



AFRIN Facts Sheet

What is Afrin?

- ❖ Generic: Oxymetazoline
- ❖ Pharmaceutical category:
Decongestant,
vasoconstrictor

What is it used for?

- ❖ Nasal congestion
- ❖ Nosebleeds

How does it work?

- ❖ Narrows the blood vessels in the nasal mucosa, reducing swelling and congestion
- ❖ Reduces bleeding during nosebleeds

How is it used in bleeding disorders?

- ❖ Afrin is administered intranasally
- ❖ Used when pressure and ice, alone, cannot stop nosebleeds

- ❖ Instill 2-3 sprays into the bleeding nostril and continue applying pressure to the nose

Possible Side Effects:

- ❖ Nasal irritation
- ❖ Tingling or burning
- ❖ Dryness in the nose
- ❖ Sneezing
- ❖ Increased nasal congestion
- ❖ The provider should be contacted if these symptoms are severe or persist

Important Facts:

- ❖ Do not use for more than three consecutive days
- ❖ Afrin can be purchased over-the-counter