

GLYCERYL TRINITRATE

Other names: Glytrin Spray®, Nitrolingual Pumpspray®, Lycinat®, Minitran®, Nitroderm TTS®, Percutol®



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.

Why you are taking this medicine?

This belongs to the group of medicines known as nitrates.

The nitrates dilate blood vessels; this allows more oxygen to reach the heart. This prevents attacks of angina (chest pain).

When to take this medicine

Glyceryl trinitrate is available in sublingual (under the tongue) tablets, aerosol spray and patches.

Glyceryl trinitrate can be used to treat an angina attack (chest pain) or can be taken before exercise or exertion to help prevent an attack.

- Your doctor will tell you when and how often you should take your medicine.
- Always read the consumers' information leaflet, if possible, before beginning treatment.
- Do not stop using this medicine without consulting your doctor.
- Sit down when using sublingual tablets or spray.
- **Sublingual Tablets:** One tablet should be placed under the tongue and allowed to dissolve when required for chest pain.
- **Aerosol or Pumpspray:** Before using the aerosol or pumpspray for the first time or if it has not been used for some time, push the nozzle down once or twice to prime the pump and to obtain a regular spray.

Spray once or twice under your tongue.

Close your mouth immediately after each spray - do not inhale the spray.

If the angina (chest pain) continues, you can repeat the dose safely at five minute intervals. **If the angina (chest pain) dose not go away after two doses in 10 minutes call an ambulance (dial 111).** Do not shake before using the aerosol spray (Glytrin).

- **Patches:** The patches should be applied to the chest area daily (16-18 hours) and removed at night. Apply to a different area of the skin each day.

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
- dizziness
- fast or fluttering heartbeat
- trouble breathing
- muscle weakness

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of these side effects are of a concern to you:

- headache
- hot flushes
- nausea
- redness or itch at the patch site

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

Other Medication

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

- Sildenafil (Viagra, Avigra, Silvasta) and tadalafil (Cialis) should not be taken with this medicine, as this combination can produce a significant drop in blood pressure resulting in dizziness, fainting, or even a heart attack.
- Alcohol can make the dizziness worse. Limit your alcohol intake.

Storage

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

The sublingual tablets should be kept in the container they came in and should be returned to your local pharmacy for destruction **8 weeks** after opening. An active tablet produces a slight burning sensation when placed under the tongue; if this does not happen obtain a new supply of tablets.

Store the spray in a cool place away from direct heat or sunlight i.e. below 30°C.
Do not use the spray near an open flame.

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