

# CHLORPROMAZINE

Other name: Largactil®



**Important note:** The following information is intended to add to, not replace, the knowledge and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

## How does chlorpromazine work?

Chlorpromazine is an antipsychotic medication that can calm you and reduce unpleasant thoughts and voices in your head.

## Why you are taking this medicine?

Chlorpromazine can also be used to treat the following conditions:

- migraine
- nausea and vomiting
- persistent hiccups

## When to take this medicine

Take chlorpromazine regularly or as your doctor directs. Do not take antacids (e.g. Mylanta) within 2 hours of the dose.

**DO NOT STOP** taking it without your doctor's permission.

## If you miss a dose

Take your dose as soon as possible except when it is close to the time for your next dose. If it is almost time for next dose, skip the missed dose and return to your regular dosing schedule. You should not take two doses at the same time.

## Side effects

Unfortunately as well as having good effects, most medicines have some effects on your body that are unwanted. These are called *side effects*.

Call your doctor **immediately** if you have any of these side effects:

- blurred vision
- difficulty in passing urine
- skin rash, severe itching
- difficulty breathing
- confusion
- yellowing of the eyes and skin
- swelling of the ankles and legs
- fast heart beat

- a sense of being rigid or stiff in the body
- sore throat or fever

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have these side effects:

- become sensitive to the sun
- constipation
- drowsiness
- nightmares or difficulty sleeping
- dry eyes or mouth
- decreased sexual activity
- change of body temperature

The list of side effects is **not** complete. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of these side effects are of a concern to you.

The sedative effects of chlorpromazine are most marked in the first few days of treatment; affected patients should not drive or operate machinery.

### **Other medication**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicine including herbal or complementary products and medicines you can buy without a prescription.

Chlorpromazine may have additive effects (e.g. drowsiness) when used with other medication, such as:

- hypnotics e.g. sleeping tablets
- anxiolytics (reduce anxiety) e.g. oxazepam
- alcohol (take alcohol in moderation)
- opioids e.g. morphine

Other additive effects include:

- tricyclic antidepressants e.g. amitriptyline, nortriptyline – dry eyes/mouth

Chlorpromazine can interfere with medications used to treat Parkinson's disease e.g. levodopa, pergolide, ropinirole.

This list of interactions is not complete.

### **Storage**

Keep all medicines out of the reach of children.

**Read this leaflet and discuss any questions you have about your medicines with your doctor or pharmacist.**