

PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

Tapentadol Liconsa 25 mg prolonged-release tablets
Tapentadol Liconsa 50 mg prolonged-release tablets
Tapentadol Liconsa 100 mg prolonged-release tablets
Tapentadol Liconsa 150 mg prolonged-release tablets
Tapentadol Liconsa 200 mg prolonged-release tablets
Tapentadol Liconsa 250 mg prolonged-release tablets

Tapentadol

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 your 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:

1. What Tapentadol Liconsa is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Tapentadol Liconsa
3. How to take Tapentadol Liconsa
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Tapentadol Liconsa
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Tapentadol Liconsa is and what it is used for

Tapentadol the active substance in Tapentadol Liconsa, is a strong painkiller which belongs to the class of opioids. Tapentadol Liconsa is used for the treatment of severe long-term pain in adults that can only be adequately managed with an opioid painkiller.

2. What you need to know before you take Tapentadol Liconsa

Do not take Tapentadol Liconsa if you

- are allergic to tapentadol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6),
- have asthma or if your breathing is dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression, hypercapnia),
- have no bowel movement as shown by severe constipation and bloating which may be accompanied by pain or discomfort in the lower stomach,
- have acute poisoning with alcohol, sleeping pills, pain relievers or other psychotropic medicines (medicines that affect mood and emotions) (see 'Other medicines and Tapentadol Liconsa').

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Tapentadol Liconsa if you:

- have slow or shallow breathing,
- have increased pressure in the brain or disturbed consciousness up to coma,
- have had a head injury or brain tumors,

- have liver or kidney problems (see ‘How to take Tapentadol Liconsa’)
- have a pancreatic disease including inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis) or disease of the bile duct (biliary tract disease)
- are taking medicines referred to as mixed opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g., pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g. buprenorphine)
- have a tendency towards epilepsy or fits or if you are taking other medicines known to increase the risk of seizures because the risk of a fit may increase.
- or anyone in your family have ever abused or been dependent on alcohol, prescription medicines or illegal drugs (“addiction”).
- are a smoker.
- have ever had problems with your mood (depression, anxiety or a personality disorder) or have been treated by a psychiatrist for other mental illnesses.

Tapentadol Liconsa may lead to physical and psychological addiction. If you have a tendency to abuse medicines or if you are dependent on medicines, you should only take these tablets for short periods and under strict medical supervision.

This medicine contains tapentadol which is an opioid medicine. Repeated use of opioid painkillers may result in the drug being less effective (you become accustomed to it). It may also lead to dependence and abuse which may result in life-threatening overdose. If you have concern that you may become dependent on Tapentadol Liconsa, it is important that you consult your doctor. Use (even at therapeutic doses) may lead to physical dependence, which may result in you suffering withdrawal effects and a recurrence of your problems if you suddenly stop taking this medicine treatment.

Sleep-related breathing disorders

Tapentadol Liconsa can cause sleep-related breathing disorders such as sleep apnoea (breathing pauses during sleep) and sleep related hypoxemia (low oxygen level in the blood). The symptoms can include breathing pauses during sleep, night awakening due to shortness of breath, difficulties to maintain sleep or excessive drowsiness during the day. If you or another person observe these symptoms, contact your doctor. A dose reduction may be considered by your doctor.

Other medicines and Tapentadol Liconsa

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines. Your doctor will tell you which medicines are safe to take with Tapentadol Liconsa.

- The risk of side effects increases if you are taking medicines which may cause convulsions (fits), such as certain antidepressants or antipsychotics. The risk of having a fit may increase if you take Tapentadol Liconsa at the same time. Your doctor will tell you whether Tapentadol Liconsa is suitable for you.
- Concomitant use of Tapentadol Liconsa and sedative medicines such as benzodiazepines or related drugs (certain sleeping pills or tranquillizers (e.g. barbiturates) or pain relievers such as opioids, morphine and codeine (also as cough medicine), antipsychotics, H₁-antihistamines, alcohol) 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 Tapentadol Liconsa together with sedative medicines the dose and duration of concomitant treatment should be limited by your doctor.

The concomitant use of opioids and drugs used to treat epilepsy, nerve pain or anxiety (gabapentin and pregabalin) increases the risk of opioid overdose, respiratory depression and may be life-threatening.

Please tell your doctor if you are taking gabapentin or pregabalin or any sedative medicines 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.

- If you are taking a type of medicine that affects serotonin levels (e.g. certain medicines to treat depression), speak to your doctor before taking Tapentadol Liconsa as there have been cases of

“serotonin syndrome”. Serotonin syndrome is a rare, but life-threatening condition. The signs include involuntary, rhythmic contractions of muscles, including the muscles that control movement of the eye, agitation, excessive sweating, tremor, exaggeration of reflexes, increased muscle tension and body temperature above 38°C. Your doctor can advise you on this.

