

Information on PROCYCLIDINE for Service Users and their Families

This leaflet provides general information about your medication. Manufacturer patient information leaflets are also provided with all medicines. If you require further information, speak to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

Procyclidine is also known as Kemadrin[®] or Arpicolin[®] or just procyclidine. It comes as a tablet, oral liquid or injection.

Procyclidine is pronounced:

Pro-sigh-klee-deen.

Reviewed by:	On:	Next Review:
DTC	January 2013	January 2017

The Mersey Care Medicines Information Service¹ regularly updates this information sheet.

¹ Medicines Information, Pharmacy, Mossley Hill Hospital, Park Avenue, Liverpool L18 8BU.

[What is Procyclidine for?](#)

Procyclidine is part of a group of medicines called 'antimuscarinic agents' that are used to treat the symptoms such as tremor, shakiness, stiff muscles or limbs, drooling, dribbling, difficulty speaking, writing or walking and unusual head and body movements. Such symptoms may be caused by side effects of medication that you may be taking or a condition called Parkinson's disease.

[How should I take Procyclidine?](#)

Before taking procyclidine, tell your doctor if:

- you are allergic to procyclidine
- you suffer from glaucoma, heart, liver or kidney problems, urinary problems, prostate trouble, stomach or bowel problems
- you are taking any prescribed medication or other treatments that you have bought for yourself without prescription
- you are pregnant or planning a pregnancy or breast-feeding

Your doctor will advise you on the daily dose you should take. Procyclidine tablets should be swallowed whole with a glass of water, after meals. If you are taking the liquid, you will be supplied with the right measure. If you have been prescribed an injection, your nurse will give you the correct dose. Never take more than the prescribed dose. Ask your pharmacist or nurse if you are not sure of anything.

[Can I stop taking Procyclidine if I feel better?](#)

Procyclidine is not usually taken routinely. You will take procyclidine for as long as you have symptoms. It is better to discuss with your doctor how long you will need to be on medication. If you want to stop your medication it is better to do it in discussion with your doctor, and slowly so that you can be monitored for any deterioration or withdrawal reactions.

[What if I forget a dose of Procyclidine?](#)

Take the missed dose as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at the usual time then continue your course as prescribed. Do not double the dose or take extra doses to make up for the missed dose.

When will my Procyclidine start to work?

Most people find it starts to work within an hour or so but it may be some time before you feel the full benefits.

Are there any side effects?

Procyclidine can cause side effects in some people, but they may vary from person to person. Many side effects wear off over time.

Known side effects include:

- dry mouth
- constipation
- problems with eyesight
- tiredness
- feeling sleepy
- feeling lightheaded or dizzy
- indigestion
- weight gain
- difficulty concentrating
- difficulty passing urine
- feeling sick or being sick
- feeling anxious or irritable

Occasionally more serious side effects can occur. These may include:

- allergic reaction - severe rash with swelling and breathing problems
- fainting
- feeling confused
- restlessness
- inability to pass urine
- poor memory
- fast heart beat/palpitations
- seeing or hearing things that aren't there (hallucinations)

If you are concerned about ANY side effects, talk to your doctor nurse or pharmacist. If you think a medicine has caused you an unwanted side effect, please report the problem either on a Yellow Card form available from your doctor, nurse or pharmacist OR online at this website <http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>.

Can I take other medicines?

Other medicines may interact with procyclidine causing undesirable effects. Medicines you can buy over the counter without a prescription may interact with prescribed medicines. Always ask your doctor or pharmacist before taking any other medicines.

Can I drive?

Procyclidine can affect your eyesight and make you sleepy and dizzy. If you are affected in this way, do not drive or work with machinery.

Can I drink alcohol?

Avoid drinking alcohol while taking this medication. The combined effects of procyclidine and alcohol can make you feel more drowsy than usual.

Can I get pregnant or breast-feed?

Medicines can have harmful effects at any time during pregnancy. If you are pregnant, or are planning to get pregnant, you should get advice from your doctor. You and your doctor or specialist will decide if the potential benefits of treatment outweigh the potential risks to the baby.

Procyclidine can pass into breast milk. If you are breast-feeding, you should get your doctors advice.

What alternative treatments are there?

Other anticholinergic medications include trihexyphenidyl/benzhexol and orphenadrine. Your doctor or pharmacist will be able to provide you with further information about these medications.

IMPORTANT

Remember to keep medicines where children cannot see or reach them. Never share medicines with others even if their symptoms appear the same as yours.

NEVER EXCEED THE STATED DOSE OF YOUR MEDICINE