

Entonox[®]

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your health professional.

1. Why am I using Entonox[®]?

Entonox[®] is a gas mixture containing the active ingredients 50% Nitrous oxide and 50% Oxygen.

Entonox[®] is used for rapid pain relief.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using Entonox[®]?](#) in the full CMI.

2. What should I know before I use Entonox[®]?

Entonox[®] is a gas mixture supplied in high pressure gas cylinders and is only available with a prescription.

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to nitrous oxide or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

Talk to your health professional if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I use Entonox[®]?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Entonox[®] and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

4. How do I use Entonox[®]?

Entonox[®] should only be used under the supervision of your doctor, dentist, ambulance officer or nurse.

Entonox[®] is administered to you as you breathe in through a mask or mouthpiece attached to a demand valve. Your healthcare professional will ensure the equipment is set up correctly and that you receive the right amount of Entonox[®].

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How do I use Entonox[®]?](#) in the full CMI.

5. What should I know while using Entonox[®]?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use in a well-ventilated room. Gas scavenging systems are required.
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not use Entonox[®] without the supervision of a healthcare professional.Do not smoke, have a naked flame near or use oil-based products with your Entonox[®] gas cylinder or equipment. Entonox[®] strongly supports combustion.
Driving or using machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Always ask your health professional when it is safe for you to drive, operate machinery or perform activities following use of Entonox[®].
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Take care when using Entonox[®] as it is stored under high pressure in gas cylinders.Cylinders should be preferably restrained upright in a secure, well-ventilated space above 0°C and below 65°C.Return the gas cylinder to BOC when you no longer need to use this medicine.

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using Entonox[®]?](#) in the full CMI.

6. Are there any side effects?

- Common side effects are euphoria, dizziness, light headedness, nausea, vomiting, sense of intoxication, headache.
- Less common side effects are sleepiness, increased pressure in the middle ear, bloating, increased volume of gas in the intestines, effects on nerve function including sensations of numbness, tingling and weakness, usually in the legs, difficulty walking.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

WARNING: Entonox® contains nitrous oxide and oxygen which can make things catch fire very easily—even items that don't normally burn. Never smoke or go near flames when using nitrous oxide. Keep nitrous oxide away from oils, grease, or tar, as these can cause it to ignite suddenly.

Entonox®

Active ingredient(s): 50% v/v Nitrous oxide, N₂O and 50% v/v Oxygen, O₂

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using Entonox®. Entonox® is usually given by a doctor, dentist, ambulance officer or nurse. **You should also speak to your prescribing health professional if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using Entonox®.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I using Entonox?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I use Entonox?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How do I use Entonox?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using Entonox?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

1. Why am I using Entonox®?

Entonox® contains the active ingredients nitrous oxide and oxygen and is used to relieve pain during:

- labour in childbirth.
- dental treatment.
- wound cleaning, stitching or dressing.
- acute trauma such as broken bones.
- other medical conditions or surgical and investigative treatments where pain relief is required.

Entonox® is a gas mixture supplied in high pressure gas cylinders and is only available with a prescription. It is given to you in a hospital or clinic under the supervision of a healthcare professional

2. What should I know before I use Entonox®?

Warnings

Do not use Entonox® if:

- You have an allergy to Entonox® or have had an allergic reaction in the past.
- You have a condition where air is entrapped within your body and it might expand when given Entonox® (e.g. a bowel obstruction, blocked middle ear, air

lodged in an artery). Ask your doctor for full details of these conditions.

- You have a collapsed lung.
- You have decompression sickness (the bends) or if you have been deep diving within the past 48 hours.
- You have lung disease or breathing difficulties such as emphysema or COPD.
- You have injuries to the face and jaw or head injuries or suspected or known increased pressure on the brain.
- You have a severely bloated stomach.
- You have been using Entonox® for a prolonged period without proper monitoring of your blood.
- You are intoxicated.

