

# PERHEXILINE

Other name: Pexsig®



**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 are you taking this medicine?

Perhexiline belongs to a group of medicines called anti-anginal agents. It works by improving the efficiency of the heart.

Perhexiline is used to reduce the frequency of moderate to severe attacks of angina pectoris (chest pain caused by heart disease) in patients who have not responded to other therapy or when other therapy cannot be used.

## When to take this medicine

Perhexiline should be taken regularly as your doctor directs. It should be swallowed whole with a glass of water.

**DO NOT STOP** taking it without your doctor's permission. Stopping it suddenly can bring on angina.

Sometimes a blood test may be required to measure the blood level of perhexiline to make sure there is enough perhexiline in your blood. The doctors may also want to keep an eye on your liver function by doing blood tests.

## 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*.

Perhexiline may make you dizzy or unsteady on your feet. If this happens, do not drive or use tools or machinery.

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

- muscle weakness/difficulty in walking
- loss of appetite
- weight loss
- dizziness or a drunken feeling
- tingling, numbness and sudden colour changes in the hands or feet
- rash
- tremors
- impaired vision

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

- dizziness, tiredness or nervousness
- nausea and vomiting
- headache
- flushing of the face and sweating
- inability to sleep
- changes in sexual drive

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

Caution:

- If you are diabetic perhexiline can lower your blood sugar levels
- Some antidepressants (e.g. citalopram, fluoxetine, paroxetine) can increase the amount of perhexiline in the body. Be extra mindful of the potential side effects of perhexiline if you are on antidepressants.

### **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.**