



ACETAZOLAMIDE

Patient Information Leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Acetazolamide. It does not contain all the available information. It also does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

What is Acetazolamide used for?

Acetazolamide are usually used to control seizures and other problems related to the nervous system.

When should I take this medication?

- Acetazolamide may be taken 2 to 3 times a day. The doctor may start your child on a low dose and then slowly increase the dose. Follow the instructions on the label carefully and ask your pharmacist or doctor if you are unsure.
- Do not take this medication more often than directed and do not stop unless instructed by the doctor. Stopping this medicine too rapidly can increase the risk of seizures.
- Do not change brands or dosage forms without informing your doctor.

How should it be taken?

Acetazolamide comes in the form of tablets. Swallow the tablets whole with a glass of water. If your child is unable to swallow the tablet, you may crush it and add it to small amount of food (i.e. yogurt, ice-cream, syrup) before giving it to your child. Acetazolamide may be taken with or without food.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

- Take the dose as soon as you remember and then continue to take it as your child normally would. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the dose your child missed and take the next dose at the usual time.
- Do not double or increase the dose.
- If your child has missed more than two doses or you are not sure of what to do, consult your doctor or pharmacist.
- If your child has less than two weeks medication supplies, please ensure that you have made an appointment with your child's neurologist or arranged to collect more medication.

What side effects can this medicine cause? What can I do about them?

Generally, the common side effects tend to occur at the beginning of treatment. Such side effects may include:

- Mild nausea, vomiting, indigestion, abdominal pain, diarrhea and loss of appetite. If the medicine upsets the stomach, take it with food or milk
- Drowsiness, dizziness, fatigue and unsteadiness.

Be careful when you are giving your child over-the-counter medicines. Medicines for cold and allergy may add on to the drowsiness. Be sure to supervise your child when he/she is involved in activities such as cycling or swimming.

- Double vision and blurred vision
- Muscle weakness or numbness of fingers or toes
- Unusual behavioural changes such as hyperactivity or confusion.

Inform your doctor if any of the above side effects last for more than a few days or if they become serious or bothersome.

Rare but serious effects may sometimes occur. Contact your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

- Skin rash
- Persistent blurred vision and/or eye pain
- Pain or difficulties in passing urine
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes
- Any unusual bleeding or bruises, prolonged fever, cough or sore throat

Inform your doctor if you notice any other unusual symptoms in your child. Always discuss with your doctor or pharmacist if your child has any problems or difficulties during or after taking acetazolamide.

Special instructions

Please inform your doctor if your child has family history of kidney stones.

It is important to drink plenty of fluids when your child is taking Acetazolamide.

Please remember to let your child take the night dose before 8 pm as he/she may experience increase urination.

Please inform your doctor if your child is allergic to sulphonamides.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you want to give any other medicines, supplements or herbal products to your child.

If your child sees another doctor, inform him that your child is taking acetazolamide before he prescribes any other medications.