NOXAFIL® MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

Posaconazole (100mg)

What is in this leaflet

What NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is used for

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is used for:

- The treatment of invasive aspergillosis, a fungal infection caused by a fungus called aspergillus
- The treatment of other serious fungal infections called fusariosis, zygomycosis, chromoblastomycosis and mycetoma.

These types of fungal infections usually occur in some patients who may have lowered resistance to infection due to poor immunity.

Treatment of these serious fungal infections with NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is usually reserved for patients who do not respond to or cannot tolerate other medicines used to treat these types of fungal infections.

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is also used to treat coccidioidomycosis, a rare and serious fungal infection.

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is also used to prevent fungal infections, such as yeasts and moulds, from occurring in patients who are at high-risk of developing these infections.

Your doctor may have prescribed NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET for another reason.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET has been prescribed for you.

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

How NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET works

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET contains the active ingredient, posaconazole. Posaconazole is a medicine that belongs to the triazole group of antifungal medicines.

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET works by killing or stopping the growth of the fungi causing these infections.

Before you take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

When you must not take it

Do not take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET if:

1. **you have an allergy to:**
   - **posaconazole or any other triazole antifungal medicines**
   - **any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet (See Product Description)**

Symptoms of an allergic reaction may include skin rash, itching, hives, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, swelling of the face, tongue or other parts of the body.

2. **you are pregnant or may become pregnant unless the benefit to the mother clearly outweighs the risk to the foetus.**

Do not take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- certain medicines used to treat allergy or hay fever (terfenadine or astemizole)
- cisapride, a medicine used to treat certain stomach problems
- pimozide, a medicine used to treat certain mental disorders
- quinidine, a medicine used to treat irregular heart beat
- ergotamine and dihydroergotamine, which are medicines used to treat migraine
- halofantrine, a medicine used to treat malaria
- simvastatin, lovastatin, atorvastatin or similar medicines (called HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors or statins) that are used to treat high cholesterol levels.

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is not recommended for children below the age of 18 years.

Do not take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

Do not take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET if the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack has passed.

If you take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET after the expiry date has passed, it may not work (as well). Return this medicine to your pharmacist for disposal if it has expired or is damaged.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to take it

Tell your doctor if:

1. **you have any allergies to any other medicines, especially other antifungal medicines such as itraconazole, fluconazole, voriconazole, ketoconazole or any other substances such as foods, preservatives or dyes.**

2. **you have or have ever had any other health problems/ medical conditions including:**
   - any kidney problems
   - any liver problems
   - any heart problems

NOXAFIL® MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

Posaconazole (100mg)

Follow your doctor's advice if any blood tests to check on your kidney or liver are recommended.

3. you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET should not be taken during pregnancy unless indicated by your doctor. Women who are of childbearing potential should use effective contraception while taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET. Your doctor can discuss the risks and benefits.

4. You are breastfeeding

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET should not be taken by breastfeeding women. It is possible that the active ingredient, posaconazole, may be passed into the breast milk. Your doctor can discuss the risks and benefits involved.

If you have not told your doctor or pharmacist about any of the above, tell them before you start taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET.

Taking other medicines

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

Some medicines may increase the risk of side effects of NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET by increasing the amount of posaconazole in the blood. Similarly, some medicines may decrease the effectiveness of NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET by decreasing the amount of posaconazole in the blood.

Medicines that can decrease the effectiveness of NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET are:

- rifabutin, used to treat tuberculosis
- phenytoin, used to treat fits or convulsions
- efavirenz and fosamprenavir, used to treat HIV infection
- medicines used to decrease stomach acid such as cimetidine.

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET may possibly increase the risk of side effects of some medicines by increasing the amount of these medicines in the blood. These are:

- vincristine, vinblastine and other vinca alkaloids, used to treat cancer
- cyclosporine, tacrolimus and sirolimus, used to treat certain immune system problems or to prevent organ transplant rejection
- rifabutin, used to treat certain infections
- midazolam and other benzodiazepine medicines used as sedatives or muscle relaxants
- calcium channel blockers, such as diltiazem, nifedipine and verapamil, used in certain heart conditions and to treat high blood pressure
- sulfonylureas such as glipizide (used to treat diabetes)
- medicines used to treat HIV called protease inhibitors (including atazanavir which is given with ritonavir) and nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors

These medicines may be affected by NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicine or you may need to take different medicines. Your doctor will advise you.

