Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

ZOPICLONE

zop-ih-klone

What does it do?

Zopiclone is used to help you sleep.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have liver problems or sleep apnoea.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *zopiclone* as directed with a glass of water just before you go to bed.

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 *zopiclone* including:

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

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products (e.g. St John's wort, valerian) or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Mood changes, agitation, unusual behaviour or thinking, loss of coordination, confusion, memory loss, trouble concentrating	Tell your doctor
Drowsiness, dizziness, headache Metallic taste, dry mouth, stomach upset	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- *Zopiclone* 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?)
- If you still feel sleepy the next day, do not drive or operate machinery.
- *Zopiclone* may be addictive with long-term use.
- If you have been taking *zopiclone* regularly for a long time, do not stop taking it suddenly without talking to your doctor.
- Sleep problems commonly occur when *zopiclone* is stopped. It may take several weeks for these to improve.
- Caffeine-containing drinks (e.g. coffee, cola, tea) may reduce the effect of *zopiclone*. Discuss with your doctor.