BCRenal
an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Acetylsalicylic Acid
(ASA)

PHARMACY INFO SHEET

HOW IT WORKS:

Acetylsalicylic Acid (ASA) makes the platelets in your blood less sticky. Platelets are needed to form clots.

HOW TO TAKE IT:

You should take 1 tablet the same time each day.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS A DOSE:

If you forget a dose, take it as soon as you remember. Take it with food to reduce stomach upset. Enteric coated tablets should be swallowed whole.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:

ASA, especially uncoated tablets, can cause stomach irritation. Skin rash is common if you are allergic to ASA-like products. Large doses can cause ringing in the ears, dizziness and sweating.

PRECAUTIONS:

When taking ASA, tell your health professional if you've had drug allergies, stomach ulcers, if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Also include information on other drugs you are currently on.

It is a good idea to read the label on cough and cold medicine since many preparations contain ASA.

Use the space below to write down why you are taking this medication.