How to take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

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

This information may differ from the information contained in this leaflet. If you do not understand the instructions on the box / leaflet label, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How much to take

Adults

The usual dose is 300 mg (three 100 mg tablets) twice a day on the first day, then 300 mg (three 100 mg tablets) once a day, thereafter.

The length of treatment may depend on the type of infection that you have and may be individually adapted for you by your doctor. Do not adapt your dose yourself before consulting your doctor or change your treatment regimen.

The dose may vary from one patient to another. Your doctor may recommend a different dose depending on your condition.

Children

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET is not recommended for children below the age of 18 years.

When to take it

- Swallow the tablet whole with some water.
- Do not crush, chew, break or dissolve the tablet.
- Tablets may be taken with or without food.

How long to take it

Your doctor will advise how long you should take NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET.

Continue taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET for the length of time that your doctor recommends.

If you forget to take it

Take the dose you missed as soon as you remember, then continue to take it as you normally would.

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 you have missed.

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

If you have taken too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET. Do this even if there are no

NOXAFIL® MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

Posaconazole (100mg)

signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

While you are taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

Things you must do

Always follow your doctor's instructions carefully.

- If you are a woman of childbearing age, talk to your doctor about the need for effective contraception. Once you have finished taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET, continue using contraception until your next period.
- If you become pregnant while you are taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET, tell your doctor immediately.
- If you are about to start any other new medicine, tell your doctor that you are taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET.
- If you need to have any blood tests, tell your doctor you are taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET. NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET may affect the results of some laboratory tests.

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET.

Things you must not do

- Do not give NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
- Do not use NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET to treat any other medical complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Serious side effects

Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse straight away if you notice any of the following serious side effects – you may need urgent medical treatment:

• nausea or vomiting (feeling or being sick), diarrhoea
• failure of the liver, liver damage, or liver problems - signs include yellowing of your skin or whites of the eyes, unusually dark urine or pale faeces, feeling sick for no reason, stomach problems, loss of appetite or unusual tiredness or weakness, an increase in liver enzymes shown up in blood tests
• allergic reaction

Other side effects

Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you notice any of the following side effects:

Common: the following may affect up to 1 in 10 people

- a change in the salt level in your blood shown in blood tests - signs include feeling confused or weak
- abnormal skin sensations, such as numbness, tingling, creeping, pricking or burning
- headache
- low potassium levels – shown up in blood tests
- loss of appetite, stomach pain or upset stomach, passing wind, dry mouth
- heartburn (a burning sensation in the chest rising up to the throat)
- low blood levels of "neutrophils" a type of white blood cell (neutropenia) – this can make you more likely to get infections and be shown up in blood tests
- fever
- feeling weak, dizzy, tired or sleepy
- rash
- itching
- constipation

Uncommon: the following may affect up to 1 in 100 people

- anaemia - signs include headaches, feeling tired or dizzy, being short of breath or looking pale and a low level of haemoglobin shown up in blood tests
- low level of platelets (thrombocytopenia) shown in blood tests – this may lead to bleeding
- low level of "leukocytes" a type of white blood cell (leukopenia) shown in blood tests – this can make you more likely to get infections
- high level of "eosinophils" a type of white blood cell (eosinophilia) – this can happen if you have inflammation
- inflammation of the blood vessels
- fits (convulsions)
- nerve damage (neuropathy)
- abnormal heart rhythm – shown up on a heart trace (ECG), palpitations, slow or fast heartbeat, high or low blood pressure
- inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) – this may cause severe stomach pain
- failure of the kidneys or severe kidney problems – signs include passing more or less urine, pain while passing urine or passing urine that is a different colour than usual
- high blood levels of creatinine – shown in blood tests
- cough, hiccups
- nose bleeds
- severe sharp chest pain when breathing in (pleurritic pain)
- swelling of lymph glands (lymphadenopathy)
- reduced feeling of sensitivity especially on the skin
- tremor
- high blood sugar levels
- blurred vision
- hair loss (alopecia)
- mouth ulcers
- shivering, feeling generally unwell
- pain, back pain and pain in arms or legs
- water retention (oedema)
- menstrual problems (abnormal vaginal bleeding)
- inability to sleep (insomnia)
- being completely or partially unable to talk
- swelling of the mouth
- mucosal inflammation

