## DRUG CARDS DAILY

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#### Name(s)

• Generic: potassium citrate (poe TASS ee um SIT rate) | Brand: Urocit-K

#### Therapeutic Category:

• Alkalinizing Agent

#### Dosage Form & Strength

• Extended Release Tablet: 5 mEq (540 mg), 10 mEq (1080 mg), 15 mEq (1620 mg)

#### Indication(s)

1. Kidney stones: Manages renal tubular acidosis caused by various etiologies with or without calcium stones.

#### **Dosing by Indication**

- 1. Dosing for Adults with Kidney stones:
  - o Alkalinizer (PO):
    - Mild-Moderate hypocitraturia | >150 mg/day urinary citrate:
      - Initiate 15 mEq po bid OR 10 mEq po TID with a max dose of 100 mEq per day.
      - Severe hypocitraturia | <150 mg/day urinary citrate:
        - Initiate 30 mEq po bid OR 20 mEq po TID with a max dose of 100 mEq per day.

#### Mechanism of Action & Pharmacology

- **MOA:** Potassium citrate is an alkalinizing agent that is used to make urine less acidic. The urine levels are raised to a pH of 6-7 which helps rid the body of uric acid which effectively helps prevent gout and kidney stones.
- Metabolism: Hepatically metabolized to bicarbonate

#### Special Populations & Considerations

• Contraindicated in patients with poor renal function

#### Side Effects

- **Overview**: Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain
- **Caution**: Bloody/black stool, constipation, dizziness, fast heartbeat, stomach/abdominal pain, vomitting that looks like coffee grounds.

#### **Drug Interactions**

- **Overview**: Antacids that contain aluminum, aspirin, Tylenol, ACE inhibitors (lisinopril, enalapril), ARBs (losartan); anticholinergics (due to slowing GI movement) to name a few.
- **More Specifically:** Potassium may enhance hyperkalemic effects of ARBs; Potassium may decrease excretion of amphetamines; Heparin may enhance hyperkalemic effects of potassium.
- Alkalinizing agents (in general) may increase serum concentrations of many drugs (memantine, quinine)

Monitoring Parameters



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• Serum electrolytes; Urinary citrate or pH; CBC every 4 months

#### Patient Counseling Information

- Potassium citrate is used to treat kidney stones as well as the acid balance in the blood.
- Potassium is a known GI irritant. To help minimize irritation:
  - o Swallow tablets whole with a full glass of water
  - And take while upright or in sitting position and take with (or within 30 minutes after) meals or bedtime snack.

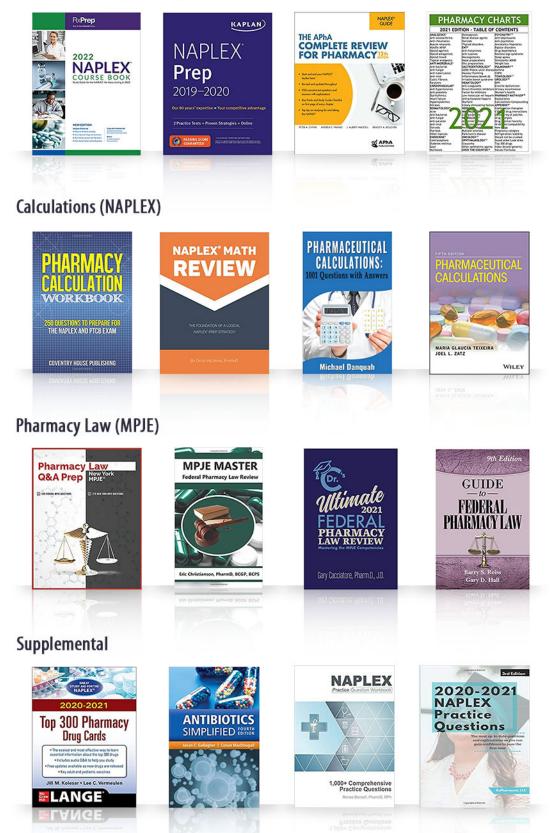
#### Reference(s)

- <u>https://www.drugs.com/ppa/potassium-citrate.html</u>
- <u>https://www.medicineindia.org/pharmacology-for-generic/2786/potassium-citrate</u>
- https://www.webmd.com/drugs/2/drug-8836/potassium-citrate-oral/details



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# DRUG CARDS D A I L Y

**Monday at 7 am EST** (6 am CST, 4 am PST)

### HEY NEW GRAD!

So you landed that perfect job offer or got the perfect match for your PGY1 and now the <u>ONLY</u> thing standing in your way is passing the NAPLEX and MPJE.

Here are some NAPLEX & MPJE prep recommendations to help you do everything you can to **pass the first time!** 

### HEY STUDENT!

When I was P1 one of the best pieces of advice I got from those before me was to use a NAPLEX Prep book while learning each topic.

This helps focus your learning and the repetition helps to retain info and indirectly prepare you for the NAPLEX

