

What is this medicine for?

Carbamazepine is used to control some types of seizures (fits) in the treatment of epilepsy.

It can also be used as a mood stabilizer in reducing the severity of mood swings in Bipolar Disorder, and to relieve symptoms of trigeminal neuralgia (facial nerve pain).

Carbamazepine may also be used for other conditions, check with your doctor.

Before using this medicine:

Tell your doctor if you have or have ever had liver or kidney disease; heart problems or blood disorders; glaucoma; or any drug allergies.

FOR WOMEN: Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding.

How to use this medicine?

Follow the directions on your medicine label and take the medicine exactly as directed. Do not take more or less of it or take it more often than prescribed by your doctor.

Continue to take this medicine regularly as prescribed even if you feel well. Do not stop taking it without talking to your doctor, otherwise your condition may worsen very quickly.

If you are taking the extended release tablet, swallow the tablet whole, do not crush or chew. Take with food or a large amount of water to reduce stomach upset.

Precautions while taking this medicine:

- This medicine may make you drowsy or less alert. Do not drive or operate machinery if affected. Avoid alcoholic drinks.
- Carbamazepine may decrease the effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives (birth control pills, patches, rings, injections, implants, or intrauterine devices). Use another form of birth control (such as condom, diaphragm or coil) while taking carbamazepine.
- Avoid eating grapefruit or drinking grapefruit juice while you are on carbamazepine.
- When you take this medicine with some other medicines, it may affect how they work. Be sure that you tell all doctors, pharmacists, dentists and other health care providers who treat you about all medicines and natural remedies you are taking.

What should I do if I forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember it. However, if it is more than half way between the doses, skip the missed dose and take your medicine at the usual time.

Do not take two or more doses at the same time to make up for a missed one.

Possible Side Effects

Like all medications, this medication may also cause some POSSIBLE side effects in some people. Everyone responds differently to medications; so not everyone experiences any or all of them.

COMMON (Generally affect up to 10% of patients)

Most of these side effects below will get better or go away completely with continued medication taking as your body gets used to this medication. Contact your doctor or pharmacist should they become too bothersome to you.

- ~ Dizziness or light-headedness
- ~ Drowsiness
- ~ Nausea, vomiting or stomach upset
- ~ Headache, back pain
- ~ Clumsiness or unsteadiness
- ~ Diarrhoea or constipation
- ~ Dry mouth

FOR URGENT ATTENTION

Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you have any of the following:

- ~ Allergic reaction: Skin rash or itching, difficulty breathing, or swelling in the face, lips or other parts of the body
 - ~ Blistering, peeling, red skin rash
 - ~ Fever, chills, sore throat, mouth ulcers or sores, unusual bruising or bleeding
 - ~ Chest pain, fast, pounding or irregular heartbeat
 - ~ Change in how much or how often you urinate
 - ~ Dark coloured urine or pale stools
 - ~ Yellowing of eyes or skin
 - ~ Blurred or double vision
- Confusion & Thoughts about harming or killing yourself

If you have any concerns about your medications or if you have other side effects that you think are caused by this medicine, please consult with your doctor or pharmacist.

Where should I store the medicine?

Store this medicine at room temperature, away from direct light, heat and moisture (not in the bathroom) and out of reach of children.

Throw away any medication that is expired or no longer needed.

Do not share the medicine with other people.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for more information or if you have any questions.



Patient Information Leaflet on

CARBAMAZEPINE

Institute of Mental Health

Pharmacy Department
10 Buangkok View
Singapore 539747

For medication enquiries: (during office hours)

IMH Clinic B/ Sayang Wellness Pharmacy: 63892077

IMH Clinic C (NAMS) Pharmacy: 63893666

Community Wellness Centre Pharmacy: 64715797

Geylang Behavioural Medicine Pharmacy: 67461724

Child Guidance Clinic (HPB) Pharmacy: 64353807

Child Guidance (Sunrise Wing) Pharmacy: 63892410

Email: enquiry@imh.com.sg

06/12

