

What is tablet splitting?

Tablet splitting is cutting a higher strength tablet in half resulting in your prescribed dose of medication. For example, your doctor prescribes Lipitor 10 mg tablets. You could talk to your doctor and pharmacist about getting Lipitor 20 mg tablets and then cutting them in half to get your 10 mg dose. This allows you to get the same dose by purchasing fewer tablets. Tablet splitting programs have been successfully used in many healthcare plans across the country.

What are the benefits of tablet splitting?

As you know, the costs of medications have risen sharply in the past few years. Tablet splitting may allow you and your health plan to save money on your prescription. Often, all strengths of one medication are similar in price. Splitting tablets can lower the cost per day of your medications by 40% to 50%! It also may make your medication smaller and easier to swallow.

Can all my medications be split in half?

No. Some medications are designed so that they may not work properly if they are split in half such as capsules, medications with special coatings, and time-release products. Some tablets can be split even if they do not have a line indicating where to break the tablet in half. Your doctor or pharmacist will be able to help you determine if your medications can be split in half. For your information, we have compiled a list of brand and generic medications that could potentially be split; medications that are marked with an asterisk (*) may be scored.

How do I split my tablets in half?

There are many different ways to split tablets in half. One way is to purchase a tablet splitter from your local pharmacy (they usually cost less than \$10). These tablet splitters are safe and easy to use. All you need to do is place the tablet in the proper place and when the splitter is closed, a steel blade cuts the tablet in half. Some tablets are scored and have a line dividing the dose in half and may be able to be snapped in half using your fingers. Other alternatives may be available – ask your pharmacist for more information.

Is it safe to split my medications in half?

Tablet splitting is generally safe when done on appropriate medications. As previously mentioned, not all medications can be split. When tablet splitting is done correctly on appropriate medications, you will receive your prescribed dose with no adverse effects.

Brand Name Medications That May Be Split

Aceon*	Endocet*	Seroquel
Actos	Evista	Singulair
Ambien	Hyzaar	Skelaxin*
Atacand	Klor-Con M 20*	Topamax
Augmentin XR	Lanoxin*	Toprol XL*
Avandia	Levaquin	Univasc*
Avapro	Lexapro	Valtrex*
Cefzil	Lipitor	Viagra
Clarinetx	Micardis	Vytorin
Coreg	Norvasc	Zithromax
Cozaar	Plavix	Zocor
Crestor	Pravachol	Zolofit*
Depakote	Premarin	Zyprexa
Digitek	Prevacid tablets	Zyrtec
Dilantin tablets	Remeron*	
Diovan HCT	Risperdal	

Generic Medications That May Be Split

Acyclovir tablets*	Estradiol*	Metformin*
Albuterol tablets	Estropipate	Methylprednisolone*
Allopurinol*	Famotidine	Metoclopramide*
Alprazolam*	Fenofibrate tablets	Metoprolol*
Amitriptyline	Fluoxetine tablets*	Metronidazole
Amoxicillin tablets*	Folic acid*	Minocycline tablets
Amoxicillin/clav*	Fosinopril	Mirtazapine
APAP/codeine	Furosemide*	Nadolol
Aspirin*	Gabapentin tablets	Naproxen*
Atenolol*	Gemfibrozil*	Oxycodone/APAP
Bumetidine	Glimepiride	Paroxetine
Buspirone*	Glipizide	Penicillin VK*
Captopril*	Glyburide*	Potassium Chloride*
Carbidopa/levodopa*	Glyburide/Metformin	Prednisone*
Carisoprodol	Hydrochlorothiazide*	Promethazine*
Cephalexin tablets*	Hydrocodone/APAP	PropoxypheneN/APAP
Cilostazol	Hydroxyzine tablets	Propranolol*
Ciprofloxacin	Ibuprofen	Quinapril
Citalopram	Isosorbide mononitrate*	Spironolactone*
Clonazepam*	Ketoconazole	Temazepam tablets
Clonidine*	Labetalol	Terazosin
Clozapine	Levothyroxine*	Tetracycline tablets
Cyclobenzaprine	Lisinopril*	Tramadol
Diazepam*	Lisinopril/HCT	Trazodone*
Diclofenac	Loratadine	Trimterene/HCTZ*
Diltiazem tablets*	Lorazepam*	Trimethoprim/SMZ*
Doxazosin*	Lovastatin	Verapamil
Doxycycline tablets	Meclizine*	Warfarin*
Enalapril*	Medroxyprogesterone*	

