Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

# METOCLOPRAMIDE AND PARACETAMOL

*met-oh-kloe-pra-mide and par-ah-see-tah-mol*

## What does it do?

*Metoclopramide* and *paracetamol* is used to treat the pain, nausea and vomiting that occurs with migraine attacks.

## Before you start

- Tell your health professional if you have liver, kidney or bowel problems.
- Tell your health professional if you have Parkinson's disease, (or any other movement disorder), if you have ever had a seizure, or if you have experienced abnormal body movements with any other medicine.
- Tell your health professional if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.

## How should you take it?

Take *metoclopramide* and *paracetamol* as directed with a glass of water.

## 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 *metoclopramide* and *paracetamol* including:

- some antihistamines (may be in anti-allergy, anti-nausea and cough/cold medicines)
- prochlorperazine

*Paracetamol* is contained in a wide variety of pain relief and cough and cold medicines. Do not take other medicines that also contain *paracetamol*, unless you discuss this with a health professional.

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---|
| Skin rash, skin peeling or blisters | Stop taking and see your doctor immediately |
| 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 |
| Dizziness, headache, drowsiness, tiredness or weakness, trouble sleeping<br>Sore or enlarged breasts, breastmilk production | Tell your health professional if troublesome |

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

## Other information:

- *Metoclopramide* 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?)
- Do not take more than the stated dose (usually up to a maximum of 6 tablets in 24 hours for adults). Taking too much *paracetamol* can cause liver failure.