

DIPYRIDAMOLE



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE



ABOUT your medicine

Dipyridamole works by helping to prevent dangerous blood clots from forming. It may be used in those who have had diseased heart valves replaced by mechanical valves as blood clots are especially likely to occur in these patients.

This drug may also sometimes be used for other heart and blood conditions as determined by your doctor.

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.

This medicine works best when there is a constant amount of it in the blood. To help keep the amount constant, it must be taken in regularly spaced doses, as ordered by your doctor.

Take this medicine with a full glass of water at least half to 1 hour before food for better absorption. It may be taken with meals if gastrointestinal irritation occurs.

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. 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.

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

What are the possible SIDE-EFFECTS of the medicine?

Call your doctor right away if you have any of these side-effects:

- Chest pain lasting longer than 15 minutes
- Skin rash, severe itching or hives
- Yellowing of skin or eyes

Talk with your doctor if you have problems with these less serious side-effects:

- Dizziness, light-headedness, headache
- Nausea, vomiting, or stomach upset
- Flushing (redness) in the face

What PRECAUTIONS should I take?

Dipyridamole is sometimes used together with an anticoagulant (blood thinner) or aspirin. The combination of medicines may provide better protection against the formation of blood clots than any of the medicines used alone. However, the risk of bleeding may also be increased when dipyridamole is taken with aspirin. To reduce the risk of bleeding, do not take aspirin at the same time as this drug unless specifically prescribed by the doctor for concurrent use.

Inform all your physicians and dentists that you are taking dipyridamole and if you are also taking an anticoagulant or aspirin.

If you are taking aspirin concurrently, there may be a need for regular visits to your physician to check the progress during therapy.

Be careful when getting up suddenly from a lying or sitting position. Getting up too quickly may cause light-headedness.

Inform your doctor and pharmacist if you are already taking some other medicines, herbal preparations, nutritional products or vitamin supplements.

You must tell your doctor or pharmacist 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.

Inform your doctor if you are breast-feeding, pregnant or likely to become pregnant during the course of this treatment.

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.