

PERIACTIN

Cyproheptadine hydrochloride (as sesquihydrate)

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about PERIACTIN. 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 PERIACTIN 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 medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What PERIACTIN is used for

This medicine is used to:

- Treat allergies and pruritus
- Relieve migraines and vascular types of headaches.

This medicine belongs to a group of medicines called antihistamines. It works by acting in competition with serotonin and histamine at receptor sites.

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

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

There is not enough information to recommend the use of this medicine for children under the age of 2 years.

Before you take PERIACTIN

When you must not take it

Do not take PERIACTIN if you have an allergy to:

- any medicine containing cyproheptadine
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- any other similar medicines

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- shortness of breath
- wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- rash, itching or hives on the skin

Do not breast-feed if you are taking this medicine.

The active ingredient in PERIACTIN may pass into breast milk and there is a possibility that your baby may be affected.

Do not give this medicine to a child under the age of 2 years.

Safety and effectiveness in children younger than 2 years have not been established.

Do not give this drug to newborn or premature infants.

Use in infants has been associated with apnoea, cyanosis, and respiratory difficulty. This drug should not be used in newborn or premature infants.

Do not take this medicine if you are diagnosed with:

- angle-closure glaucoma
- stenosing peptic ulcer
- symptomatic prostatic hyper trophy
- bladder neck obstruction

- pyloroduodenal obstruction

Do not take this medicine if you are:

- suffering an acute asthmatic attack
- elderly or debilitated
- undertaking monoamine oxidase inhibitor therapy

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date 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.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to take it

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

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

- lower respiratory tract symptoms including those of acute asthma
- blood dyscrasias
- bronchial asthma
- hyperthyroidism
- cardiovascular disease
- hypertension

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding.

Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start taking PERIACTIN.

Taking other medicines

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

Some medicines and PERIACTIN may interfere with each other. These include:

- Monoamine oxidase inhibitors used to treat depression such as phenelzine and tranlycypromine
- Central nervous system depressants used to treat anxiety, panic and sleep disorders such as hypnotics, sedatives, tranquilisers and anti-depressant drugs

These medicines may be affected by PERIACTIN or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

How to take PERIACTIN

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 may adjust the dose according to your response.

Allergies and pruritus

Adults: Take 1 tablet, 3 times a day, as required. Do not take more than 8 tablets in 24 hours.

Children (7 - 14 years): Take 1 tablet, 3 times a day as required. Do not take more than 4 tablets in 24 hours.

Children (2 - 6 years): Give half tablet, two to three times a day. Do not give more than 3 tablets in 24 hours.

Migraine and vascular types of headaches

Adults: Take 1 tablet initially. If required, take a second tablet after 30 minutes. Do not take more than 2 tablets every 4-6 hours.

How to take it

Swallow the tablets whole with a full glass of water.

How long to take it

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

If you forget to take it

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

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

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you take too much (overdose)

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

You may need urgent medical attention.

Symptoms of an overdose may vary from central nervous system depression or stimulation to convulsions respiratory and cardiac arrest, and death especially in infants and children. Also, atropine-like signs and symptoms (dry mouth; fixed, dilated pupils; flushing, etc.) as well as gastrointestinal symptoms may occur.

While you are using PERIACTIN

Things you must do

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

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 or anaesthetist that you are taking this medicine.

It may affect other medicines used during surgery.

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

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

It may interfere with the results of some tests.

Things you must not do

Do not take PERIACTIN to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

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

Things to be careful of

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

This medicine may cause drowsiness in some people. If you have any of these symptoms, do not drive, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous. Drowsiness may continue the following day. Children should be careful when riding bicycles or climbing tree.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are taking this medicine.

PERIACTIN may increase the effects of alcohol. Alcohol should be avoided whilst using this medicine.

Side effects

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

This medicine helps most people with allergies, pruritus, migraines and vascular types of headaches, but it may have unwanted side effects in a few people. All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

If you are over 65 years of age you may have an increased chance of getting side effects.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects. You may not experience any of them.

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

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

- Skin rash, excessive perspiration or photosensitivity
- Sedation, sleepiness, dizziness, confusion
- Restlessness, excitement, insomnia, irritability or aggressive behaviour
- Dryness of nose, mouth and throat
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea or constipation

The above list includes the more common side effects of your medicine.

Drowsiness and somnolence symptoms are usually mild and short-lived. Many patients do not experience these symptoms after the first three - four days of continuous administration.

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

- urinary retention issues
- jaundice
- blurred vision

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

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

- anaphylactic shock

- convulsions
- hallucinations
- issues breathing
- increased or unusual heartrate, such as palpitations

The above list includes very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

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

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

After using PERIACTIN

Storage

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

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

Keep your tablets in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.

Do not store PERIACTIN or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car.

Heat and dampness 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 expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.

Product description

What it looks like

White, flat circular bevel edged tablet. Marked 'P4' on one side, scored on the other.

Ingredients

PERIACTIN contains 4 mg of cyproheptadine hydrochloride as the active ingredient.

The tablets also contain the following inactive ingredients:

- maize starch
- pregelatinised maize starch
- calcium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate
- lactose monohydrate
- magnesium stearate

PERIACTIN contains lactose. This medicine does not contain sucrose, gluten, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Supplier

PERIACTIN is supplied in Australia by:

Mylan Health Pty Ltd
Level 1, 30 The Bond
30-34 Hickson Road
Millers Point NSW 2000
www.mylan.com.au
Phone: 1800 314 527

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