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Pericyazine

Keep your regular appointments with your doctor. This is so your progress can be checked.

The most common side-effects of pericyazine are feeling sleepy or dizzy.

Your skin may become more sensitive to sunlight than normal. Protect your skin from bright sunlight until you know how your skin reacts, and do not use sunbeds.

About pericyazine

Type of medicine	An antipsychotic medicine
Used for	Easing the symptoms of schizophrenia and other mental, emotional or behavioural problems
Available as	Tablets and oral liquid medicine

Pericyazine, an [antipsychotic](#), is prescribed to relieve the symptoms of [schizophrenia](#) and other problems which affect the way you think, feel or behave. These problems may make you hear, see or sense things that are not there, or believe things that are not true, or feel unusually agitated or anxious.

Pericyazine works on the balance of chemical substances in your brain to help ease these types of symptoms.

Before taking pericyazine

Some medicines are not suitable for people with certain conditions, and sometimes a medicine may only be used if extra care is taken. For these reasons, before you start taking pericyazine it is important that your doctor knows:

- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- If you have a heart condition or blood vessel disease.
- If you have liver, kidney or prostate problems.
- If you have any problems with your breathing.
- If you have any of the following: epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, depression, raised pressure in your eye (glaucoma) or a condition which causes muscle weakness, called myasthenia gravis.
- If you have ever had yellowing of your skin or of the whites of your eyes (jaundice) or a blood disorder.
- If you have a tumour on your adrenal gland (a condition called phaeochromocytoma).
- If you have had an allergic reaction to a medicine.
- If you are taking or using any other medicines. This includes any medicines you are taking which are available to buy without a prescription, as well as herbal and complementary medicines.

How to take pericyazine

- Before you start the treatment, read the manufacturer's printed information leaflet from inside the pack. It will give you more information about pericyazine and it will also provide you with a full list of the side-effects which you may experience from taking it.
- Take pericyazine exactly as your doctor tells you to. When you first start taking it, your doctor may give you a small dose and then gradually increase it. It is usually prescribed as two or three doses a day. The directions for taking the tablets will be printed on the label of the pack to remind you about what the doctor said to you.

- Try to get into the habit of taking your doses at the same times of day each day, as this will help you to remember to take them regularly. You can take pericyazine either before or after meals. Swallow the tablets with a drink of water.
- If you forget to take a dose, leave out the missed dose but make sure that you remember to take your next dose when it is due. Do not take two doses together to make up for a forgotten dose.

Getting the most from your treatment

- Your treatment will require careful monitoring to make sure that you get the best possible benefit from pericyazine. Keep your regular doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked. You will need to have some tests from time to time during the treatment.
- If you have been prescribed pericyazine to relieve severe agitation or anxiety, it will be given to you for a short time only until your symptoms have eased. Treatment with pericyazine for schizophrenia is usually long-term unless you experience an adverse effect. Keep taking it unless your doctor tells you otherwise. Stopping pericyazine suddenly can cause problems and your doctor may want you to reduce your dose gradually if this becomes necessary.
- Alcohol increases the risk of side-effects from pericyazine, so you should avoid drinking it.
- If you have diabetes you may need to check your blood glucose more frequently, as pericyazine can affect the levels of sugar in your blood. Your doctor will advise you about this.
- Pericyazine can cause your skin to become more sensitive to sunlight than normal. Use a sunscreen that protects against UVA light and has a sun protection factor (SPF), especially in strong sunlight or until you know how your skin reacts. Do not use sunbeds.
- If you are due to have any medical or dental treatment, tell the person carrying out the treatment which medicines you are taking. This is important because pericyazine could interfere with any anaesthetic you receive.
- If you buy or take any 'over-the-counter' medicines or herbal remedies, please check with a pharmacist that they are suitable for you to take with pericyazine.

Can pericyazine cause problems?

Along with their useful effects, most medicines can cause unwanted side-effects although not everyone experiences them. The table below contains some of the most common ones associated with pericyazine. You will find a full list in the manufacturer's information leaflet supplied with your medicine. The unwanted effects often improve as your body adjusts to the new medicine, but speak with your doctor or pharmacist if any of the following continue or become troublesome.

Common pericyazine side-effects	What can I do if I experience this?
Feeling dizzy (especially when standing up) or sleepy	Do not drive and do not use tools or machines. Avoid alcohol
Dry mouth	Try chewing sugar-free gum or sucking sugar-free sweets
Feeling shaky or restless, unusual or uncontrollable muscle movements	Speak with your doctor about any of these. Your treatment may need adjusting
Difficulty sleeping, feeling agitated, stuffy nose, infections, feeling short of breath, rashes, changes to your heartbeat, erectile dysfunction, breast enlargement, production of breast milk, menstrual problems	Discuss these with your doctor if any become troublesome

If you experience any other symptoms which you think may be due to pericyazine, please speak with your doctor or pharmacist for further advice.

How to store pericyazine

- Keep all medicines out of the reach and sight of children.
- Store in a cool, dry place, away from direct heat and light.

Important information about all medicines

Never take more than the prescribed dose. If you suspect that you or someone else might have taken an overdose of this medicine, go to the accident and emergency department of your local hospital. Take the container with you, even if it is empty.

This medicine is for you. Never give it to other people even if their condition appears to be the same as yours.

Do not keep out-of-date or unwanted medicines. Take them to your local pharmacy which will dispose of them for you.

If you have any questions about this medicine ask your pharmacist.

If you experience side effects, you can report them online through the [Yellow Card website](#).

Further reading

- [Manufacturer's PIL, Pericyazine 10 mg Tablets](#); Zentiva, The electronic Medicines Compendium. Dated July 2022.
- [Manufacturer's PIL, Pericyazine 10 mg/5 ml Syrup](#); Zentiva, The electronic Medicines Compendium. Dated May 2022.
- [Medicines Complete BNF 88th Edition](#); British Medical Association and Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, London.

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