DOCUSATE

dok-yoo-sate

What does it do?

Docusate is used to treat and prevent constipation. It is also used to empty your bowel before medical procedures or surgery.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have other stomach or bowel problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- If you have noticed a change in bowel habit that continues for longer than 2 weeks, talk to your doctor before taking *docusate*.

How should you take it?

Use *docusate* as directed.
Take the tablets or capsules with a glass of water.
Dilute the enema and insert into the rectum.

What if you forget a dose?

If you take *docusate* regularly and it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not take two doses at the same time.

Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *docusate* including:

- other laxatives – discuss this with your pharmacist
- anti-diarrhoea medicines such as loperamide (e.g. Imodium®)

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Stomach cramps, diarrhoea Anal irritation with enema use	Tell your doctor if troublesome

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other information:

- Do not use *docusate* for longer than 1 week unless told to by your doctor.
- Drink plenty of fluids while taking *docusate*.