

MOXONIDINE GX

moxonidine

CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION (CMI)

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about MOXONIDINE GX.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking MOXONIDINE GX against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medication.

You may want to read it again.

What MOXONIDINE GX is used for

The name of your medicine is MOXONIDINE GX, which is also known as moxonidine.

MOXONIDINE GX lowers high blood pressure, which doctors call hypertension.

There are usually no symptoms of hypertension. The only way of knowing if you have hypertension is to have your blood pressure checked regularly. If high blood pressure is not treated it can lead to serious health problems, including stroke, heart disease and kidney failure.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why it has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed MOXONIDINE GX for another use.

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

This medicine is not addictive.

Before you take MOXONIDINE GX

When you must not take it

Do not take MOXONIDINE GX if you have an allergy to:

- any medicine containing moxonidine
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

Some symptoms of an allergic reaction include skin rash, itching, shortness of breath or swelling of the face, lips or tongue, which may cause difficulty breathing.

Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant or think you may be pregnant.

Do not give MOXONIDINE GX to a child under the age of 16 years.

Safety and effectiveness in children younger than 16 years have not been established.

Do not take MOXONIDINE GX if you:

- are aged 75 years or more
- have heart problems such as heart failure or abnormal rhythm
- have severe kidney disease

Do not take it after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack or if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If it has expired or is damaged return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

Before you start to take it

Tell your doctor if you have any allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you have, or have had, any of the following medical conditions:

- kidney problems
- heart problems
- angio-oedema, which is unusual swelling of the face, lips or tongue
- leg pains or cramps caused by poor blood circulation
- Raynaud's disease, where your fingers go pale and blue and are painful in the cold
- Parkinson's disease, a disease of the nerves which causes uncontrolled shaking and stiffness
- epilepsy
- glaucoma, a disease of increased pressure in the eye
- depression

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are pregnant, intend to become pregnant, or are breastfeeding

Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you take MOXONIDINE GX.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are already taking medicines to lower your blood pressure.

These medicines can have an combined effect when used with MOXONIDINE GX to reduce blood pressure and your doctor may need to adjust the dose you have to take.

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines may affect the way other medicines work. These include:

- some medicines used to treat depression called "tricyclic" medicines (such as imipramine and amitriptyline)
- sleeping tablets or other medicines which make you feel drowsy

These medicines may be affected by MOXONIDINE GX, or may affect how well it works. You may need to use different amounts of your medicine, or take different medicines.

Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or to avoid while taking MOXONIDINE GX.

How to take MOXONIDINE GX

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the box, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How much to take

Your doctor or pharmacist will tell you how many tablets to take each day.

The usual starting dose of MOXONIDINE GX is one 0.2 mg (200 microgram) tablet once per day.

Depending on how your blood pressure responds your dosage may be increased by your doctor to 0.4 mg (400 micrograms) after 2 weeks. After a further 2 weeks your doctor may increase your dosage to 0.6 mg per day (600 micrograms). You should not take 0.6 mg as one dose, it should be taken as a divided dose.

Ask your doctor how to divide your daily dose.

How to take it

Swallow the tablets whole with a full glass of water or another liquid.

Do not chew the tablets.

When to take it

Take MOXONIDINE GX at about the same time each day.

Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

It does not matter if you take this medicine with or without food.

How long to take it

Continue taking your medicine for as long as your doctor tells you.

The medicine helps control your condition, but it does not cure it. It is important to keep taking your medicine even if you feel well.

If you forget to take it

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.

If there is still a long time to go before your next dose, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

Do not take two doses within 6 hours of each other. Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

This may increase the chance of getting an unwanted side effect.

If you have trouble remembering when to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for advice.

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor, or the Poisons Information Centre (13 11 26), or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much MOXONIDINE GX. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You may need urgent medical attention.

If possible, show the doctor the pack of tablets.

While you are using MOXONIDINE GX

Things you must do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking MOXONIDINE GX.

