, metaxalone, methylene blue, moclobemide, phenelzine, procarbazine, rasagiline, safinamide, selegiline, or tranylcypromine during treatment with this medication. Most MAO inhibitors should also not be taken for two weeks before treatment with this medication. Ask

your doctor when to start or stop taking this medication. Some products that may interact with this drug are: ketoconazole, levoketoconazole, rlapitant. The ingredients in this product are available in many prescription and nonprescription products. Check the labels on all your medications carefully to make sure you are not taking more than one product with the same ingredient(s). Consult your pharmacist if you are unsure of the ingredients in any of your medications. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking other products that cause drowsiness such as opioid pain or cough relievers (such as codeine, hydrocodone), alcohol, marijuana (cannabis), drugs for sleep or anxiety (such as alprazolam, lorazepam, zolpidem), muscle relaxants (such as carisoprodol, cyclobenzaprine), or antihistamines (such as cetirizine, diphenhydramine). Check the labels on all your medicines (such as allergy or cough-and-cold products) because they may contain ingredients that cause drowsiness. Ask your pharmacist about using those products safely. This medication may interfere with certain urine lab tests (such as 5-HIAA levels), possibly causing false test results. Make sure lab personnel and all your doctors know you use this drug. **Precautions** Before taking this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to any of its ingredients; or if you have any other allergies. This product may contain inactive ingredients, which can cause allergic reactions or other problems. Talk to your pharmacist for more details. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially of: breathing problems (such as asthma, emphysema), diabetes, glaucoma, heart problems, high blood pressure, kidney problems, liver disease, overactive thyroid (hyperthyroidism), trouble urinating (such as due to enlarged prostate), use/abuse of alcohol. This drug may make you dizzy or drowsy. Alcohol or marijuana (cannabis) can make you more dizzy or drowsy. Do not drive, use machinery, or do anything that needs alertness until you can do it safely. Avoid alcoholic beverages. Talk to your doctor if you are using marijuana (cannabis). Liquid or chewable forms of this product may contain sugar or aspartame. Liquid forms may also contain alcohol. Caution is advised if you have diabetes, alcohol dependence, liver disease, phenylketonuria (PKU), or any other condition that requires you to limit/avoid these substances in your diet. Ask your doctor or pharmacist about using this product safely. Before having surgery, tell your doctor or dentist about all the products you use (including prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and herbal products). Older adults may be more sensitive to the side effects of this drug, especially fast/irregular heartbeat, dizziness, problems urinating, trouble sleeping, or confusion. During pregnancy, this medication should be used only if clearly needed. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. This medication may pass into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding. **Overdose** If someone has overdosed and has serious symptoms such as passing out or trouble breathing, call 911. Otherwise, call a poison control center right away. US residents can call their local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. Canada residents can call a provincial poison control center. Symptoms of overdose may include: nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, sweating, stomach/abdominal pain, extreme tiredness, yellowing eyes/skin, dark urine, agitation, confusion, hallucinations, seizures. Keep all medical and lab appointments. If your doctor has directed you to take this medication on a regular schedule and you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose. Take your next dose at the regular time. Do not double the dose to catch up. Store as directed on the package label. Protect from light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. If you have any questions about storage, ask your pharmacist. Keep all medications away from children and pets. Do not flush medications down the toilet or pour them into a drain unless instructed to do so. Properly discard this product when it is expired or no longer needed. Consult your pharmacist or local waste disposal company.

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## Side Effects

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## Uses

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**Interactions**

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**Other Details**

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