

Package leaflet: Information for the patient

Trazodone Hydrochloride 150 mg Film-coated Tablets (trazodone hydrochloride)

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. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet

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1. What Trazodone Tablets are and what they are used for

The name of your medicine is Trazodone Hydrochloride 150 mg Film-coated Tablets (called 'Trazodone Tablets' in this leaflet). Trazodone Tablets contain a medicine called trazodone hydrochloride. This belongs to a group of medicines called antidepressants.

Trazodone Tablets can be used to treat anxiety and depression.

2. What you need to know before you take Trazodone Tablets

Do not take this medicine and tell your doctor if:

- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to trazodone hydrochloride or any of the other ingredients of Trazodone Tablets (listed in section 6).
Signs of an allergic reaction include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.
- You consume alcohol or are taking sleeping tablets.
- You have recently had a heart attack.

Do not take this medicine if any of the above applies to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Trazodone Tablets.

Warnings and precautions

Take special care with Trazodone Tablets

Thoughts of suicide and worsening of your depression or anxiety disorder

If you are depressed and/or have anxiety disorders you can sometimes have thoughts of harming or killing yourself. These may be increased when first starting antidepressants, since these medicines all take time to work, usually about two weeks but sometimes longer.

You may be more likely to think like this:

- If you have previously had thoughts about killing or harming yourself.

- If you are a young adult. Information from clinical trials has shown an increased risk of suicidal behaviour in adults aged less than 25 years with psychiatric conditions who were treated with an antidepressant.

If you have thoughts of harming or killing yourself at any time, **contact your doctor or go to a hospital straight away.**

You may find it helpful to tell a relative or close friend that you are depressed or have an anxiety disorder and ask them to read this leaflet. You might ask them to tell you if they think your depression or anxiety is getting worse, or if they are worried about changes in your behavior.

There have been reports of severe liver disorders with use of Trazodone Hydrochloride. If you experience any of the following symptoms you must contact your doctor immediately:

- weakness (asthenia)
- loss of appetite (anorexia)
- nausea, vomiting
- stomach pain
- yellowing of the skin and/or eyes (jaundice).

Children and adolescents

Trazodone Tablets should not be used in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.

Elderly

Elderly patients when taking Trazodone Hydrochloride may experience light headedness and dizziness upon standing or stretching. They may also feel more drowsy or sleepy than usual.

Increased caution is necessary especially if the patient suffers from other ailments and is taking medications to treat these, along with taking Trazodone Hydrochloride.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine if you:

- Have or have ever had fits or seizures (epilepsy).
- Have severe liver, kidney or heart problems.
- Are pregnant, trying to become pregnant or are breast-feeding.
- Have an overactive thyroid gland (hyperthyroidism).
- Have problems passing water or need to pass water (urine) frequently.
- Have narrow angle glaucoma (an eye disorder).
- Have schizophrenia or other type of mental disorder.

If you are not sure if any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Trazodone Tablets.

Other medicines and Trazodone Tablets

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines you buy without a prescription, including herbal medicines. This is because Trazodone Tablets can affect the way some other medicines work. Also some medicines can affect the way Trazodone Tablets work.

Tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) such as tranylcypromine, phenelzine and isocarboxazid (for depression) or selegiline (for Parkinson's disease), **or have taken them in the last 2 weeks.**
- Other antidepressants (such as amitriptyline or fluoxetine).
- Phenothiazines (antipsychotic medicines used in the treatment of schizophrenia and other mental disorders).

- Levodopa (used to treat Parkinson's disease).
- Buprenorphine (used to treat pain). This medicine may interact with Trazodone Tablets and you may experience symptoms such as involuntary, rhythmic contractions of muscles, including the muscles that control movement of the eye, agitation, hallucinations, coma, excessive sweating, tremor, exaggeration of reflexes, increased muscle tension, body temperature above 38°C. Contact your doctor when experiencing such symptoms.
- Sedatives (such as tranquilizers or sleeping pills).
- Medicines used to treat epilepsy such as carbamazepine and phenytoin.
- Medicines used to treat high blood pressure, for example, clonidine.
- Digoxin (used to treat heart problems).
- Warfarin (used to stop your blood from clotting).
- Medicines used to treat fungal infections such as ketoconazole and itraconazole.
- Some medicines used to treat HIV such as ritonavir and indinavir.
- Erythromycin, an antibiotic used to treat infections.
- St. John's Wort (a herbal remedy).

Muscle relaxants

Trazodone hydrochloride may enhance the effects of muscle relaxants and volatile anaesthetics, and caution should be exercised in such instances.

Anaesthetics

If you are going to have an anaesthetic (for an operation), tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking Trazodone Tablets.

Trazodone Tablets with alcohol

You should avoid drinking alcohol while taking Trazodone Tablets.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Talk to your doctor before taking this medicine if you are pregnant, might become pregnant, or think you may be pregnant.

Trazodone Tablets should only be taken during pregnancy if recommended by your doctor.

Taking Trazodone Tablets during pregnancy may lead to your baby experiencing withdrawal symptoms when they are born. In this case, monitoring of your newborn should be performed by your doctor.

If you are breast-feeding or planning to breast-feed, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking any medicine.

Driving and using machines

Trazodone Tablets may make you feel sleepy or dizzy. If this happens do not drive or use any tools or machines.

Trazodone Tablets contain lactose

If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

Trazodone Tablets contain sodium

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

3. How to take Trazodone Tablets

Always take Trazodone Tablets exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Adults:

Depression

- Adults usually start by taking 150 mg each day.
- Your doctor may increase the dose to 300 mg each day depending on your condition.
- For adults in hospital the dose may be as high as 600 mg each day.

