Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

# GLIPIZIDE

*glip-ih-zide*

## What does it do?

*Glipizide* is used to treat diabetes. It lowers blood glucose by increasing the amount of insulin made by your body.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems, or G6PD deficiency.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

## How should you take it?

Take *glipizide* regularly as directed with a glass of water, preferably at the start of a meal.

## What if you forget a dose?

If you miss a dose of *glipizide* do not take it later. Skip the missed dose and continue as directed. Do not take two doses at the same time.

## Can you take other medicines?

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

- miconazole oral gel (e.g. Daktarin Oral Gel®)

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 |
|---|---|
| Low blood glucose (hypo): symptoms may include sweating, trembling, feeling anxious or irritable | Drink or eat something sweet. Tell your health professional if this happens a lot or is severe. |
| Skin rash, itching | Tell your doctor |
| Stomach upset | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

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

## Other information:

- If you are unwell, follow your diabetes sick-day plan, or talk to your health professional.
- Check your blood glucose level as directed by your health professional.
- You will need a regular blood test (HbA1c) to check how your diabetes is controlled.
- Alcohol may change your blood glucose levels and make you more likely to have a hypo. It may also mask your warning signs of low blood glucose. See Alcohol and Diabetes.
- Check your blood glucose levels before driving. Do not drive if you are having a hypo as low blood glucose could make driving unsafe. See Driving with diabetes