

What you must know and do

All girls and women using valproate and who could become pregnant:

- Valproate can seriously harm an unborn child when taken by the mother during pregnancy.
- Always use effective contraception without interruption during the entire duration of treatment with valproate.
- If you think you are pregnant: Schedule an urgent appointment with your doctor.
- Visit your specialist at least each year.

Males using valproate:

- There is a possible risk of movement and mental developmental disorders in children when valproate is taken by the father in the 3 months before conception.
- Discuss this possible risk and the need for effective contraception with your doctor.

▼ This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. See www.hpra.ie for how to report side effects.

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- Valproate is an effective medicine for epilepsy and bipolar disorder.

This applies to all girls and women using valproate who could become pregnant and males using valproate:

- Read the package leaflet carefully before use.
- Never stop taking valproate unless your doctor tells you to as your condition may become worse.
- If you are thinking about having a baby, do not stop using valproate and contraception before you talked to your doctor.
- Ask your doctor to give you the patient guide.

Keep this card safe so you always know what to do.