

GLAUCOMA EYE PREPARATIONS

Dorzolamide Eyedrops
Brimonidine Eyedrops
Betaxolol Eyedrops
Timolol Eyedrops
Pilocarpine Eyedrops
Latanoprost Eyedrops



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE



ABOUT your medicine

Glaucoma is an eye condition whereby the pressure in the eye is increased. If untreated, glaucoma can affect your vision. Your doctor has prescribed the medicine to help reduce the pressure in your eye.

HOW should I use the medicine?

Your doctor will determine the amount of medicine you should use based on the severity of your condition. Use this medicine in the dose prescribed by your doctor.

Proper administration of eye preparations:

- Wash your hands with soap and water and read the instructions on the label.
- Shake the bottle before use.
- Tilt your head backwards and look up.
- Gently pull the lower eyelid down to form a pocket and squeeze the bottle to apply a single drop into it. To prevent contamination, please ensure that the tip of the bottle does not touch the eye or any other surface.
- For ointments, apply a 0.5-1cm ribbon to the inner side of the lower lid.
- Keep your eyelid closed for at least 30 seconds (do not blink, rub, wipe or squeeze the eye).
- Gently apply pressure to the inner corner of the lower eyelid with your finger for 1 or 2 minutes to allow the medicine to be absorbed by the eye.
- If you need to put in more than one drop, or if you are using another type of eyedrops, you should wait for 5 to 10 minutes before putting the next drop in. (This is to prevent the first drop from being washed out by the second before it has time to work, and to prevent interaction between 2 different types of eyedrops.)
- If you are using eyedrops as well as eye ointments, you should use the eyedrops first.

If you are wearing contact lenses, do not wear them until your entire course of medicine is completed.

*Keep all medication out of reach of children
Discard all medication that has expired or is no longer required*

Eyedrops should not be used for longer than 4 weeks after opening. Write down the date that you opened the bottle on the label so that you will know when to throw it away.

What should I do if I FORGET a dose?

If you miss a dose or forget to use your medicine, use it as soon as you can. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to use the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not double your dose or use extra medicine to make up for a missed dose. If you have missed several doses, please call your physician to check what you should do.

What are the possible SIDE-EFFECTS of the medicine?

You may or may not experience any of the potential side-effects associated with these medicines. However, if they do occur and are persistent, check with your doctor as soon as possible.

Dorzolamide Eyedrops:

- Burning or stinging sensation upon administration of the eyedrops, blurred vision, tearing or dryness, increased sensitivity of the eye to light, and a bitter taste in the mouth.

Brimonidine Eyedrops:

- Burning or stinging sensation or sensation of a foreign body in the eye upon administration of the eyedrops, blurred vision, eye discomfort (such as itch and redness), dry mouth, increased sensitivity of the eye to light, fatigue, headache and drowsiness.

Betaxolol, Timolol Eyedrops:

- Burning or stinging sensation upon administration of the eyedrops, tearing, increased sensitivity of the eye to light, cold extremities, fatigue, headache and dizziness.

Pilocarpine Eyedrops:

- Blurred vision, burning or stinging sensation upon administration of the eyedrops, tearing, headache, aching sensation around the brow area, increased sensitivity of the eye to light and increased urination.

Latanoprost Eyedrops:

- Blurred vision, eye discomfort (such as itch and redness), burning or stinging sensation or sensation of a foreign body in the eye upon administration of the eyedrops, or increased sensitivity of the eye to light, rash, chest pain, muscle or joint pain and flu-like symptoms.

Seek medical attention if any of the following side-effects occur:

- Rash or redness around the eyes.
- Redness or swelling of the membrane covering the white part of the eye.

If you experience an increased sensitivity of the eye to light, wearing sunglasses may help to reduce the eye discomfort.

If you experience blurred vision with use of the medicine, avoid driving or performing tasks in places with poor illumination.

What PRECAUTIONS should I take?

Inform your doctor if:

- you are allergic to any other medicines, or if you develop an allergy while taking this medicine. The symptoms of a drug allergy include one or more of the following: swollen face/eyes/lips, difficulty in breathing or widespread itchy skin rashes.
- your eye condition does not improve after 5 to 7 days or if it worsens.

How should I STORE the medicine?

Store the medicine in a dry place at room temperature, away from heat and direct light. Do not refrigerate your medicines unless instructed to do so.