Rare: the following may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people

- pneumonia – signs include feeling short of breath and producing discoloured phlegm
- high blood pressure in the blood vessels in the lungs (pulmonary hypertension) this can cause serious damage to your lungs and heart
- blood problems such as unusual blood clotting or prolonged bleeding

NOXAFIL® MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

Posaconazole (100mg)

- severe allergic reactions, including widespread blistering rash and skin peeling
- mental problems such as hearing voices or seeing things that are not there
- fainting
- having problems thinking or talking, having jerking movements, especially in your hands that you cannot control
- stroke – signs include pain, weakness, numbness, or tingling in the limbs
- having a blind or dark spot in your field of vision
- heart failure or heart attack which could lead to the heart stopping beating and death, heart rhythm problems, with sudden death
- blood clots in your legs (Deep Vein Thrombosis) – signs include intense pain or swelling of the legs
- blood clot in your lungs (Pulmonary Embolism) – signs include feeling short of breath or pain while breathing
- bleeding into your stomach or gut – signs include vomiting blood or passing blood in your stools
- a blockage in your gut (intestinal obstruction) especially in the "ileum". The blockage will prevent the contents of your intestine from passing through to the lower bowel signs include feeling bloated, vomiting, severe constipation, loss of appetite, and cramps
- "haemolytic uraemic syndrome" when red blood cells breakup (hemolysis) which may happen with or without kidney failure
- "pancytopenia" a low level of all blood cells (red and white blood cells and platelets) shown up in blood tests
- large purple discolourations on the skin (thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura)
- swelling of the face or tongue
- depression
- double vision
- breast pain
- adrenal glands not working properly – this may cause weakness, tiredness, loss of appetite, skin discolouration
- pituitary gland not working properly – this may cause low blood levels of some hormones that affect the function of the male or female sex organs
- hearing problems.

Some patients have also reported feeling confused after taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET, the frequency of this is not known.

Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you notice any of the side effects listed above.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

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

Storage and Disposal of NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET

Storage

- Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
- This medicine does not require any special storage conditions.

How long should I keep my medicine?
Do not use this medicine after the month and year shown by the four numbers following EX (or EXP) on the container. The first two numbers indicate the month; the last two numbers indicate the year.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET, or if it has passed the expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any left over medicine.

Product description

What it looks like

NOXAFIL MODIFIED RELEASE TABLET are yellow-coated and capsule-shaped, debossed "100" on one side packaged in a blister in cartons of 24 (2x12) or 96 (8x12) tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Ingredients

Active ingredient: Posaconazole Each tablet contains 100 mg of posaconazole.

Inactive ingredients: hypromellose acetate succinate; cellulose, microcrystalline; hydroxypropylcellulose (E463); silicon dental type; croscarmellose sodium; magnesium stearate, polyvinyl alcohol, macrogol 3350 , titanium dioxide (E171), talc, iron oxide yellow (E172).

MAL number:

MAL16045045ARZ

Manufacturer

N. V. Organon, Kloosterstraat 6,
5349 AB Oss,
The Netherlands.

Product Registration Holder

Merck Sharp & Dohme (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.
T2-9, Jaya33, No. 3 (Lot 33),
Jalan Semangat, Seksyen 13,
46100 Petaling Jaya,
Selangor, Malaysia.

Date of revision

25/04/2016
(based on Noxafil Oral Suspension)

Serial number

BPFK (R1) 16/012