

PATIENT INFORMATION

Levetiracetam Actavis

For treatment of epilepsy



Important information!

Contact your doctor, pharmacy staff or nurse before taking Levetiracetam Actavis if you:

- have any symptoms of aggression, depression and/or suicidal thoughts
- suffer from kidney problems

Contact your doctor if you notice the seizures becoming more serious (e.g. increasing in number).
For more information, see the patient information leaflet inside the package.

How to use Levetiracetam Actavis

Always take Levetiracetam Actavis as instructed by your doctor. If you are not sure, you must seek the advice of your doctor or staff at your pharmacy. Treatment normally begins with a low dose, which is then increased gradually. It may take a while to find the dose that is best for you. The tablets must be taken whole at the same time(s) of the day. Levetiracetam Actavis can be taken with or without food. Swallow Levetiracetam Actavis tablets with a sufficient quantity of water (e.g. a glass of water).

Always take the whole dose prescribed by your doctor. Never take just a part of a tablet.



How long should the treatment continue?

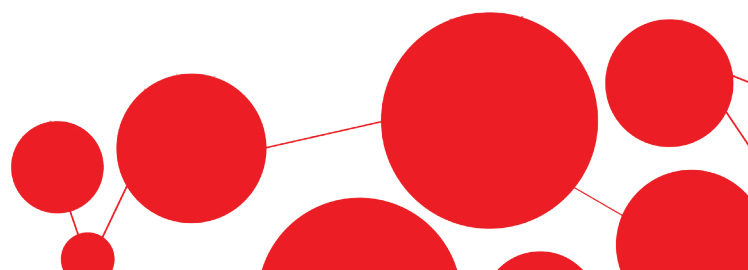
Your doctor will decide together with you how long your treatment should continue. It is important that you do not stop your treatment without contacting your doctor. An abrupt stop to treatment with Levetiracetam Actavis may lead to a risk of an increase in the number of seizures. If, for any reason, your treatment is stopped, the dose should be reduced gradually as indicated on the prescription that you receive from your doctor.

What should I do if I have taken too much Levetiracetam Actavis?

Possible side effects when overdosing on Levetiracetam Actavis are sleepiness, agitation, aggression and reduced alertness. Contact your doctor if you have taken more tablets than you should have.

What should I do if I forget to take my medicine?

Contact your doctor if you have missed one or more doses. Do not take a double dose to compensate for a forgotten tablet.





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What are the most common side effects?

Like all medications, this medication may cause side effects, but not all people taking it will necessarily suffer from them. Side effects which are "very common" and occur in more than 1 in 10 patients are inflammation of the nose and/or throat, sleepiness and headache. Some of the side effects, such as sleepiness, fatigue and dizziness, may be more common at the start of treatment or when the dose is increased. However, the side effects should reduce over time.

More information on side effects can be found in the patient information leaflet inside the package.

Can I take other medicines?

There are rarely problems with combining Levetiracetam Actavis with other medications, but even so it is important for you to inform your doctor of what the medicines you are taking. This includes over-the-counter medications and natural remedies.

Can I drive?

Levetiracetam Actavis may impair your ability to drive a car or operate tools or machinery as this medication may make you sleepy. This is more likely at the start of treatment or after increasing the dose. You should not drive a car or operate machinery before you know whether your ability is affected. However, remember that when you have epilepsy, you are only allowed to drive a car when you have gone one full year with no seizures.



Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Major studies have shown no effect on the foetus, but always seek the advice of your doctor, as an effect on the foetus cannot be ruled out entirely. If you fall pregnant, do not stop the treatment without first seeking the advice of your doctor.

The level of Levetiracetam Actavis in the blood may change during pregnancy, particularly towards the end of the pregnancy. Your doctor will therefore need to take regular blood samples in order to check your Levetiracetam Actavis level so that your dose can be altered if necessary.

Levetiracetam is excreted in breast milk, so discuss the risks and advantages of breastfeeding with your doctor.





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Can I drink alcohol?

There are no particular restrictions concerning alcohol intake, beyond a general recommendation to be wary of excessive alcohol intake, particularly if you suffer from epilepsy.



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