Check with your health professional if you:

- have had a reaction to Entonox® or any other general anaesthetic or pain relief medication in the past
- have had any other health problems or medical conditions, including:
 - Low vitamin B12 levels
 - Problems with addiction to medicines
 - Bone marrow problems including various cells in the blood
 - Neurological diseases
- have had long term usage or been chronically exposed to Entonox®.
- have recently had eye or ear surgery where injections of gas have been used.
- if you have accidentally taken Paraquat (a type of weed killer), as there is a possibility of toxic effects to the lungs combined with the high concentration of oxygen.
- take any medicines for any other condition.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Check with your health professional if you are.

- pregnant or intend to become pregnant.
 - breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.
- They will advise you on the safe use of Entonox®.

Medical Gases Under Pressure

- OXYGEN and NITROUS OXIDE (ingredients in Entonox[®]) STRONGLY SUPPORT COMBUSTION AND INCREASES THE CHANCE OF FIRE.
- DO NOT SMOKE or have a naked flame near your Entonox[®] gas cylinder.
- Care should be taken when using Entonox[®] as it is stored under high pressure in gas cylinders.
- DO NOT use if the cylinder appears damaged or shows signs of tampering or it has degraded.
- DO NOT use if the tamper evident plastic seal has been removed on receipt from supplier.
- Always ensure a pressure regulator/flow controller is attached to a cylinder prior to use.
- NEVER use oil-based moisturising creams with your oxygen cylinder equipment e.g. Vaseline.
- If using alcohol gels allow plenty of time for the alcohol gel to dry before handling your cylinder equipment.
- There are safe working exposure levels for nitrous oxide gas (an ingredient in Entonox[®]) and workplace gas scavenging system are required.
- It is recommended to store the cylinder upright on a flat surface and secured so that it will not fall over.
- Never place the cylinder on a bed when it is in use, for risk of oxygen enrichment of your bed linen.
- Always refer to product labelling and the safety data sheet on www.boc.com.au for storage and handling information.
- Please discuss these points with your health professional if you have any questions.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or health professional if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines may interfere with Entonox[®] and affect how it works.

- These include.
 - Pain relievers
 - Anaesthetics
 - Methotrexate
 - Bleomycin
 - Amiodarone
 - Nitrofurantoin and similar antibiotics
 - Medicines which may affect your nervous system

If you are taking methotrexate for treating arthritis or cancer with Entonox[®], your blood cell count may be affected.

If you are taking medicines to treat anxiety or help you sleep such as diazepam the effect of Entonox[®] may be increased.

If you are taking Bleomycin (to treat cancer), Amiodarone (to treat an irregular heartbeat) or Nitrofurantoin and

similar antibiotics (to treat infection), there is a possibility of toxic affects to the lungs when these drugs are combined with Entonox[®] use.

Check with your health professional if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Entonox[®].

4. How do I use Entonox[®]?

How much to use

- Entonox[®] should only be used under the supervision of your healthcare professional. They will decide for how long and how much Entonox[®] you need depending on the amount of pain relief required.
- If you are elderly or have lung problems, you may need a less Entonox[®].
- Follow all directions given to you by your health professional carefully and ask for help if you do not understand.

When to use Entonox[®]

- Entonox[®] should be used as prescribed under the supervision of your health professional.

How to use Entonox[®]

- Entonox[®] is administered to you as you breathe in through a mask or mouthpiece attached to a demand valve.
- Entonox[®] will begin to take effect immediately when you start to inhale the gas. The effects of Entonox[®] will quickly wear off once you stop breathing the gas. You will be able to control how much Entonox[®] you use, depending on the amount of pain you experience.
- Your healthcare professional will ensure the equipment has been set up correctly and that you receive the right amount of Entonox[®].

If you use too much Entonox[®]

As Entonox[®] will be given to you in a hospital, clinic or ambulance under the direction of your health professional, it is very unlikely you will receive an overdose.

- If you continue to inhale Entonox[®] for too long, you will become very drowsy, and the mask or mouthpiece will fall away as you relax and hence there is little risk of an overdose with Entonox[®] when used correctly.

