

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS

esomeprazole (as magnesium dihydrate)

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS. 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 ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS 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 Esomeprazole VIATRIS is used for

Reflux Oesophagitis

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is taken to treat reflux oesophagitis. This can be caused by "washing back" (reflux) of food and acid from the stomach into the food pipe (oesophagus).

Reflux can cause a burning sensation in the chest rising up to the throat, also known as heartburn.

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is also taken to help stop reflux oesophagitis coming back or relapsing.

Upper gastrointestinal symptoms associated with non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) therapy

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is taken to treat the symptoms of pain or discomfort, in the stomach caused by NSAIDs, a type of medicine for pain or inflammation.

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is also taken to help heal and prevent ulcers caused by NSAIDs.

Peptic Ulcers Associated with Helicobacter pylori Infection

Most people who have a peptic (gastric and duodenal) ulcer also have a bacterium called *Helicobacter pylori* in their stomach.

Depending on the position of the ulcer it is called a gastric or duodenal ulcer. A gastric ulcer occurs in the stomach. A duodenal ulcer occurs in the duodenum which is the tube leading out from the stomach.

If you have a peptic ulcer, your doctor will prescribe ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS with antibiotics. When ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS and antibiotics are taken together, they work to kill the bacterium and let your ulcer heal. You may need further treatment with antibiotics.

Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is also used to treat a rare condition called Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, where the stomach produces large amounts of acid, much more than in ulcers or reflux disease.

Bleeding Peptic Ulcers

When peptic ulcers become severe enough, they start to bleed. You may receive treatment injected into your veins initially. This treatment may be followed with ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS tablets or

granules prescribed by your doctor for a longer period of time. This is to help your ulcer/s to heal.

How Esomeprazole VIATRIS works

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is a type of medicine called a protonpump inhibitor. It works by decreasing the amount of acid made by the stomach, to give relief of symptoms and allow healing to take place. This does not stop food being digested in the normal way.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

Ask your doctor if you want more information.

Your doctor may have prescribed ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS for another reason.

There is no evidence that ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is addictive.

Before you take Esomeprazole VIATRIS

When you must not take it

Do not take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS if you have allergies to:

- esomeprazole or any ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- any medicines containing a proton-pump inhibitor.

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 take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS if you are also taking atazanavir or cilostazol.

Please check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking these medicines. These medicines will be affected by ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is not approved for use in children younger than 1 year of age.

There is no specific information about use in children younger than 1 year of age, so ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is not recommended in these patients.

Do not take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS after the use by (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.

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:

- any problems with your liver
- severe kidney problems
- any other medical conditions
- been diagnosed with osteoporosis

- if you have ever had a skin reaction after treatment with a medicine similar to ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS that reduces stomach acid

Do not take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS if you are pregnant or breastfeeding unless your doctor says so. Ask your doctor about the risks and benefits involved.

It is not known if it is safe for you to take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS while you are pregnant.

It may affect your baby.

It is not known if your baby can take in ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS from breast milk if you are breastfeeding.

Taking other medicines

Do not take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS if you are taking the following medicines:

- atazanavir and nelfinavir, a medicine used to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- cilostazol, a medicine used to treat intermittent claudication.

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 may interfere with ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS. These include:

- medicines used to treat fungal infections such as ketoconazole, itraconazole and voriconazole
- diazepam, a medicine used to treat anxiety and some other conditions
- phenytoin, a medicine used to treat epilepsy or fits
- medicines used to treat depression such as citalopram, clomipramine and imipramine
- St John's wort, a herbal remedy used to treat mood disorders
- medicines used to treat bacterial infections such as clarithromycin and rifampicin
- warfarin and clopidogrel, medicines used to prevent blood clots
- digoxin, a medicine used to treat heart conditions
- methotrexate, a medicine used to treat arthritis and some types of cancer
- tacrolimus and mycophenolate mofetil—a medicine used to assist in organ transplants
- erlotinib or related medicines used to treat cancer.

These medicines may be affected by ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS 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 can tell you what to do if you are taking any other medicines.

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

If you have not told your doctor about any of these things, tell them before you take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

How to take Esomeprazole VIATRIS

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, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

Children 1-11 years

Alternative preparations (oral suspensions) will be required for children in this age range.

How much to take

The dose of ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS tablets is usually 20 mg or 40 mg a day depending on what condition you are being treated for and how severe it is.

Swallow ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS tablets whole with a glass of water. Do not crush or chew the tablets.