Anxiety

- Adults usually start by taking 75 mg each day.
- Your doctor may increase the dose to 300 mg each day.

Elderly

Older people or those who are frail will usually be given a starting dose of 100 mg each day.

Trazodone Tablets cannot be divided for dosing. Another strength or formulation of trazodone hydrochloride should be used when doses are not achievable with Trazodone Tablets.

Children and adolescents

Trazodone Tablets should not be used in children and adolescents under 18 years of age .

Taking this medicine

- Take this medicine by mouth
- Swallow the tablets whole with a drink of water
- The score line is only there to help you break the tablet if you have difficulty swallowing it whole
- Take with or after food. This can help lower the chances of side effects
- If you have been told to take Trazodone Tablets only once each day then you should take it before going to bed
- If you feel the effect of your medicine is too weak or too strong, do not change the dose yourself, but ask your doctor.

If you take more Trazodone Tablets than you should

If you take more Trazodone Tablets than you should, tell a doctor or go to a hospital casualty department straight away. Take the medicine pack with you. This is so the doctor knows what you have taken.

The following effects may happen: feeling sick or being sick, feeling sleepy, dizzy or faint, fits (seizures), confusion, breathing or heart problems.

If you forget to take Trazodone Tablets

If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember it. However, if it is nearly time for the next dose, skip the missed dose. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop taking Trazodone Tablets

Keep taking Trazodone Tablets until your doctor tells you to stop. Do not stop taking Trazodone Tablets just because you feel better. When your doctor tells you to stop taking these tablets, he/she will help you to stop taking them gradually.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Trazodone Tablets can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop taking Trazodone Tablets and see a doctor or go to a hospital straight away if:

- You get swelling of the hands, feet, ankles, face, lips or throat which may cause difficulty swallowing or breathing, itching of the skin and nettle rash. This may mean you are having an allergic reaction to Trazodone Tablets.
- Painful erection of the penis, unrelated to sexual activity, that will not go away (priapism).
- Loss of appetite, feeling sick or being sick, confusion, abdominal pain, fever, yellowing of the eyes or skin (jaundice). These could be symptoms of a serious liver problem such as hepatitis.
- Getting infections more easily than usual. This could be because of a blood disorder (agranulocytosis).
- You have severe abdominal pain and bloating, are being sick (vomiting) and have constipation. These may be signs that your intestine is not working properly (paralytic ileus).
- Bruising more easily than usual. This could be because of a blood disorder (thrombocytopenia).

Talk to your doctor straight away if you notice the following side-effects:

- You have thoughts of harming or killing yourself.
- Feeling tired, faint, dizzy, having pale skin. These could be signs of anaemia.
- Rapid, slow or irregular heartbeat.
- Convulsions/fits.
- Unusual skin sensations such as numbness, tingling, pricking, burning or creeping on the skin (paraesthesia).
- Feeling confused, restless, sweating, shaking, shivering, hallucinations (strange visions or sounds), sudden jerks of the muscles or a fast heartbeat, you may have something called Serotonin syndrome.
- Feeling very unwell, possibly with shortness of breath (dyspnoea), difficulty in walking or walking with a shuffling gait, shaking, uncontrolled muscle twitching and a high temperature (above 38°C). This could be a rare condition known as Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome.

Below is a list of other side effects that have been reported:

- Feeling drowsy or sleepy (somnolence)
- Feeling less alert than usual
- Feeling weak
- Feeling sick (nausea) or being sick (vomiting)
- Constipation
- Diarrhoea
- Dry mouth, altered taste, increased amounts of saliva
- Dizziness, headache, confusion, weakness, tremor (shaking)
- Blurred vision
- Weight loss
- Rapid or slow heartbeat
- Chest pain
- High blood pressure
- Feeling dizzy or light-headed on standing or sitting up quickly (postural hypotension), fainting
- Feeling agitated, restless, anxious or more nervous than usual
- Difficulty sleeping, nightmares
- Decreased sex drive
- Overactive behavior or thoughts (mania), believing things that are not true (delusions), memory disturbances
- Water retention which may cause swollen arms or legs
- Skin rash
- Pain in limbs, muscles or joints, flu-like symptoms
- High temperature

- Frequent infections with high temperature, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers. These could be signs of a blood problem called leucopenia.
- Difficulty with speaking
- Higher than normal number of white blood cells (shown in a blood test)
- Increased level of liver enzymes (shown in a blood test)
- Severe liver disorders such as hepatitis
- Liver failure with potentially fatal outcome
- Feeling tired, weak, confused, aching muscles. There may also be headache, loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting. This may be due to low sodium levels in your blood (shown in a blood test).

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist 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 Trazodone Tablets

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

Do not use Trazodone Tablets after the expiry date which is stated on the blister and carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

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 to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Trazodone Tablets contains

The active substance is trazodone hydrochloride.

The core ingredients are: lactose monohydrate, calcium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, maize starch, sodium starch glycolate 'Type A', povidone K-30, magnesium stearate.

The coating ingredients are: hypromellose, macrogol/polyethylene glycol, titanium dioxide (E171), talc.

What Trazodone Tablets look like and contents of the pack

Trazodone Tablets are white-coloured, circular, film-coated tablets with score line on both sides.

The score line is only to facilitate breaking for ease of swallowing and not to divide into equal doses.

Trazodone Tablets are available in aluminum - PVdC/PVC white opaque blisters of 28, 56, 84, 100 and 112 tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

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Manufacturer

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This leaflet was last revised in March 2023.