Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand
Waitaha Canterbury

# BEDAQUILINE

*bed-ak-wi-leen*

## What does it do?

*Bedaquiline* is an antibiotic used with other medicines to treat tuberculosis (TB). It is sometimes used for other infections.

## Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- Your doctor may do a heart test (ECG) before you start and while you are taking *bedaquiline*.

## How should you take it?

Take *bedaquiline* regularly as directed with food and a glass of water. Keep taking it until the course is finished.
It is important to take it regularly. If you often forget to take it, it may not work as well.

## What if you forget a dose?

If it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not take two doses at the same time.

## Can you take other 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) or recreational drugs.

## What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects | Recommended action |
|---|---|
| Fainting (may be a heartbeat problem) | Tell your doctor immediately |
| Headache<br>Nausea | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

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