If you do think you have used too much Entonox[®], you may need urgent medical attention. Quick action must be taken to maintain your breathing and replace the Entonox[®] with oxygen.

If you think that you have used too much Entonox[®] you may need urgent medical attention.

You should immediately:

- Tell the person treating you; or
- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital; or
- phone the Poisons Information Centre (by calling **13 11 26**).

If you have any further questions on how this product is used, ask your healthcare professional.

5. What should I know while using Entonox®?

Things you should do

Call your health professional straight away if you:

- Do not feel well while you are using Entonox®.

Driving or using machines

- Although the nitrous oxide component of Entonox® is rapidly eliminated from the body, always ask your health professional when it is safe for you to drive, operate machinery or perform activities following its use.

Looking after your medicine

- Cylinders should preferably be restrained upright in a secure, well-ventilated space above 0°C and below 65°C.
- At temperatures below 0°C the nitrous oxide component may separate. Should this occur, the cylinder should be placed in a warm room for at least 2 hours, then rolled horizontally for at least 5 minutes to remix the components.
- Refer to product labelling and safety data sheet on www.boc.com.au.

Keep your medical Entonox® cylinder where young children cannot reach it.

When to discard your medicine

There is no shelf-life on the contained product therefore there is no expiry date listed on the product.

Gas cylinders are however subject to periodic inspection and testing at varying intervals depending on their specification as defined in Australian Standard AS 2030.5. Provided the cylinder has been subjected to normal conditions of use and has not been abused or treated in a way to render the cylinder unsafe, there is no general requirement for the user to return a cylinder before the gas contents have been used, even though the cylinder test interval may have lapsed.

All cylinders are the property of BOC and are returnable.

Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

If you no longer need to use this medicine, please return the cylinder to BOC.

6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your health professional if you have any further questions.

Common side effects

Common side effects	What to do
Euphoria, dizziness, light headedness, nausea, vomiting sense of intoxication, headache.	Speak to your health professional if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.

Less common side effects

Less common side effects	What to do
Sleepiness Increased pressure in the middle ear, bloating, increased volume of gas in the intestines. Effects on nerve function including sensations of numbness, tingling and weakness, usually in the legs, difficulty walking.	Call your doctor straight away or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.

Other side effects (frequency unknown)

Other side effects (frequency unknown)	What to do
Interference with the way your body uses Vitamin B12 which may affect your blood cell count. Psychosis, confusion, anxiety, addiction. Difficulty with breathing.	Call your doctor straight away or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.

Tell your health professional if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems. By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a prescription.

What Entonox® contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	50% v/v Nitrous oxide, N ₂ O and 50% v/v Oxygen, O ₂
Other	Carbon dioxide - 300ppm v/v max Carbon monoxide - 5ppm v/v max Oxides of nitrogen - 2ppm v/v max Water (vapour)- 67ppm v/v max

Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

What Entonox® looks like?

Entonox® is a clear, colourless, slightly sweet smelling, non-irritating gas supplied in white cylinders with a blue (ultramarine) and white cylinder shoulder in 4 off 90° Sectors (quadrants) as determined by Australian Standard: *AS:4484 Gas cylinders for industrial, scientific, medical and refrigerant use - Labelling and colour coding*.

Medical gas cylinders are supplied with product specific pin-indexed valves as per Australian Standard: AS: 2473.3 Valves for compressed gas cylinders Part 3: Outlet connections for medical gases (including pin-indexed yoke connections)

The contents of a gas cylinder are identified primarily by the labelling on the cylinder. Labels on a gas cylinder should always be consulted prior to use.

Entonox® is registered as

Aust R 34470.

BOC GASES ENTONOX OXYGEN 50%v/v and NITROUS OXIDE 50%v/v MIXTURE, Gas Medicinal

Who distributes Entonox®?

BOC Ltd

10 Julius Ave

North Ryde NSW 2113

This leaflet was prepared in November 2025