

Package leaflet: Information for the user

Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets letrozole

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking 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 pharmacist.
- 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 pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

What is in this leaflet

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1. What Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets is and what it is used for

What Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets is and how it works

Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets contains an active substance called letrozole. It belongs to a group of medicines called aromatase inhibitors. It is a hormonal (or “endocrine”) breast cancer treatment. Growth of breast cancer is frequently stimulated by oestrogens, which are female sex hormones. Letrozole reduces the amount of oestrogen by blocking an enzyme (“aromatase”) involved in the production of oestrogens and therefore may block the growth of breast cancer that needs oestrogens to grow. As a consequence tumour cells slow or stop growing and/or spreading to other parts of the body.

What Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets is used for

Letrozole is used to treat breast cancer in women who have gone through menopause i.e. cessation of periods.

It is used to prevent cancer from happening again. It can be used as first treatment before breast cancer surgery in case immediate surgery is not suitable or it can be used as first treatment after breast surgery or following five years treatment with tamoxifen. Letrozole is also used to prevent breast tumour spreading to other parts of the body in patients with advanced breast cancer.

If you have any questions about how letrozole works or why this medicine has been prescribed for you, ask your doctor.

2. What you need to know before you take Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

Follow all the doctor’s instructions carefully. They may differ from the general information in this leaflet.

Do not take Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

- if you are **allergic to letrozole or to any of the other ingredients** of this medicine (listed in section 6).

- if you still **have periods**, i.e. if you have not yet gone through the menopause.
- if you are **pregnant**.
- if you are **breast-feeding**.

If any of these conditions apply to you, **do not take this medicine and talk to your doctor**.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

- if you have a severe kidney disease.
- if you have a severe liver disease.
- if you have a history of osteoporosis or bone fractures (see also section 3, “Follow-up during Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets treatment”).

If any of these conditions apply to you, **tell your doctor**. Your doctor will take this into account during your treatment with Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets.

Letrozole may cause inflammation in tendons or tendon injury (see section 4). At any sign of tendon pain or swelling – rest the painful area and contact your doctor.

Children and adolescents (below 18 years)

Children or adolescents should not use this medicine.

Older people (aged 65 years and over)

People aged 65 years and over can use this medicine at the same dose as for other adults.

Other medicines and Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

- You should only take letrozole when you have gone through the menopause. However, your doctor should discuss with you about using effective contraceptive, as you may still have the potential to become pregnant during treatment with letrozole.
- You **must not take letrozole if you are pregnant or breast feeding** as it may harm your baby.

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

Driving and using machines

If you feel dizzy, tired, drowsy or generally unwell, do not drive or operate any tools or machines until you feel normal again.

Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets contains lactose and sodium

Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg contains **lactose** (milk sugar). If you have been told by your doctor that you have an **intolerance to some sugars**, contact your doctor before taking this medicine.

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per tablet, that is to say essentially ‘sodium-free’.

3. How to take Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

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

The usual dose is one tablet of Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets to be taken once a day. Taking Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets at the same time each day will help you remember when to take your tablet.

The tablet can be taken with or without food and should be swallowed whole with a glass of water or another liquid.

How long to take Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

Continue taking letrozole every day for as long as your doctor tells you. You may need to take it for months or even years. If you have any questions about how long to keep taking letrozole, talk to your doctor.

Follow-up during Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets treatment

You should only take this medicine under strict medical supervision. Your doctor will regularly monitor your condition to check whether the treatment is having the right effect.

Letrozole may cause thinning or wasting of your bones (osteoporosis) due to the reduction of oestrogens in your body. Your doctor may decide to measure your bone density (a way of monitoring for osteoporosis) before, during and after treatment.

If you take more Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets than you should

If you have taken too much letrozole, or if someone else accidentally takes your tablets, contact a doctor or hospital for advice immediately. Show them the pack of tablets. Medical treatment may be necessary.

If you forget to take Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

- If it is almost time for your next dose (e.g. within 2 or 3 hours), skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.
- Otherwise, take the dose as soon as you remember, and then take the next tablet as you would normally.
- Do not take a double dose to make up for the one that you missed.

If you stop taking Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

Do not stop taking letrozole unless your doctor tells you to. See also the section above “How long to take Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets”.

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

4. Possible side effects

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

Most of the side effects are mild to moderate and will generally disappear after a few days to a few weeks of treatment.

Some of these side effects, such as hot flushes, hair loss or vaginal bleeding, may be due to the lack of oestrogens in your body.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Some side effects could be serious.

