

















Clozapine

This is an easy way to read this word... cloz-a-peen

	<p>What is this leaflet for?</p> <p>This leaflet is to help you understand more about your medicine.</p> <p>Your medicine could look different to the photographs on this leaflet.</p>
	<p>What is the medicine called?</p> <p>Clozapine is also called Clozaril, Denzapine or Zaponex.</p> <p>You will see 1 of these names on your prescription.</p> <p>Clozapine will come as tablets.</p>
 	<p>What is clozapine for?</p> <p>Clozapine could be used for different reasons.</p> <p>Clozapine is used for schizophrenia.</p> <p>Clozapine is sometimes used for people who have behaviour problems.</p> <p>For example, it could...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• help if you are anxious• help calm you down• help you feel less angry• help you feel less tense.
	<p>What will clozapine do?</p> <p>Clozapine should help you feel calm and relaxed.</p> <p>It could take some time for clozapine to have its full effect.</p> <p>This effect should reduce your behaviour problem.</p>

	<p>For example, it may...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• help you control your temper• help you stop hurting yourself• help you stop breaking things.
   	<p>What are the side effects of clozapine?</p> <p>Side effects are effects medicine can have on your body that are not wanted.</p> <p>Not everyone taking a medicine will get side effects.</p> <p>Many side effects will go away with time.</p> <p>Many side effects are rare.</p> <p>You might want to talk to your doctor if you have any side effects.</p> <p>For example, these are some side effects of clozapine...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a dry mouth• too much spit• blurred vision or things look fuzzy• constipation• feeling sleepy or sluggish• feeling dizzy when you stand up• weight gain• headache• feeling or being sick.

 <p>The illustration shows a person sitting at a table, holding a cup, with sweat drops and wavy lines around their head indicating they are feeling unwell. Below them, a doctor and a nurse are standing, with the nurse holding the patient's hand, suggesting medical attention.</p>	<p>Some side effects are more serious.</p> <p>You should tell someone straight away if...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you have problems with weeing• you have a fever or high body temperature• you have a fit or blackout• you feel ill.
   <p>The top image shows a white box of clozapine tablets with some text on it. The middle image shows a hand holding a glass of water and another hand holding a white tablet. The bottom image shows a doctor sitting at a desk talking to a patient.</p>	<h3>How and when do I take clozapine?</h3> <p>The label on your clozapine packet should tell you when to take your medicine.</p> <p>The label should tell you how much medicine you should take.</p> <p>You should follow these instructions carefully.</p> <p>You should swallow your tablet with water.</p> <p>If you forget to take your medicine, tell someone straight away.</p> <p>You should ask your pharmacist if you can crush your medicine or if it can be mixed with a drink.</p> <p>You should carry on taking your medicine even if you feel better unless your doctor asks you to stop.</p> <p>You should talk to your doctor before you stop taking your medicine.</p>

	<h3>What do I need to know about clozapine?</h3> <p>Drinking alcohol whilst taking clozapine could make you feel drowsy.</p> <p>Some medicines do not work well together.</p> <p>You should tell your doctor about any other medicines you are taking.</p>
	<h3>Where can I get more information?</h3> <p>This leaflet does not tell you everything about clozapine.</p> <p>If you want more information about clozapine...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you can ask your pharmacist, doctor or nurse for more information• you can ask your carer to get more information• you can phone NHS Direct on 0845 4647• you can phone a medicine information helpline on 020 3228 2999.

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It can be downloaded from www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk.

The information in this leaflet came from...

- the British National Formulary (www.bnf.org)
- the United Kingdom Psychiatric Pharmacy Group Patient Advisory Leaflets (www.ukppg.org.uk/ukppg-pals.html)
- Miriam Wilcher's Handbook for Carers of People with Learning Disabilities.

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Some of the pictures are from the CHANGE Health Picture Bank, CHANGE, Units 19/20, Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

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