

## ASPIRIN (ASA)

### **ACTION: Antithromboembolic**

- Irreversibly blocks formation of thromboxane A2 resulting in decreased platelet aggregation (antiplatelet effect).

### **INDICATIONS:**

- New chest pain suggesting an active acute myocardial infarction.

### **CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

- Hypersensitivity to ASA
- Relative contraindication in patients with active ulcers or asthma

### **POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:**

- Gastrointestinal bleeding
- Tinnitus.
- Gastroesophageal reflux

### **ADULT DOSE/ROUTE:**

- ⇒ 4 baby ASA tablets (81 mg each for a total of 324 mg) PO chewed and swallowed.
- ⇒ Note: one 324 mg adult ASA tablet could also be chewed by patient.

### **PEDIATRIC DOSE/ROUTE:**

- ⇒ Not applicable.

### **NOTES:**

- Oral absorption occurs within 20 to 60 minutes and is dependent on dosage, gastric motility or pH, dissolution rate and whether the drug is taken with antacids or meals.
- Should be given within minutes of arrival in patients with new onset chest pain suggesting of an acute myocardial infarction.