

CARPINE TABLET 200MG

Carbamazepine 200mg

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What CARPINE is used for

This medicine is used to control:

- epilepsy
- sudden, repeated attacks of facial pain
- mania, a mental condition

How CARPINE works

CARPINE contains the active ingredient, carbamazepine. Carbamazepine belongs to a group of medicines called anticonvulsants.

These medicines are thought to work by regulating chemicals in the brain so that seizures do not happen.

CARPINE also regulates other nerve functions in the body.

CARPINE may be used alone or in combination with other medicines to treat your condition.

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.

CARPINE is only available with a doctor's prescription.

Before you use CARPINE

- When you must not use it

Do not take CARPINE if you have an allergy to:

- carbamazepine (the active ingredient of CARPINE) or any of the other ingredients of CARPINE listed at the end of this leaflet
- any other medicine containing carbamazepine

Tell your doctor if you are allergic to oxcarbazepine or to phenytoin. These two medicines are also used to treat epilepsy. Some people who are allergic to oxcarbazepine or phenytoin are also allergic to CARPINE.

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 CARPINE if you are taking a medicine called a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) or have been taking it within the past 14 days.

Do not take CARPINE if you have, or have had, any of the following conditions:

- severe liver disease
- a disease of the blood with a reduced number of red or white blood cells or platelets
- an irregular heartbeat caused by a condition called A-V block
- systemic lupus erythematosus, also called SLE

If you are not sure whether any of the above conditions apply to you, ask your doctor.

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 use 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 medical conditions, especially the following:

- heart problems
- prostate problems
- liver or kidney problems
- a mental disorder such as depression

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you start taking CARPINE.

- 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 CARPINE may interfere with each other.

These include:

- MAOI medicines
- other medicines used to treat depression such as fluvoxamine, nefazodone, paroxetine
- other medicines used to treat seizures including phenytoin
- some medicines used to treat mental disorders such as clozapine, haloperidol, thioridazine, lithium, olanzapine, quetiapine, risperidone and ziprasidone
- some medicines used to treat heart problems
- warfarin, a medicine used to prevent blood clots
- some diuretics (diuretics are medicines that aid the elimination of sodium (salt) and water from the body).
- some antibiotics and antifungal medicines
- corticosteroids such as prednisolone and dexamethasone
- St John's wort
- antihistamines such as loratadine
- isoniazid, a medicine used to prevent and treat tuberculosis
- acetazolamide, a medicine used to reduce fluid retention and to treat glaucoma and some types of seizures
- medicines used to treat stomach or duodenal ulcers, such as cimetidine and omeprazole
- some medicines used to treat asthma, such as theophylline and aminophylline
- cyclosporin and everolimus
- some medicines used to treat cancer, such as cisplatin, doxorubicin and imatinib

- methadone, a medicine used to control severe pain and to treat heroin addiction
- metoclopramide, a medicine used to treat nausea and vomiting
- isotretinoin, a medicine used to treat acne
- danazol, a medicine used to treat endometriosis (Endometriosis is a female health disorder that occurs when cells from the lining of the womb (uterus) grow in other areas of the body).
- a vitamin called nicotinamide
- muscle relaxants
- medicines containing oestrogen and progesterone

These medicines may be affected by CARPINE 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 use CARPINE

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.

- How much to use

Your doctor will tell you how much CARPINE you need to take each day. This may depend on your age, your medical condition and whether or not you are taking other medicines.

Your doctor will usually start your treatment with a low dose

and then slowly increase it to the lowest amount needed to control your condition. Some people will need higher doses than other people will.

Epilepsy

Adult and children over 15 years:

Initially, 100mg to 200mg once or twice daily. Slowly raise the dosage to 400mg 2 or 3 times daily.

Children aged 6 to 15 years:

100mg daily in 2 divided doses. Daily dose should not generally exceed 1000mg.

Children aged below 6 years:

10mg to 20mg once daily.

Trigeminal neuralgia

Initial dose is 200 to 400mg daily in 2 divided doses. The maximum dose should not exceed 1200mg daily.

Mania

The dosage range is 400 to 1600mg daily.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure of the correct dose for you. They will tell you exactly how much to take.

Follow the instructions they give you. If you take the wrong dose, CARPINE may not work as well and your problem may not improve.

- When to use it

CARPINE may be taken during or after meals with a little liquid.

- How long to use it

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

CARPINE helps to control your condition but does not cure it. You must take it every day, even if you feel well.

Do not stop taking CARPINE or lower the dose without first

checking with your doctor. Do not let yourself run out of medicine over the weekend or on holidays.

Stopping your medicine suddenly or lowering the dose may cause unwanted side effects or make your condition worse. If you are taking this medicine to treat epilepsy, you could develop seizures (fits). Your doctor will usually reduce the dose slowly before you can stop taking it completely.

- *If you forget to use it*

Take your dose as soon as you remember, and continue to take 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. 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 have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

- *If you use too much (overdose)*

Immediately telephone your doctor 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 CARPINE.

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

You may need urgent medical attention.

Some of the symptoms of an overdose may include

disorientation, fainting, vomiting, difficulty breathing, fast and irregular heartbeat, blurred vision and slurred speech.

While you are using it

- *Things you must do*

Always follow your doctor's instructions carefully.

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

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

- *Things you must not do*

Do not stop taking your medicine or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor.

Do not take CARPINE 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 when driving or operating machinery until you know how CARPINE affects you. This medicine may cause 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.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are taking this medicine. If you drink, alcohol dizziness or light-headedness may be worse.

Side effects

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

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:

- dizziness or light headedness
- tiredness or drowsiness
- eye pain
- headache
- muscle pain or cramps
- nausea (feeling sick) or vomiting, loss of appetite
- stomach pain or discomfort
- dry mouth
- mouth ulcers
- blurred or double vision
- sweating
- hair loss
- acne

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell. Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

You may report any side effects or adverse drug reactions directly to the National Centre for Adverse Drug Monitoring by calling Tel: 03-78835550, or visiting the website portal.bpfk.gov.my (Consumers → Reporting).

Storage and disposal of CARPINE

Storage

Keep your medicine in the original container. If you take it out of its original container it may not keep well.

Keep your medicine in a place where the temperature stays below 25°C. Protect from light. Do not store CARPINE 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.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

Product Description

- What it looks like

CARPINE tablet is a round scored tablet green in colour with marking 'DUO 861' and a flower.

- Ingredients

Active ingredient:

- Carbamazepine

Inactive ingredients:

- aerosil
- quinoline yellow
- cornstarch
- magnesium stearate

- promigel
- brilliant blue
- lactose

MAL number

MAL19900675A

Manufacturer

DUOPHARMA (M) SDN BHD
Lot 2599, Jalan Seruling 59,
Kaw 3, Taman Klang Jaya,
41200 Klang, Selangor,
Malaysia.

Product Registration Holder

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