

Pharmacologic properties:

Aspirin is a salicylate with anti-platelet activity. It inhibits cyclooxygenase, blocking the synthesis of prostaglandin to interfere with platelet aggregation. This action has been demonstrated to reduce mortality in patients suffering from myocardial infarction. Aspirin also has moderate analgesic and anti-pyretic effects. The onset of action is 5-30 minutes, and the duration of action is 3-6 hours.

Indications:

- Chest Pain - suspected myocardial ischemia

Contraindications:

- Known hypersensitivity
- Active ulcer disease
- Pregnant (especially third trimester) or a nursing mother
- Patients <18 years of age

Adverse Reactions:

- Anaphylaxis (if history of hypersensitivity)
- Abdominal discomfort
- Gastrointestinal bleeding (if previous condition exists)

Dosage and administration:

Adult

- 324 mg PO (4 chewable baby aspirin)

Pediatric

- There is no approved dose for children