

Package leaflet: Information for the user

Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml solution for injection lorazepam

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Lorazepam Macure is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you use Lorazepam Macure
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1. What Lorazepam Macure is and what it is used for

Lorazepam Macure belongs to a certain group of sedative-hypnotic medicines, called benzodiazepines. Lorazepam Macure is used as a sedative to initiate certain interventions (premedication), such as small or large surgical procedures or certain extensive physical examinations. Lorazepam Macure is also used for people who suffer from severe fears or tension and for any reason can not take any tablets.

2. What you need to know before you use Lorazepam Macure

Do not use Lorazepam Macure:

- If you are allergic to the active substance, other benzodiazepines, benzodiazepine-like substances or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6);
- If you suffer from myasthenia gravis (a disease in which muscle weakness occurs due to the impairment of the transfer of nerve impulses to muscles);
- If you suffer from severe respiratory distress;
- If you suffer from sleep apnoea syndrome (severe respiratory disturbances may occur during sleep);
- If you have severe liver problems.

Lorazepam Macure may not be injected into an artery.

Children

Children under 12 years old are not allowed to use Lorazepam Macure.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or nurse before using Lorazepam Macure:

- If you suffer from chronic respiratory disturbances.

- If your liver or kidney function is reduced.
- If you are elderly or debilitated.
- If you suffer from epilepsy or "green star" (acute narrow angle glaucoma).

For 24 hours after Lorazepam Macure administration, you should stay under observation. Early walking (within 8 hours after Lorazepam Macure use) can make you fall and injure.

A reduction of alertness may also last for more than 24 hours, for example if you are older or use other medicines.

If you are an outpatient and Lorazepam Macure is used for a short-term procedure, you must be accompanied by a responsible adult upon discharge from the hospital.

You may not drive vehicles or take activities requiring attention during 24-48 hours after administration.

You may not remember what you have experienced, during a certain period of time after Lorazepam Macure administration.

Patients with mental disorders

Lorazepam Macure is not a first choice in the treatment of mental disorders. Lorazepam Macure may not be used as a single agent in the treatment of depression or fears associated with hypersensitivity.

Benzodiazepines may have an disinhibitory effect in depressed patients and may cause suicidal tendencies.

You must gradually reduce Lorazepam Macure treatment.

Use of Lorazepam Macure may result in dependence

Use of benzodiazepines may result in physical or psychological dependence. To reduce the risk of dependence, the lowest effective dose of Lorazepam Macure should be used and the duration of the therapy should be as short as possible.

If you stop the treatment suddenly you may experience withdrawal symptoms: headache, muscle ache, extreme fear, tension, restlessness, confusion, irritability, mood swings, depression and insomnia.

You may also temporarily return to the symptoms for which you temporarily received Lorazepam Macure (see also "If you stop using Lorazepam Macure" in section 3).

Elderly or debilitated patients and adolescents (above 12 years)

Elderly and adolescents (above 12 years) may experience reactions that are completely opposite to what you expect from Lorazepam Macure treatment, such as: restlessness, excitement, aggressiveness, delusions, rage attacks, nightmares, certain mental disorders (psychoses) inappropriate and other opposing behavior. If these reactions occur, your doctor will stop the treatment.

Other medicines and Lorazepam Macure

Tell your doctor if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

You should not use Lorazepam Macure concurrently with scopolamine (a medicine for travel disease).

Concomitant use of the following medicinal products may enhance Lorazepam Macure calming /relieving effect:

- anti-psychiatric agents,
- agents used for sleeping,
- sedative and / or tranquilizers,
- anti-depressants,
- some highly active prescription analgesics (narcotic analgesics),
- anti-epileptic drugs,
- agents that cause general or local anesthesia (anesthetics),
- agents used in allergies or travel disease (antihistamines),
- agents used to treat gout and hyperuricemia (e.g. probenecid).

Concomitant use of lorazepam and opioids (strong pain killers, medicines for substitution therapy and some cough medicines) increases the risk of drowsiness, difficulties in breathing (respiratory depression), coma and may be life-threatening. Because of this, concomitant use should only be considered when other treatment options are not possible.

However if your doctor does prescribe Lorazepam Macure together with opioids the dose and duration of concomitant treatment should be limited by your doctor.

Please tell your doctor about all opioid medicines you are taking, and follow your doctor's dose recommendation closely. It could be helpful to inform friends or relatives to be aware of the signs and symptoms stated above. Contact your doctor when experiencing such symptoms.

Lorazepam Macure with food and drink and alcohol

Lorazepam Macure calming / relieving effect can be enhanced by the simultaneous use of alcoholic beverages. This may persist up to 48 hours after Lorazepam Macure administration.

You should not use alcohol 48 hours after Lorazepam Macure administration.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before taking this medicine.

You should only use Lorazepam Macure during pregnancy if this is strictly necessary, for a period as short as possible at the lowest possible dose.

Lorazepam passes in small amounts into breast milk. During use of Lorazepam Macure, breastfeeding is not recommended.

There are no data on the possible effects of lorazepam administered by injection or infusion on female fertility.

Driving and using machines

To control a vehicle or operate a machine, you must be able to respond well and quickly and decide. You must also be able to move quickly and accurately.

If you use Lorazepam Macure, control of these skills can be reduced because Lorazepam Macure can adversely affect the alertness, responsiveness, memory and accuracy of muscle movements.

Therefore, you can not drive a vehicle or take other activities requiring attention 24 to 48 hours after administration.

Lorazepam Macure contains benzyl alcohol and propylene glycol

This medicine contains 21 mg benzyl alcohol in each 1 ml of solution for injection.

Benzyl alcohol may cause allergic reactions.

Ask your doctor for advice if you are pregnant or breast-feeding or if you have a liver or kidney disease.