If the tablets are chewed or crushed they will not work properly.

If you have difficulty swallowing the tablets:

1. Place the tablet in half a glass of non-carbonated water. Mineral water or other liquids are not suitable
2. Gently mix the tablet and water by stirring, taking care not to crush the tablet
3. Stir until the tablet dissolves into little pellets
4. Drink the liquid with the pellets immediately, or within 30 minutes. Do not chew the pellets
5. Rinse the glass with half a glass of water and drink.

If you cannot swallow at all, follow steps 1-3 above to disperse the tablets and administer the liquid and pellets through a gastric tube.

How to take it

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is available as tablets.

Take one ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS tablet each day, unless your doctor has told you otherwise.

When to take it

Take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS at about the same time each day.

Keeping a regular time for taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS will help to remind you to take it.

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS can be taken with food or on an empty stomach.

How long to take it

Keep taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS for as long as your doctor recommends.

In most patients, ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS relieves symptoms rapidly and healing is usually complete within 4 weeks.

Continue taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS for as long as your doctor tells you to.

If you forget to take it

If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

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

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

If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

If you take too much (overdose)

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 ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

While you are taking Esomeprazole VIATRIS

Things you must do

Take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS exactly as your doctor has prescribed.

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor, dentist or pharmacist that you are taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

Tell your doctor if you become pregnant while you are taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

Tell your doctor if your symptoms return.

Although ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS can heal ulcers successfully, it may not prevent them recurring at a later date.

If you need to have any medical tests while you are taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS, tell your doctor.

It may affect the results of some tests.

Things you must not do

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

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

Side effects

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

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.

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:

- nausea or vomiting
- constipation
- diarrhoea
- headache
- wind
- stomach pain
- skin rash, itchy skin
- dizziness
- dry mouth.

These side effects are usually mild.

Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following:

- blurred vision
- mood changes, confusion or depression
- muscle pain or weakness, joint pain
- increase in breast size (males)
- increased sweating
- changes in sleep patterns
- fever
- increased bruising
- "pins and needles"
- hair loss
- tremor
- blood in the urine
- skin reaction, especially in sun-exposed areas, with joint pain
- muscle twitching or jerking movements
- irregular (fast or slow) heartbeat
- loss of consciousness or awareness

These side effects may require medical attention.

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

- shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- severe skin reaction which may include rash, itching, redness, blistering or peeling of the skin
- signs of liver inflammation including yellowing of the skin or eyes, feeling generally unwell, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite.

These are very serious side effects.

You may need urgent medical treatment or hospitalisation.

Occasionally, ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS may be associated with changes in your liver or blood, which may require your doctor to do certain blood tests

Tell your doctor if you think you have any of these effects or notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Some people may get other side effects while taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

Other problems are more likely to arise from the condition itself rather than the treatment.

For this reason, contact your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following:

- pain or indigestion during treatment with ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS
- you begin to vomit blood or food
- you pass black (blood- stained) motions.

Tell your doctor if your reflux symptoms return after you stop taking ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS.

After taking Esomeprazole VIATRIS

Storage

Keep your ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS in the blister pack until it is time to take them.

If you take ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS out of the blister pack it will not keep well.

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

Do not store it or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink.

Do not leave it in the car or on a window sill.

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Keep it where young 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 ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS 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

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS 20 mg tablet: elliptically shaped, biconvex, light pink enteric coated tablet.

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS 40 mg tablet: elliptically shaped, biconvex, pink, enteric-coated tablet.

Ingredients

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS contains 20 mg or 40 mg base of esomeprazole (as magnesium dihydrate) as the active ingredient.

The tablets also contain the following inactive ingredients:

- methacrylic acid polymer
- purified talc
- triethyl citrate
- hypromellose
- sucrose
- maize starch
- magnesium stearate
- hydroxypropyl cellulose
- glyceryl monostearate
- polysorbate 80
- microcrystalline cellulose
- povidone
- macrogol 6000
- crospovidone
- sodium stearyl fumarate
- titanium dioxide
- macrogol 400
- iron oxide red
- iron oxide yellow

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS tablets are available in blister packs of 30 tablets.

Sponsor

ESOMEPRAZOLE VIATRIS is distributed in Australia by:

Alphapharm Pty Ltd trading as Viatris

Level 1, 30 The Bond

30-34 Hickson Rd

Millers Point NSW 2000

www.viatris.com.au

Phone: 1800 274 276

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