

An antipsychotic

Chlorpromazine (clor-pro-ma-zeen)

You should read this leaflet with your carer/care giver.



Chlorpromazine:

- Is also called Largactil or Chloractil.
- Come as tablets or as liquid.

- Chlorpromazine is used for psychosis, schizophrenia and mania.
- Chlorpromazine is sometimes used for people who are distressed. There is no clear evidence that it improves someone's behaviour.



The label on your chlorpromazine packet should tell you when and how much medicine to take.

Swallow your tablet with water or measure and swallow the liquid.

If you forget to take your medicine, tell someone straight away.

You should carry on taking your medicine even if you feel better unless your doctor asks you to stop.



Drinking alcohol when taking chlorpromazine could make you feel sleepy.

Some medicines do not work well together.

You should tell your doctor about any other medicines you are taking.

Side effects:

- Medicine can have some effects on your body that are not wanted.
- Not everyone taking a medicine will get them.
- Many will go away with time.
- Many are rare.

You might want to talk to your doctor or the pharmacist or your key worker if you have any side effect.

These are some (but NOT all) side effects of chlorpromazine...



- Feeling sleepy or sluggish and tired
- Putting on weight (check weight regularly)
- Drooling or excessive spit
- Rolling of eyeballs
- Feeling restless and on the go all the time
- Unwanted movement of lips and face muscles
- Unusual body movement or posture
- Shakes in limbs and body
- Stiffness in body
- You may lose interest in sex



- Constipation or upset tummy
- In women, menstrual periods may change (check blood test)
- Men may develop breasts and, in both men and women, there may be secretion of breast milk (check blood test)
- Get sunburnt easily (take precaution)
- Feeling dizzy when you stand up (check blood pressure)

Some side effects are more serious.

You should tell someone straight away if you have...

- High temperature and stiffness (check blood test)
- Shaky movements in face, mouth, arms and legs
- Sweating and loss of senses (check blood test)

You should talk to your doctor before you stop taking your medicine.

Sometimes, if you stop taking your medicine, you may have:

- Vomiting
- Problem moving
- Shaking hands or body
- Distressing behaviour
- Restlessness and anxiety





This leaflet does not tell you everything about chlorpromazine.

You can get more information from:

- your pharmacist, doctor, nurse or carer/ care giver
- check <http://www.choiceandmedication.org/cnwl/>
- NHS on 111
- medicine information helpline on 020 3317 5090.

This leaflet can be downloaded free of charge from:

<https://spectrom.wixsite.com/project/>

While preparing this leaflet we checked information in...

- The British National Formulary (www.bnf.org)
- Dulcan, M. K., & Ballard, R. (2015). *Helping parents and teachers understand medications for behavioural and emotional problems: A resource book of medication information handouts*. American Psychiatric Publishing, Washington DC, USA.

This leaflet is not designed for people with intellectual/learning disabilities to read on their own. Support (care) staff or care givers should go through the leaflet with the person who has intellectual disabilities.

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