

Esomeprazole Tablet (es-oh-MEH-pra-zole)

What is this medication used for

Esomeprazole is used for the relief of heartburn symptoms associated with stomach acid reflux. Esomeprazole belongs to a group of medicines called 'proton pump inhibitors (PPIs)'. Esomeprazole works by reducing the amount of acid produced in your stomach.

How to use this medication

Adults 18 years old and above

One tablet (20mg) to be taken once daily for up to 14 days. It is best taken 1 hour before a meal. The tablets should be swallowed whole with liquid. The tablets should not be crushed or chewed.

Before you use this medication

Medical advice should be sought before use if you experience any of the following: heartburn for over 3 months; chest pain or shoulder pain with shortness of breath; sweating, pain spreading to arms, neck of shoulders or light-headedness; frequent wheezing, particularly with heartburn; unexplained weight loss; recurrent nausea or vomiting; stomach pain; pain when swallowing; vomiting with blood; bloody or black tarry stools.

This medicine should be avoided if you have a known history of hypersensitivity (allergy) to esomeprazole or any other constituents of the formulation.

There is limited data on the use of esomeprazole during pregnancy. It is not known whether esomeprazole is excreted in human breast milk. Please seek your doctor's advice before using this medication if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Interactions with other medications

Inform your doctor and/or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or plan to take other medications, nutritional supplements or herbal products.

Concurrent use of esomeprazole and some medicines may interfere with each other. Be sure to mention any of the following: antibiotics (e.g. rifampicin, clarithromycin); anti-viral medication (e.g. atazanavir, nelfinavir); blood-thinning medication (e.g. warfarin, clopidogrel); oral antifungal or anti-yeast medication (e.g. itraconazole, ketoconazole); anti-anxiety medication (e.g. diazepam); heart medication (e.g. digoxin); immune system medication (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporine, methotrexate); anti-epilepsy medication (e.g. phenytoin) and complementary medicines (e.g. St. John's Wort).

Side effects

Common side effects: headache, flatulence, indigestion, nausea, abdominal pain.

Less common side effects: diarrhoea, dry mouth, dizziness, constipation, drowsiness, itchiness of the skin. Dizziness and visual disturbances may occur. If affected, please do not drive or operate machines.

When to seek further medical advice

Inform your doctor and/or pharmacist immediately if you experience any allergic symptoms or symptoms of serious side effects such as: swelling of eyes, lips, mouth, tongue or throat, skin itchiness and rashes; swelling, blistering or peeling of the skin, difficulty in breathing or swallowing, sudden and severe stomach pain, recurrent diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting, unusual bleeding or bruising, frequent fever, chills, sore throat and muscle ache, yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes or dark brown urine.

Consult a doctor if heartburn does not improve, continue or worsen or if more than one course of treatment is taken every 4 months.

How should this medication be kept

Keep out of reach and sight from children.

Keep this medicine in the original package until use.

Store in a cool dry place. Do not store above 30°C. Avoid direct exposure to sunlight.



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