- Taking Tapentadol Liconsa together with other medicines that belong to the group of mixed μ -opioid receptor agonists/antagonists (e.g. pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial μ -opioid receptor agonists (e.g. buprenorphine) has not been investigated. Tapentadol Liconsa may not work as well if taken with one of these medicines. Tell your doctor if you are currently being treated with one of these medicines.
- Taking Tapentadol Liconsa with products (e.g. rifampicin, phenobarbital or St John’s Wort) that affect the enzymes required to remove Tapentadol Liconsa from the body, may affect how well Tapentadol Liconsa works or may cause side effects. The effects may occur especially when the other medication is started or stopped.
- Tapentadol Liconsa should not be taken together with monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs - certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Tell your doctor if you are taking MAO inhibitors or have taken these during the last 14 days.

Please keep your doctor informed about all medicines you are taking

Taking Tapentadol Liconsa with food, drink and alcohol

Do not drink alcohol whilst taking Tapentadol Liconsa because some side effects such as drowsiness may be increased. Food does not influence the effect of these tablets.

Pregnancy and breast feeding

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.

Do not take these tablets:

- if you are pregnant, unless your doctor has instructed you to do so,
- during childbirth because it could lead to dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression) in the newborn,
- during breast-feeding, because it may be excreted in the breast milk.

If you become pregnant during treatment with Tapentadol Liconsa, talk with your doctor.

Driving and using machines

Tapentadol Liconsa may have major influence on your ability to drive a car or use machines as it can cause drowsiness, dizziness and blurred vision and may impair your reactions. This may especially happen when you start taking Tapentadol Liconsa, if you change your dosage or if you are drinking alcohol or taking tranquillizers.

3. How to take Tapentadol Liconsa

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

Your doctor will change the dose and time between doses according to your pain level and your needs. Generally, the lowest pain-relieving dose should be taken.

Adults

The usual dose is 1 tablet every 12 hours (i.e 2 tablets per day).

Total daily doses of Tapentadol Liconsa greater than 500 mg tapentadol are not recommended.

Your doctor may prescribe a different, more appropriate dose or interval of dosing, if this is necessary for you. If you feel that the effect of these tablets is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Children and adolescents

Tapentadol Liconsa should not be used for children and adolescents below the age of 18 years.

How and when should you take Tapentadol Liconsa?

- Tapentadol Liconsa should be swallowed.
- Always swallow the tablets whole, with sufficient liquid.
- Don't chew it, break it or crush it – this could lead to overdosing, because the drug will be released into your body too quickly.
- You may take the tablets on an empty stomach or with meals.
- The empty shell of the tablet may not be digested completely and thus be seen in stool. This should not worry you since the drug (active substance) of the tablet has already been absorbed in your body and what you see is just the empty shell.

How long should you take Tapentadol Liconsa?

Do not take the tablets for longer than as your doctor has told you.

If you take more Tapentadol Liconsa than you should

After taking very high doses, the following may be experienced:

pin-point pupils, vomiting, drop in blood pressure, fast heartbeat, altered consciousness, collapse or coma (deep unconsciousness), epileptic fits, dangerously slow or shallow breathing or stopping breathing may occur.

If this happens a doctor should be called immediately!

If you forget to take Tapentadol Liconsa

If you forget to take the tablets, your pain is likely to return. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose, simply continue taking the tablets as before.

If you stop taking Tapentadol Liconsa

If you interrupt or stop treatment too soon, your pain is likely to return. If you wish to stop treatment, please tell your doctor first before stopping treatment.

Generally, there will be no withdrawal effects when treatment is stopped. However, on uncommon occasions, people who have been taking the tablets for some time may feel unwell if they abruptly stop taking them.

Symptoms may be:

- restlessness, watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, sweating, chills, muscle pain and dilated pupils,
- irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, difficulty in sleeping, nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea, and increases in blood pressure, breathing or heart rate.

If you experience any of these complaints after stopping treatment, please consult your doctor.

You should not suddenly stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to. If your doctor wants you to stop taking your tablets, he/she will tell you how to do this, this may include a gradual reduction of the dose.

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

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Tapentadol Liconsa can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. If you are affected by the following side effects, immediately contact a doctor, or go to the nearest hospital.

- Allergic reactions. Symptoms may be wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching, especially those covering your whole body. (Frequency: Uncommon)

- If you breathe more slowly or weakly than expected It mostly occurs in elderly and weak patients. (Frequency: Common)

Other side effects that may occur:

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

- feeling sick (nausea)
- constipation
- dizziness, drowsiness, headache.

