

# Lithium chloride medical uses

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Lithium can be used cautiously and with close medical monitoring in the presence of: cardiac arrhythmia, reduced kidney function, psoriasis, myeloid leukemia, Addison's disease, hypothyroidism, and certain neurological disorders, including abnormalities of posture and movement, myasthenia gravis, and epilepsy.

Lithium is used to treat and prevent episodes of mania (frenzied, abnormally excited mood) in people with bipolar disorder (manic-depressive disorder; a disease that causes episodes of depression, episodes of mania, and other abnormal moods). Lithium is in a class of medications called antimanic agents.

Lithium chloride, one of the most well-known mood stabilizers with antisuicidal effects, is currently being utilized as an agent for acute mania and as maintenance treatment in bipolar disorder (BD). 81,82 Unfortunately, there are few pharmacogenomic studies that address the issue of response to lithium treatment (reviewed in Ref. [83]), while ...

As accumulating knowledge indicated a role for excess sodium intake in hypertension and heart disease, lithium salts were prescribed to patients for use as a replacement for dietary table salt (sodium chloride). This practice and the sale of lithium itself were both banned in the United States in February 1949, following publication of reports ...

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Keep all appointments with your doctor and the laboratory. Your doctor will order certain lab tests to check your response to lithium.

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Lithium comes as a tablet, capsule, extended-release (long-acting) tablet, and solution (liquid) to take by mouth. The tablets, capsules, and solution are usually taken three to four times a day. The extended-release tablets are usually taken two to three times a day. Take lithium at around the same times every day. Follow the directions on your prescription label carefully, and ask your doctor or pharmacist to explain any part you do not understand. Take lithium exactly as directed. Do not take more or less of it or take it more often than prescribed by your doctor.

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Swallow the extended-release tablet whole; do not split, chew, or crush it.

Your doctor may increase or decrease the dose of your medication during your treatment. Follow these directions carefully.

Lithium may help to control your condition but will not cure it. It may take 1 to 3 weeks or longer for you to feel the full benefit of lithium. Continue to take lithium even if you feel well. Do not stop taking lithium without talking to your doctor.

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