

## PROCHLORPERAZINE (for oral or rectal use)

*pro-klor-peer-ah-zeen*

### What does it do?

*Prochlorperazine* is used to treat and prevent nausea, vomiting and dizziness. It is also sometimes used for other conditions.

### Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have liver, heart, bowel, prostate or bladder problems.
- Tell your doctor if you have Parkinson's disease (or any other movement disorder), angle-closure glaucoma, if you have ever had a seizure, or experienced strange body movements with another medicine.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

### How should you take it?

Take *prochlorperazine* as directed.

Take *prochlorperazine* tablets with a glass of water.

Remove the wrapper before inserting the suppositories into the rectum.

### What if you forget a dose?

Should an occasional dose be missed it need not be taken later.

### Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *prochlorperazine* including:

- some antihistamines or anti-nausea medicines such as promethazine (e.g. Phenergan®), hyoscine (e.g. Scopoderm®), meclizine (e.g. Sea-legs®)
- other medicines that may cause drowsiness (e.g. pain-killers, anti-nausea and cough/cold medicines – ask your pharmacist)
- antacids (e.g. Mylanta®) - do not take these within two hours of taking *prochlorperazine*.

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products (e.g. sleeping aids) or recreational drugs.

### What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects  | Recommended action              |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Face or neck muscle spasm, unusual eye movements<br>Feeling restless, strange or uncontrolled movements, tremor, stiffness<br>Fast or irregular heartbeat | Tell your doctor immediately    |
| Confusion<br>Skin rash  | Tell your doctor                |
| Dry mouth, blurred vision, constipation or trouble peeing (anticholinergic effects)<br>Dizziness, drowsiness<br>Anal irritation with suppository use      | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

### Other information:

- *Prochlorperazine* can impair your ability to do tasks such as driving or using machines. Alcohol makes this worse. Discuss your risk with your health professional. (search NZTA - Are you safe to drive?)
- Protect yourself from too much sunlight while being treated with *prochlorperazine*. Always cover up and apply a thick layer of broad spectrum sunscreen (at least SPF 30) when outside. Do not use sunbeds.