About your medication

CISAPRIDE

(PREPULSID®
5mg, 10mg, 20mg tablets
1mg/mL suspension)
WHAT IS CISAPRIDE?

Cisapride is a medication called a prokinetic agent – it increases the speed at which contents move through the gut. It is usually used for reflux. It is only available on a doctor’s prescription.

WHAT IS IT FOR?

It is used to relieve the discomfort caused when infants and children continually bring up their stomach contents after feeding (known as gastro-oesophageal reflux). It is usually used where other treatment, positional and dietary measures have failed. It works by strengthening the muscle contractions of the digestive system, allowing food to move through the stomach more easily.

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICINE

It is important that this medication is taken only as directed and is not given to other people.

- The dose is usually given three or four times a day, 15 minutes before a meal or feed and at bedtime. In a small baby this may be difficult, but before feeding is best.
- It may be several days before improvement is seen.
- If using the liquid, shake the bottle well before each dose is measured and use a dropper, syringe or metric measure / spoon to ensure the right dose is given.

WHAT TO DO IF A DOSE IS MISSED

If you miss a dose of the medication it can be taken as soon as you remember. Do not take the missed dose if it is close to the next one; just take the next dose as normal. Do not double-up on any dose.

STORING THE MEDICINE

It is important to keep cisapride locked away out of the reach of children.

Do not keep the tablets or mixture in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink or in any other damp, warm places, because this may make the medication less effective. Store at room temperature away from heat and light.
USE OF OTHER MEDICINES

Care must be taken when using cisapride with some other medications. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before giving any prescription or over-the-counter medications including those purchased from a pharmacy, supermarket or from a health food shop.

This is particularly important for the following medications:
- antibiotics such as clarithromycin and erythromycin
- medications taken for fungal infections such as fluconazole, itraconazole, ketoconazole or miconazole. It is recommended that oral fungal infections are treated with alternative medications, for example nystatin oral drops
- warfarin or other anticoagulants (blood thinners)
- food - grapefruit (as fruit, juice or in marmalade) causes a significant interaction with cisapride. It may increase the side effects of cisapride and should be avoided

Talk to your child's doctor or pharmacist about possible interactions with any over-the-counter or complementary medicines or recreational substances (e.g. alcohol)

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Side effects can occur while taking cisapride. Some of these are not serious and will go away with time or after the dose has been changed. Others are more serious and require you to check with your doctor.

Less serious side effects include:
- stomach cramps and diarrhoea
- light-headedness, mild headache or slight blurred vision
- fever

In babies and infants, doses should be reduced if diarrhoea occurs.

More Serious (Contact doctor as soon as possible if the following occurs):
- irregular and / or rapid heart beat

Allergic reaction (Stop medicine and see doctor immediately):
- Skin rash, itching or hives, swollen mouth or lips, wheezing or difficulty breathing
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT

Your Child’s Doctor via the RCH Switchboard on 03 9345 5522
OR
Pharmacy Department on 03 9345 5492
IN CASE OF POISONING OR OVERDOSE CONTACT
POISONS INFORMATION CENTRE 13 11 26 (24 hour service)

This leaflet answers some common questions about your child’s medicine. It does not contain all available information. It does not take the place of talking to your child’s doctor or pharmacist. The leaflet may differ from information in the manufacturer’s Consumer Medicine Information. The information in this leaflet reflects the usage of medicine under medical supervision by patients of The Royal Children’s Hospital. Medicine may be used in children in different ways or for different reasons than in adults - for more information see the leaflet "Medicines for Children". This leaflet includes information current at the time of review of the document – OCTOBER 2010.