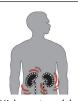
ANTACIDS (ant-acids) Active ingredients Usually combinations of aluminium hydroxide, calcium (generic carbonate, magnesium hydroxide. names) • Eases pain of stomach upset ► Gastritis, reflux, indigestion What it is used for ► Heartburn in pregnancy Stomach ulcers How it • Neutralises stomach acid to prevent pain if works stomach acid comes back up oesophagus • Usually none if taken for short time Side effects Diarrhoea — if a lot Constipation — if a lot of aluminium or of magnesium calcium





Kidney trouble (antacids with sodium)



Heart failure — **do not** use antacids with sodium



Liver trouble (antacids with sodium)



Medical consult if needed for more than one week

Interactions — Do not use together without medical consult

 Antacids should not be taken at same time as other oral medicines. Leave 2 hours between taking an antacid and another medicine

Tell the patient



- Only use when you have symptoms
- Take between meals and at bedtime, or when needed
- Shake bottle before taking mixture
- Tablets work best if chewed but can be swallowed whole



Do not drink alcohol (grog) — makes symptoms worse



Return to clinic if not getting better OR symptoms come back

Check

 Check for underlying problem (eg heart trouble, stomach ulcer)