



MEDICINE TO TREAT: GLAUCOMA

Timolol Eyedrop
Pilocarpine Eyedrop

1. What are these medicines for?

These medicines are used to treat glaucoma. Glaucoma is an eye condition where the pressure in the eye is increased. Untreated glaucoma can affect your eyesight and cause blindness. These medicines help to reduce the pressure in your eye.

2. How should I use the medicines?

- Do not stop using 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.
- Proper use of eye drops
 - Wash your hands with soap and water and read the instructions on the label
 - Shake the bottle before using
 - Tilt your head backwards and look up
 - Gently pull the lower eyelid down to form a pocket and squeeze the bottle to apply one drop into your eye. To prevent the tip of the bottle from getting dirty, make sure that the tip does not touch the eye or any other surface.
 - Keep your eyes closed and press down gently on the inner corner of your eye for 1 to 2 minutes to allow the medicine to be absorbed.
 - If you need to use more than 1 drop of medicine, or if you are using another type of eyedrop, wait at least 5-10minutes before applying the next eyedrop. This is to prevent the first drop of medicine from being washed away by the second drop of medicine before it has time to work. This also prevents any medicine interactions between different eyedrops.
 - If your doctor prescribed both eye drops and eye ointments for you to use, you should use the eyedrops first.

- If you are wearing contact lenses and your eyedrops contain benzalkonium chloride (a preservative), you should wait at least 15 minutes before inserting your contact lenses.

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

Timolol Eyedrops

- Burning or stinging feeling when you use the eyedrop
- Tearing of your eyes
- Increased sensitivity of the eye to light
- Cold fingers and toes
- Tiredness, headache and dizziness

Pilocarpine Eyedrops

- Blurred vision when you use the eyedrop
- Burning or stinging feeling when you use the eyedrop
- Tearing of your eyes, aching feeling around the brow area
- Headache
- Increased sensitivity of the eye to light
- Increased urination.

If you experience increased sensitivity of your eye to light, you can try wearing sunglasses to reduce the eye discomfort.

If you experience blurred vision, you should avoid driving or doing things in places with poor lighting.

If these side effects happen and do not go away, check with your doctor as soon as possible.

You should see a doctor immediately if any of the following side effects happen:

- Rash or redness around the eyes
- Redness or swelling of the layer covering the white part of the eye

4. How do I know if I am allergic to these medicines?

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 medicines?

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

6. How should I store the medicines?

- 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.
- Eyedrops should not be used more than 4 weeks after opening. Write down the date that you opened the bottle on the medicine label so that you will know when to throw it away.

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