



Bromocriptine

1. What is the medicine used for?

Bromocriptine may be used to treat one of the following conditions:

- Decreasing milk production after childbirth
- Parkinson's disease

2. How should I take the medicine?

- Do not stop taking your medicine without checking with your doctors.
- If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If more than 4 hours have passed, skip the missed dose and take only the usual dose at the next time. Do not double your dose or use extra medicine to make up for the missed dose.
- You can take bromocriptine with food or milk if you experience stomach discomfort. You can take it at bedtime to reduce the nausea if you experience it.
- You may need to take bromocriptine for weeks before you get the full benefits of the medicine. Do not stop the medicine even if you feel that it is not working.

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

- Nausea, constipation, loss of appetite, dry mouth
- Low blood pressure which can cause dizziness, light-headedness or fainting when you get up from a sitting, lying or squatting position
- Worsening of tingling or pain in fingers and toes when you are exposed to cold
- Depression
- Confusion, hallucination
- Leg cramps and uncontrolled movements of the body (including face, tongue, arms, hands, head and upper body)
- Congestion of the nose

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?

Bromocriptine may cause you to feel drowsy and dizzy. If you are affected, do not drive or operate any machines.

Dizziness is more likely when you first start on the medicine. You can take the first dose at bedtime to decrease dizziness. You can also decrease your chance of being dizzy by getting up slowly from a sitting, lying or squatting position.

Taking bromocriptine with alcohol may cause blurred vision, chest pain, confusion and palpitations. Avoid taking alcohol when you are taking bromocriptine.

Check with your doctor before you take bromocriptine with other medicines as bromocriptine interacts with other medicines.

Do not stop taking bromocriptine suddenly as this may cause unwanted effects.

Pregnancy: Female patients who are not planning to be pregnant should use non-hormonal methods to prevent pregnancy. Hormonal medicines used to prevent pregnancy might decrease the effectiveness of bromocriptine. Tell your doctor immediately if you think you are pregnant. You should discuss with your doctor to check if bromocriptine should be continued during pregnancy.

Breast-feeding: Bromocriptine stops the production of milk. However, if you still continue to produce milk, you should not breast-feed your child.

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