What is aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide oral suspension?

ALUMINUM HYDROXIDE; MAGNESIUM HYDROXIDE is an antacid that neutralizes or reduces stomach acid. It helps relieve symptoms of excessive stomach acidity in patients with indigestion, heartburn, gastroesophageal reflux disorder (GERD), or stomach or duodenal ulcers. In large doses, it can act as a laxative. Generic antacid suspensions are available.

What should my health care professional know before I take aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide?

They need to know if you have any of these conditions:

- Constipation
- Colostomy
- Dehydration
- Diarrhea
- edema or swelling of the legs and feet
- intestinal problems like colitis or diverticulitis
- kidney disease
- liver disease
- on a sodium (salt) restricted diet
- stomach bleeding or obstruction
- an unusual or allergic reaction to aluminum, magnesium or other antacids, foods, dyes, or preservatives
- pregnant or trying to get pregnant
- breast-feeding

How should I take this medicine?

Take aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide oral suspension by mouth. Follow the directions on the prescription label. Shake well before using. Use a specially marked spoon or container to measure your medicine. Ask your pharmacist if you do not have one; household spoons are not always accurate. Antacids are usually taken after meals and at bedtime or as directed by your prescriber. Take your doses at regular intervals. Do not take your medicine more often than directed.

Contact your pediatrician or health care professional regarding the use of this medicine in children. Special care may be needed.

What if I miss a dose?

Aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide is usually only taken when needed for stomach upset. It is usually not recommended for continued use. Missing a dose is usually not harmful. Do not take double or extra doses.

What drug(s) may interact with aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide?

- other magnesium-containing antacids, laxatives or supplements
- penicillamine
- phenytoin
- quinidine
- risperidone
- rosiglitazone
- sodium fluoride
- sodium polystyrene sulfonate
- sotalol
- sucralfate
- thyroid hormones (example: levothyroxine)
- tiludronate
- valproic acid
- vitamin D

Tell your prescriber or health care professional about all other medicines you are taking, including non-prescription medicines, nutritional supplements, or herbal products. Also tell your prescriber or health care professional if you are a frequent user of drinks with caffeine or alcohol, if you smoke, or if you use illegal drugs. These may affect the way your medicine works. Check with your health care professional before stopping or starting any of your medicines.

What side effects may I notice from taking aluminum hydroxide?

Side effects that you should report to your prescriber or health care professional as soon as possible:
- confusion, decreased alertness
- drowsiness or dizziness
- headache
- loss of appetite
- nausea, vomiting
- weakness

Side effects that usually do not require medical attention (report to your prescriber or health care professional if they continue or are bothersome):
- chalky taste
- diarrhea
- constipation

What should I watch for while taking aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide?

Check with your prescriber or health care professional if aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide does not relieve your stomach pains; if you get black tarry stools; notice any rectal bleeding; or feel unusually tired. Do not change to another antacid product without advice.

Do not treat yourself for stomach problems with aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide for more than 2 weeks without consulting your prescriber or health care professional.

If you are taking other medications, leave an interval of at least 2 hours before or after dosing with aluminum hydroxide; magnesium hydroxide. If you are taking prescription medications check with a healthcare professional before stopping or changing dosage levels.

Drink several glasses of water a day. This will help to reduce possible constipation.

Where can I keep my medicine?

Keep out of the reach of children in a container that small children cannot open.

Store at room temperature between 15—30 degrees C (59—86 degrees F), do not freeze. Protect from light and moisture. Throw away any unused medicine after the expiration date.