Tell any other doctors, dentists and pharmacists who treat you that you are taking this medicine.

If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon that you are taking this medicine.

If you become pregnant while you are taking this medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist immediately.

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine.

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.

Make sure you drink enough water during exercise and hot weather when you are taking MOXONIDINE GX, especially if you sweat a lot.

If you do not drink enough water while taking MOXONIDINE GX, you may faint or feel light-headed or sick. This is because your body does not have enough fluid and your blood pressure is too low.

Tell your doctor if you have excessive vomiting and/or diarrhoea while taking MOXONIDINE GX.

This can also mean that you are losing too much water and your blood pressure may become too low.

Things you must not do

Do not use this medicine to treat any other complaints unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you to.

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not stop taking MOXONIDINE GX, or change the dosage, without checking with your doctor.

Things to be careful of

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how MOXONIDINE GX affects you.

MOXONIDINE GX may cause drowsiness, dizziness or light-headedness in some people. If you have any of these symptoms, do not drive, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous.

You should avoid drinking alcohol when taking MOXONIDINE GX.

The effect of taking alcohol with MOXONIDINE GX has not been studied. Ask your doctor for advice.

If you feel light-headed, dizzy or faint when getting out of bed or standing up, get up slowly.

Standing up slowly, especially when you get up from bed or chairs, will help your body get used to the change in position and blood pressure. If this problem continues or gets worse, talk to your doctor.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking MOXONIDINE GX.

It helps most people with high blood pressure, but it may have unwanted side effects in a few people. All medicines have some unwanted side effects. Sometimes they are serious, but most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side-effects.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- dry mouth
- headache
- lack of energy
- dizziness
- drowsiness
- feeling sick, nausea
- problems sleeping
- skin flushing

The above list includes the more common side effects of your medicine. They are usually mild and short-lived.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

- severe allergic skin reactions (rash, itching, inflamed or reddened skin)
- swelling of the limbs

The above list includes serious side effects that may require medical attention. Serious side effects are rare.

If any of the following happen, tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital:

- **angio-oedema (unusual swelling of the face, eyes, lips, inside the nose, mouth or throat)**
- **shortness of breath, breathing or swallowing difficulties.**

The above list includes very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention. These side effects are rare.

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed above may occur in some consumers.

After using MOXONIDINE GX

Storage

Keep your tablets in the original pack until it is time to take them.

If you take the tablets out of the box they may not keep well.

Keep the medicine in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store it in the bathroom, near the sink, or on a window sill. Do not leave it in the car.

Heat and damp can destroy some medicines.

Keep it where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine, or the medicine has passed its expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any that are left over.

Return any unused medicine to your pharmacist.

Product description

What it looks like

MOXONIDINE GX 0.2 mg (200 micrograms) tablets - Pale pink, round, biconvex, film-coated tablet, imprinted 0.2 on one side. Packs of 30 tablets.

MOXONIDINE GX 0.4 mg (400 micrograms) tablets - Dull red, round, biconvex, film-coated tablet, imprinted 0.4 on one side. Packs of 30 tablets.

Ingredients

MOXONIDINE GX contains either 0.2 mg (200 micrograms) or 0.4 mg (400 micrograms) of moxonidine as the active ingredient.

It also contains:

- lactose monohydrate
- povidone
- crospovidone
- magnesium stearate
- hypromellose
- ethylcellulose
- macrogol 6000
- purified talc
- red ferric oxide or titanium dioxide

MOXONIDINE GX tablets do not contain tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Supplier

MOXONIDINE GX is made in Germany.

MOXONIDINE GX is supplied in Australia by:

Mylan Health Pty Ltd

Level 1, 30 The Bond

30-34 Hickson Road

Millers Point NSW 2000

Australia

www.mylan.com.au

Phone: 1800 314 527

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0.4 mg tablets: AUST R 287647

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