Rare or uncommon side effects (i.e. they may affect between 1 to 100 in every 10,000 patients)

- Weakness, paralysis or loss of feeling in any part of the body (particularly arm or leg), loss of coordination, nausea, or difficulty in speaking or breathing (sign of a brain disorder, e.g. stroke).
- Sudden oppressive chest pain (sign of a heart disorder).
- Difficulty breathing, chest pain, fainting, rapid heart rate, bluish skin discoloration, or sudden arm, leg or foot pain (signs that a blood clot may have formed).
- Swelling and redness along a vein which is extremely tender and possibly painful when touched.
- Severe fever, chills or mouth ulcers due to infections (lack of white blood cells).
- Severe persistent blurred vision.

If any of the above occurs, tell your doctor straight away.

You should also inform the doctor straight away if you experience any of the following symptoms during treatment with letrozole:

- Swelling mainly of the face and throat (signs of allergic reaction).
- Yellow skin and eyes, nausea, loss of appetite, dark-coloured urine (signs of hepatitis).
- Rash, red skin, blistering of the lips, eyes or mouth, skin peeling, fever (signs of skin disorder).

Very common side effects (may affect more than 1 in 10 people)

- hot flushes
- increased level of cholesterol (hypercholesterolaemia)
- fatigue
- increased sweating
- pain in bones and joints (arthralgia)

If any of these affects you severely, tell your doctor.

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- skin rash
- headache
- dizziness
- malaise (generally feeling unwell)
- gastrointestinal disorders such as nausea, vomiting, indigestion, constipation, diarrhoea
- increase in or loss of appetite
- pain in muscles
- thinning or wasting of your bones (osteoporosis), leading to bone fractures in some cases (see also section 3, "Follow-up during Letrozole Synthron 2.5 mg treatment")
- swelling of arms, hands, feet, ankles (oedema)
- depression
- weight increase
- hair loss
- raised blood pressure (hypertension)
- abdominal pain
- dry skin
- vaginal bleeding
- Palpitations, rapid heart rate
- Joint stiffness (arthritis)
- Chest pain

If any of these affects you severely, tell your doctor.

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- nervous disorders such as anxiety, nervousness, irritability, drowsiness, memory problems, somnolence, insomnia
- impairment of sensation, especially that of touch
- eye disorders such as blurred vision, eye irritation
- skin disorders such as itching (urticaria)
- vaginal discharge or dryness
- breast pain
- fever
- thirst, taste disorder, dry mouth
- dryness of mucous membranes
- weight decrease
- urinary tract infection, increased frequency of urination
- cough
- increased level of enzymes
- Yellowing of the skin and eyes

- High blood levels of bilirubin (a breakdown product of red blood cells)
- Inflammation of a tendon or tendonitis (connective tissues that connect muscles to bones)

If any of these affects you severely, tell your doctor.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)

- Rupture of a tendon (connective tissues that connect muscles to bones)

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

You can also report side effects directly via the national reporting system. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not use letrozole after the expiry date which is stated on the blister and carton after EXP. The first two digits indicate the month and the last four digits indicate the year. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets contains

- The active substance is letrozole. Each film-coated tablet contains 2.5 mg letrozole.
- The other ingredients are lactose monohydrate, cellulose microcrystalline (E460), maize starch pregelatinised, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate (E572), silica, colloidal anhydrous (E551).
The ingredients in the tablet coating are macrogol, talc (E553b), hypromellose (E464), titanium dioxide (E171), iron oxide yellow (E172).

What Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets looks like and contents of the pack

Letrozole is a yellow film-coated round tablet, inscribed with L900 at one side and 2.5 on the other side.

Letrozole is available in blisters of 10, 28, 30, 50, 60, 84, 90, 98 or 100 tablets per box.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

Marketing Authorisation Holder:

Synthon BV
Microweg 22
6545 CM Nijmegen
Netherlands

Manufacturers:

Synthon BV
Microweg 22
6545 CM Nijmegen
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Synthon Hispania SL.
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Rottendorf Pharma GmbH
Ostenfelder strasse 51-61
59320 Ennigerloh
Germany

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

Finland	Letrolan
Ireland	Letrozole Synthon 2.5 mg, film-coated tablets
Iceland	Letromal 2,5 mg
Netherlands	Letrozol Synthon 2,5 mg, filmomhulde tabletten

This leaflet was last approved in