

GLYCERYL TRINITRATE SUBLINGUAL

Common Brand Name(s):

Angised

Uses

Nitroglycerin relaxes blood vessels allowing more blood to flow through. This reduces the workload on the heart and improves blood flow to the heart. Sublingual nitroglycerin tablets act quickly to relieve chest pain (angina).

How to Take this Medication

At the first sign of chest pain, sit down and place one tablet under the tongue or between your cheek and gum allowing it to dissolve. The drug is absorbed directly through the lining of the mouth. Do not chew or swallow the tablet. Do not eat, drink or smoke while the nitroglycerin is in your mouth. Effects should begin in 1 to 3 minutes. If after 5 minutes there is no relief of chest pain, take another tablet. If there is no relief after taking three tablets, go to a hospital emergency room immediately. Carry this medication with you at all times.

Side Effects

Headache, dizziness, flushing, rapid heartbeat or restlessness may occur as your body adjusts to the medication. If they persist or become bothersome, inform your doctor. To prevent dizziness and lightheadedness when rising from a seated or lying position, get up slowly. Notify your doctor if you experience blurred vision, dry mouth, skin rash or nausea. Headache is often a sign that the medication is working. Treat headaches with an aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever as recommended by your doctor. If the headaches continue or become severe, notify your doctor. In the unlikely event you have an allergic reaction to this drug, seek medical attention immediately. Symptoms of an allergic reaction include: rash, itching, swelling, dizziness, trouble breathing. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Precautions

Before using this medication tell your doctor your medical history especially of: heart problems, head injury or surgery, glaucoma, thyroid conditions, anemia, alcohol usage, any drug allergies. Use caution engaging in activities that require alertness or in operating machinery if this medication makes you dizzy or drowsy. Alcoholic beverages may increase the risk of fainting or of experiencing dizziness. This medication should only be used during pregnancy if benefit outweigh risk. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. It is not known if this drug is excreted into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

Interactions

This drug is not recommended for use with sildenafil. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for more details. Tell your doctor of all medications you may use including prescription and nonprescription drugs and especially: drugs for high blood pressure, certain migraine drugs (ergot alkaloids), aspirin. Do not start or stop any medicine without doctor or pharmacist approval.

Overdose

If overdose is suspected, contact the emergency room immediately. Symptoms of overdose may include a persistent, throbbing headache; dizziness; confusion; weakness; sweating; changes in heart rate; changes in vision; flushing; nausea; and vomiting.

Notes

Some persons may develop a tolerance to the effects of this medication over time. Notify your doctor if the medication appears to be losing its effectiveness or if the chest pain continues while taking this drug.

Missed Dose

This medication is used only at the onset of an attack of chest pain or 10 to 15 minutes before engaging in an activity that may cause chest pain. This medication is **NOT** for routine use.

Storage

Do not use any cotton wool in the bottle as it may cause the medication to lose its effectiveness. Store this medication at room temperature away from heat, moisture and sunlight. Store in its original glass bottle and keep it tightly closed. Do not store in the bathroom. Tablets are effective for up to 8 weeks after opening a bottle. Discard any unused tablets after 8 weeks.



If any of the side effects persist or worsen, please notify your doctor or pharmacist. **If you experience an allergic reaction to any of these drugs, seek immediate medical attention. Symptoms of an allergy include rash, hives, itching, swelling and difficulty in breathing. If you have any enquiries about your medications, please do not hesitate to contact our friendly pharmacists at: KhooTeckPuat Hospital, 90, YishunCentral,Singapore 768828. Tel: 6602 2220**

The information provided in this leaflet is intended to supplement, not as a substitute for, the expertise and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or any other healthcare professional. Please consult your healthcare provider before using this agent.