



## MEDICINE TO TREAT: SKELETAL MUSCLE STIFFNESS AND RIGIDITY

Baclofen

### 1. What is the medicine used for?

Baclofen is a skeletal muscle relaxant. It is used to improve the symptoms of muscle stiffness and rigidity due to injuries to your spinal cord. It also helps to ease your pain and improve your movements.

### 2. How should I take the medicine?

- Do not stop taking your medicines without checking with your doctors.
- If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, take only the usual dose. Do not double your dose or use extra medicine to make up for the missed dose.
- Follow the dose given by your doctor. The doctor will decide on the amount of medicine to give you based on your condition.
- Baclofen is usually taken three times a day after food. You may only get better 3-4 days after taking baclofen.

### 3. What are the possible side effects of the medicine?

This medicine may cause drowsiness and affect your consciousness and judgement. Therefore, it is recommended that you do not drive or operate machines. Other common side-effects include insomnia, unclear speech and muscle weakness.

### 4. How do I know if I am allergic to this medicine?

The symptoms of a drug allergy include one or more of the following:

- Swollen face/eyes/lips
- Difficulty in breathing
- Itchy skin rashes over your whole body

If you experience any of these symptoms, you should stop your medicine immediately and see your doctor.

## **5. What precautions should I follow when taking the medicine?**

Inform your doctor if you are already taking some other medicines, herbal preparations, nutritional products or vitamin supplements.

You must tell your doctor if you are allergic to any other medicines, or if you develop an allergy while taking this medicine.

Inform your doctor if you are breast-feeding, pregnant or likely to become pregnant when you take this medicine.

## **6. How should I store the medicine?**

- Keep your medicines in the original container or packaging, tightly closed or sealed in a cool and dry place, away from direct sunlight.
- Keep the medicine out of reach of children.
- Throw away all expired medicines

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