

# ANOW THE ACTS ASPIRIN ABOUT ASPIRIN

## **BAYER®** Aspirin The Wonder Drug®



# Know the Facts About Aspirin



### Do you know the truth about aspirin?

Aspirin has been around for more than 100 years<sup>1</sup> and, to this day, continues to be studied for a wide array of conditions.<sup>2-4</sup> While there is still a lot to learn, here are some interesting facts to dispel common myths about aspirin.

### **MYTH:**

Aspirin is no different from other over-the-counter (OTC) analgesics.

### **FACT:**

Aspirin is a unique drug that works differently from Advil®, Tylenol®, and other OTC analgesics. While aspirin is a known pain reliever, only aspirin has antiplatelet properties that can protect you from another heart attack or ischemic stroke by keeping your blood flowing freely.<sup>5-7</sup>

### **MYTH:**

Aspirin is only good for preventing another heart attack.



### **FACT:**

Many people are aware that a doctorrecommended aspirin regimen can help prevent another heart attack, even another ischemic stroke.<sup>7</sup> However, chewing an aspirin during a suspected heart attack can also help save your life.

Aspirin also provides temporary relief from pain and can even alleviate the pain and fever of colds.8

### **MYTH:**

If I've already had a heart attack or ischemic stroke, aspirin won't help prevent another one.



### **FACT:**

Aspirin is proven to help reduce the risk of another heart attack by 31% and ischemic stroke by 22%. A doctor may recommend starting a low-dose aspirin regimen if you've just had a heart attack or an ischemic stroke.

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### **MYTH:**

Taking a low-dose aspirin regimen may not be safe for me.



### **FACT:**

More than 200,000 patients have been studied in over 200 clinical trials that focused on safety and efficacy of aspirin. Results show that gastrointestinal bleeding occurs in less than 1% of those taking aspirin to help prevent another heart attack or ischemic stroke.<sup>10</sup>

Aspirin is not appropriate for everyone, so be sure to talk to your doctor before you begin an aspirin regimen.

### **MYTH:**

Since I take so much medication, there's no harm in dropping aspirin from my regimen.



### **FACT:**

Studies show that if you discontinue a low-dose aspirin regimen, you can increase your risk of another ischemic stroke by 40% or another heart attack by as much as 63%.<sup>11,12</sup> Don't discontinue taking aspirin or any other medications before you talk to your healthcare provider.

### **MYTH:**

People with type 2 diabetes have to worry about their sugar levels, not their hearts.



### FACT:

Controlling blood sugar levels is important for people with type 2 diabetes, but the biggest concern is an increased chance of heart disease and ischemic stroke. In fact, people with type 2 diabetes are more than twice as likely to suffer from one of these events. An aspirin regimen may be recommended for appropriate patients with type 2 diabetes to help prevent another cardiovascular (CV) event. 14,15

### **MYTH:**

I don't need aspirin if I'm taking a statin.



### **FACT:**

Aspirin and statins work differently to reduce the risk of a second heart attack or ischemic stroke. Don't discontinue taking aspirin or any other medications before you talk to your healthcare provider.

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### **MYTH:**

If I'm already taking a prescription blood thinner, I don't need aspirin.



### **FACT:**

Dosing guidelines for many prescription blood thinners, including Plavix® (clopidogrel bisulfate), Brilinta® (ticagrelor), and Effient (prasugrel), recommend also taking aspirin.<sup>16-18</sup> If your doctor adds aspirin to a prescription blood thinner regimen, be sure to follow your doctor's instructions.

Aspirin is not appropriate for everyone, so be sure to talk to your doctor before you begin an aspirin regimen.

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