This is because large amounts of benzyl alcohol can build-up in your body and may cause side effects (called "metabolic acidosis").

This medicine contains 840 mg propylene glycol in each 1 ml of solution for injection.

3. How to use Lorazepam Macure

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor if you are not sure.

This medicine will be given to you by a health care professional. It will be given in a vein (intravenous) or in a muscle (intramuscularly). The dose will be decided by the doctor and is based on your body weight. The medicine will be given to you 15 to 20 minutes before the procedure (intravenous) or at least 2 hours before the procedure (intramuscularly).

Use in children

Lorazepam Macure should not be used in children under 12 years of age (see also section 2).

Use in elderly and debilitated patients

Your doctor will prescribe a lower dose. In addition, your doctor will check you regularly and adjust the dose according to your response.

Patients with kidney or liver disorders

Lorazepam Macure should not be used in patients with severe liver disorders. When Lorazepam Macure is used in patients with mild to moderate liver or kidney disorders, your doctor may prescribe a lower dose.

If you use more Lorazepam Macure than you should

If you have are given more medicine than you should you may get symptoms such as sleepiness, mental confusion and lethargy, in mild overdose and low blood pressure, difficulty in controlling movements, respiratory depression and coma, in severe cases.

If you stop using Lorazepam Macure

You should discontinue or stop the treatment following doctor's instructions only.

If you are being treated for the symptoms of severe anxiety and the treatment is discontinued suddenly, you should consider the possible occurrence of one or more of the following withdrawal symptoms: headache, muscle ache, extreme fear, anxiety, tension, excitement, restlessness, confusion, irritability, mood swings, sweating, depression, and insomnia.

In more serious cases, withdrawal symptoms may include: loss of feelings, loss of reality, where the (familiar) environment seems unreal, alienation of self and self-esteem (depersonalisation), numbness and tingling of the arms and legs, greatly increased sensitivity to light, noise and touch, increased hearing, ear pains, involuntary movements, vomiting, delusions (hallucinations) or attacks of falling disease (epileptic attacks).

Also, the symptoms for which you received Lorazepam Macure may temporarily return to a great extent.

To minimize the risk of these symptoms occurring, it is recommended to gradually reduce the dose and discontinue the treatment.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or nurse.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Side effects usually occur at the start of treatment and gradually disappear during treatment or when the dose is reduced.

The following side effects were reported after using lorazepam:

Very common: may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- fatigue.

Common: may affect up to 1 in 10 people

- sleepiness during daytime,
- drowsiness,
- dizziness,
- coordination problems (ataxia),
- muscle weakness.

Uncommon: may affect up to 1 in 100 people

- confusion,
- depression,
- emotional flattening,
- sleep disturbances,
- headache,
- decreased alertness,
- visual disturbances,
- double vision (diplopia),
- nausea,
- gastrointestinal problems,
- skin reactions,
- change in sex drive.

Rare: may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people

- blood dysfunction (dyscrasia),
- temporary memory loss,
- contradictory reactions,
- decreased blood pressure (hypotension),
- elevated blood pressure (hypertension),
- liver disease related abnormalities.
- psychiatric disorders: excitation (agitation), nervousness, irritability, aggressiveness, suspicion, rage attacks, nightmares, observations of things that are not there (hallucinations), severe mental illness in which control over behavior and behavior is disturbed (psychosis), inappropriate behavior. These side effects occur mainly in children and older people.

Other side effects:

- pain, burning sensation, redness and inflammation at the site of injection have been reported.
- dependence may occur after repeated use for several weeks (see section 2).
- breathing difficulties in severe anesthesia may occur.
- withdrawal symptoms occurs after discontinuation of treatment (see section “If you stop using Lorazepam Macure”)

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via

HPRA Pharmacovigilance

Website: www.hpra.ie

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Lorazepam Macure

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Store and transport refrigerated (2-8°C). Keep in the outer carton to protect from light.

Chemical and physical in-use stability has been demonstrated for 1 hour at 2-8°C. From a microbiological point of view, unless the method of opening/dilution precludes the risk of microbial contamination, the product should be used immediately. If not used immediately, in-use storage times and conditions are the responsibility of the user.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label and on the carton after EXP.

The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Lorazepam Macure contains

- The active substance is lorazepam; each 1 ml of solution contains 4 mg lorazepam.
- The other ingredients are macrogol, benzyl alcohol and propylene glycol.

What Lorazepam Macure looks like and contents of the pack

A clear, colourless or almost colourless hypertonic solution, free from visible particles.

Lorazepam Macure is packed in Type I (Ph.Eur), clear glass ampoule of 2 ml filling capacity. Each ampoule contains 1 ml of solution. The ampoules are placed in moulded polyvinyl chloride trays, which are then sealed by a protective PE transparent foil.

The polyvinyl chloride trays are inserted in a carton box together with a leaflet.

Lorazepam Macure is supplied in packs of 5 and 10 ampoules of 1 ml solution.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

Macure Pharma ApS
Hejrevej 39
2400 Copenhagen NV
Denmark

Manufacturer

Medochemie Ltd
48 Iapetou Street, Agios Athanassios Industrial Area
4101 Agios Athanassios, Limassol
Cyprus

This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:

Netherlands	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml oplossing voor injectie
Denmark	Lorazepam Macure
Sweden	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml injektionsvätska, lösning
Finland	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml injektioneste, liuos
Norway	Lorazepam Macure
Germany	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml Injektionslösung
Austria	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml Injektionslösung
Belgium	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml solution injectable/ oplossing voor injectie/ Injektionslösung

Ireland	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml solution for injection
Italy	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml soluzione iniettabile
Slovenia	Lorazepam Macure 4 mg/ml raztopina za injiciranje

This leaflet was last revised in <{month YYYY}>.