

DIPYRIDAMOLE

Other names: Persantin 25mg®, Pytazen SR 150mg®



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 dipyridamole work?

Dipyridamole belongs to a group of medicines known as anti-platelet medicines. The platelets stick together to form a clump which can block the heart or brain's blood vessels, especially if the blood vessels have narrowed. To prevent this happening, dipyridamole inhibits the platelets sticking together and allow for a regular and plentiful blood supply to areas of the body.

Why you are taking this medicine?

Dipyridamole can be used for the following conditions:

- to prevent strokes
- to prevent transient ischaemic attacks (TIAs; attacks in which blood vessels in the brain become narrow, temporarily cutting off the blood supply)
- to prevent clots associated with mechanical heart valves

When to take this medicine

Pytazen SR 150mg® is a slow release preparation. Take this twice a day. It should be swallowed whole with half a glass of water. It must not be chewed or crushed.

Persantin 25mg® should be taken 30 to 60 minutes before food usually three or four times a day.

DO NOT STOP taking dipyridamole without your doctor's permission.

If you miss a dose

Take the dose as soon as possible except when it is close to the time for your next dose. If it is almost time for the 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:

- wheezing or shortness of breath
- skin rash
- headache (usually throbbing effect)
- muscle or joint pain
- flushing (redness) in the face, or feeling warm
- chest pain or fast or uneven heart beat
- signs of bleeding

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

- dizziness
- faintness (getting up slowly from a sitting or lying position should help)
- light-headedness
- stomach upsets (e.g. nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea)
- rash or itchy skin

If stomach discomfort occurs you can take dipyridamole with a glass of milk.

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

Other medicines

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.

Before you have surgery of any kind tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking dipyridamole.

Storage

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

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