Vasopressin

Established biology · indication-specific medicine.



Guide prepared November 13, 2026 · profile review dates retained

KEEP IN MIND Evidence applies to the studied formulation, route, population and outcome—not every product sharing a name.

01 What is it?

Vasopressin helps the kidneys conserve water and helps regulate blood-vessel tone. These two jobs explain both its normal role in fluid balance and its use as a monitored medicine for certain patients with dangerously low blood pressure. [1]

02 Potential benefits

Conserves water through kidney signaling. Helps maintain vascular tone. Approved vasopressin products have defined critical-care indications. [1]

03 Evidence & its limits

The Vasostrict label concerns adults with vasodilatory shock whose blood pressure remains low despite fluids and catecholamines. It also identifies reduced cardiac output, low sodium, and impaired blood supply to tissues as risks. Conserving water physiologically does not make administered vasopressin a hydration aid. [1]

04 Risks & unknowns

Therapeutic administration can reduce blood flow to the heart, gut, skin, or limbs. Water retention can contribute to hyponatremia or water intoxication. Effects depend heavily on dose, disease, and monitoring. [1]

05 Status & scope

Approved critical-care uses are narrowly defined. The cited Vasostrict label concerns adults with vasodilatory shock despite fluids and catecholamines, not routine hydration. [1]

06 The question to ask

Does the evidence match the exact product, route, condition and outcome being discussed? Check the full record and its review dates. This summary is selective; the product label and clinical assessment contain additional warnings and contraindications.

SOURCES / Tap a reference to open

[1] Full evidence record, references and review dates
[2] Du Vigneaud review
[3] FDA Drugs@FDA
[4] Historical review

Selective educational summary, not treatment or dosing advice. Existing profile review dates retained; no independent clinical review.