

# SODIUM POLYSTYRENE SULFONATE



MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
SINGAPORE



## ABOUT your medicine

**Sodium polystyrene sulfonate is used to treat high blood potassium. Sodium polystyrene sulfonate controls high blood potassium but does not cure it.**

## HOW should I take the medicine?

Your doctor will determine the amount of medicine you should take based on the severity of your condition. Take this medicine in the dose prescribed by your doctor. Consult your pharmacist if you are not sure of the correct way to take your medicine.

Sodium polystyrene sulfonate is available as an oral suspension and as a rectal enema. This medicine can be taken 2 to 3 times a day, or otherwise as directed by your doctor. Shake the liquid (suspension) well before each use. Take sodium polystyrene sulfonate exactly as directed. Do not take more or less of it, or take it more often than prescribed by your doctor.

Continue to take sodium polystyrene sulfonate even if you are feeling well. Do not stop taking sodium polystyrene sulfonate without talking to your doctor.

## What should I do if I FORGET a dose?

If you miss a dose or forget to take your medicine, take it as soon as you can. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take the medicine and skip the missed dose. Do not double your dose or take 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?

Although side-effects from sodium polystyrene sulfonate are not common, they can still occur. Tell your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or persist:

- Constipation
- Diarrhoea
- Stomach upset
- Nausea
- Vomiting

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

If you experience any of the following symptoms, call your doctor immediately:

- Confusion
- Muscle weakness
- Unusual swelling
- Irregular heartbeat
- Rectal or lower stomach pain
- Increased thirst

## What PRECAUTIONS should I take?

Before taking sodium polystyrene sulfonate :

Tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are allergic to sodium polystyrene sulfonate or any other drugs.

You must tell 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.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist what prescription and non-prescription medicines you are taking, especially antacids, digoxin, diuretics, laxatives and vitamin supplements or herbal products.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had heart or kidney disease, hypertension or constipation.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding. If you become pregnant while taking sodium polystyrene sulfonate, call your doctor.

Tell your doctor if you are on a sodium-restricted diet.

### Special dietary instructions

Talk to your doctor before using salt substitutes containing potassium. If your doctor prescribes a low-salt or low-sodium diet, follow the dietary directions carefully.

## 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.