Information on AMISULPRIDE 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.

Amisulpride is also known as Solian®. It is available as:

- tablets called Solian® tablets or just amisulpride
- liquid called Solian® Solution

Amisulpride is pronounced:

*Amee-sul-pride*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewed by:</th>
<th>On:</th>
<th>Next Review:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DTC</td>
<td>January 2017</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 it Amisulpride for?
Amisulpride is part of a group of medications called atypical antipsychotics which are used to treat symptoms such as hearing voices, seeing, feeling or sensing things that are not there, unpleasant thoughts, feeling paranoid, feeling that other people can read your thoughts, being withdrawn or lacking in motivation.

How should I take Amisulpride?
Before taking amisulpride, tell your doctor if:
- you are allergic to amisulpride or any of its ingredients
- you suffer from any other conditions, especially heart or kidney problems, diabetes, epilepsy, tumours or Parkinson's disease
- you have a history of blood clots, unusual heart rate or rhythm or breast cancer
- you take any other medicines, supplements or herbal remedies
- you are under 18 years of age
- you are pregnant (or planning pregnancy) or breastfeeding

Your doctor will decide how much amisulpride is right for you to take. Amisulpride tablets should be swallowed with a drink of water and taken before meals. If you are taking the liquid, you will be supplied with the right measure. Never take more than the prescribed dose. Ask your pharmacist or nurse if you are not sure of anything.

Do I need any tests when taking Amisulpride?
Your doctor may carry out some blood and urine tests and monitor your height, weight, blood pressure and pulse. You may also get a heart tracing or electrocardiogram (ECG) done to check how well your heart is working. These tests will allow the doctor to check if this medication is right for you and to monitor your treatment.

Can I stop taking my medication if I feel better?
Amisulpride helps prevent your symptoms from returning (relapse) so it is best to continue taking it. People who take this type of medication regularly are less likely to deteriorate or have to go into hospital with severe symptoms. It is best to discuss with your doctor how long you will need to be on medication. Antipsychotic medication tends to be taken for a long time. 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 unpleasant withdrawal effects.
**What if I forget a dose of amisulpride?**
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. Do not double the dose or take extra doses to make up. If you take more than you should, contact your doctor or nearest hospital.

**When will amisulpride start to work?**
You may start to feel better in a short time but it can take as long as six to eight weeks before you notice the benefits of this medicine.

**Are there any side effects?**
Amisulpride may 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:
- sleep disturbances
- drowsiness
- anxiety and agitation
- stomach problems
- headaches
- movements you cannot control
- producing more saliva than usual
- irregular periods in women, breast changes, sexual problems
- muscle stiffness or spasms

Occasionally, more serious side effects can occur. These may include:
- allergic reaction - rash, swelling, breathing problems
- inner restlessness and inability to sit or stand still
- heart problems, very fast heart beat, chest pain
- blurred eyesight
- fits
- stroke in older people, with dementia
- unusual movements of mouth and tongue or body
- high fever, stiffness, sweating, unconsciousness – ‘NMS’

If you are concerned about side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. 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/](http://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/).
Can I take other medicines?
Other medicines may interact with amisulpride causing unwanted 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?
Amisulpride can make you feel less alert, sleepy and affect your eyesight. If you are affected in this way, do not drive or work with machinery. You may commit an offence if you drive when your condition or treatment affects your ability to drive safely. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist or contact DVLA if you are not sure.

Can I drink alcohol?
Avoid drinking alcohol while taking amisulpride. The combined effects of amisulpride and alcohol can make you feel more sleepy.

Can I get pregnant or breast feed?
Medicines can have harmful effects at any time during pregnancy. Newborns whose mothers were treated with antipsychotics during pregnancy can show abnormal movements and withdrawal effects. If you are pregnant, or are planning to get pregnant, you should seek 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. It is not clear whether amisulpride passes into breast milk. If you are planning breast-feeding, you should get your doctor’s advice.

What alternative treatments are there?
Amisulpride is an antipsychotic medication. Other ‘atypical antipsychotic’ medications with similar effects include aripiprazole, clozapine, olanzapine, quetiapine and risperidone. Alternative typical antipsychotics like haloperidol, sulpiride and flupentixol may also be used. Your doctor or pharmacist will be able to provide you with further information about these other 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