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- decreased appetite
- anxiety
- depressed mood
- sleep problem
- nervousness
- restlessness
- disturbance in attention
- trembling
- muscle twitches
- flushing
- shortness of breath
- vomiting
- diarrhoea
- indigestion
- itching
- increased sweating
- rash
- feeling of weakness
- fatigue
- feeling of body temperature change
- mucosal dryness
- accumulation of water in the tissue (oedema).

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)

- allergic reaction
- weight loss
- disorientation
- confusion
- excitability (agitation)
- perception disturbances
- abnormal dreams
- euphoric mood
- depressed level of consciousness
- memory impairment
- mental impairment
- fainting
- sedation
- balance disorder
- difficulty in speaking
- numbness
- abnormal sensations of the skin (e.g. tingling, prickling)
- abnormal vision
- faster heart beat

- slower heart beat
- decreased blood pressure
- abdominal discomfort
- hives
- delay in passing urine
- frequent urination
- sexual dysfunction
- drug withdrawal syndrome (see “If you stop taking Tapentadol Liconsal”)
- feeling abnormal, irritability.

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

- drug dependence
- thinking abnormal
- epileptic fit
- near fainting
- coordination abnormal
- dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression)
- impaired gastric emptying
- feeling drunk
- feeling of relaxation.

Unknown: frequency cannot be estimated from the present data

- delirium

In general, the likelihood of having suicidal thoughts and behaviour is increased in patients suffering from chronic pain. In addition, certain medicines for the treatment of depression (which have an impact on the neurotransmitter system in the brain) may increase this risk, especially at the beginning of treatment. Although tapentadol also affects neurotransmitters, data from human use of tapentadol do not provide evidence for an increased risk.

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: 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 Tapentadol Liconsal

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

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

This medicine 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 protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Tapentadol Liconsal contains

The active substance is tapentadol

Each prolonged-release tablet contains 25, 50, 100, 150, 200 or 250 mg tapentadol (as tartrate).

The other ingredients are:

Tablet core: povidone, microcrystalline cellulose, Hypromellose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate.

25 mg and 250 mg tablet coating: hypromellose (E464), polydextrose (E1200), titanium dioxide (E171), maltodextrin, medium-chain triglycerides, yellow iron oxide (E172), black iron oxide (E172), red iron oxide (E172).

50 mg tablet coating: hypromellose (E464), polydextrose (E1200), titanium dioxide (E171), maltodextrin, medium-chain triglycerides.

100 mg tablet coating: hypromellose (E464), polydextrose (E1200), titanium dioxide (E171), maltodextrin, medium-chain triglycerides, yellow iron oxide (E172).

150 mg and 200 mg tablet coating: hypromellose (E464), polydextrose (E1200), titanium dioxide (E171), maltodextrin, medium-chain triglycerides, yellow iron oxide (E172), red iron oxide (E172).

What Tapentadol Liconsa looks like and contents of the pack

Tapentadol Liconsa 25 mg is a light beige, round and biconvex prolonged-release tablet, with a diameter of approximately 8 mm.

Tapentadol Liconsa 50 mg is a white to off-white, round and biconvex prolonged-release tablet, with a diameter of approximately 12 mm.

Tapentadol Liconsa 100 mg is a light yellow, oblong and biconvex prolonged-release tablet, with a length of approximately 16 mm and a width of approximately 7 mm.

Tapentadol Liconsa 150 mg is a light pink, oblong and biconvex prolonged-release tablet, with a length of approximately 18 mm and a width of approximately 7.5 mm.

Tapentadol Liconsa 200 mg is a light ochre, oblong and biconvex prolonged-release tablet, with a length of approximately 18 mm and a width of approximately 7.5 mm.

Tapentadol Liconsa 250 mg is a red brown, oblong and biconvex prolonged-release tablet, with a length of approximately 21 mm and a width of approximately 7.5 mm.

Tapentadol Liconsa are available in blisters of 7, 28, 30, 60 or 100 prolonged-release tablets. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder

Laboratorios Liconsa, S.A.
C/ Dulcinea S/N,
28805 Alcalá de Henares, Madrid
Spain

Manufacturer

G.L. Pharma GmbH
Industriestrasse 1, A-8502 Lannach
Austria

This medicine is authorised in the Member States of the European Economic Area under the following names:

SE: Tapentadol Depot Laboratorios Liconsa

IE: Tapentadol Liconsa 25/50/100/150/200/250 mg prolonged-release tablets

NL: Tapentadol Retard Laboratorios Liconsa 25/50/100/150/200/250 mg tabletten met verlengde afgifte

BE: Tapentadol Retard Laboratorios Liconsa 25/50/100/150/200/250 mg comprimés à libération prolongée

NO: Tapentadol Depot Medical Valley 25/50/100/150/200/250 mg depottablett

HR: Tapentadol Depot Laboratorios Liconsa 25/50/100/150/200/250 mg tableta s produljenim oslobađanjem

This leaflet was last revised in November 2022