

FOR THE PATIENT: **Metoclopramide**

Other names: MAXERAN®, REGLAN®

- Metoclopramide is a prescription drug that is used to stop or reduce nausea or vomiting caused by cancer chemotherapy. It can be given by injection, or taken by mouth. Metoclopramide may be used alone or with other antinausea medications.
- Take the metoclopramide tablet with a glass of fluid (such as water or fruit juice). It may be taken **with food or on an empty stomach**.
- Metoclopramide tablets take 30-60 minutes to become fully effective.
- Metoclopramide is usually taken every 4-6 hours. It is best to **use metoclopramide regularly for the first 1 to 3 days** after chemotherapy. How long you use it will depend on your treatment and how you react to it.
- **When you feel the nausea is no longer present**, try cutting out one dose during the day. Continue to reduce the doses and stop completely if the nausea does not return. If you start to feel nauseated, take metoclopramide regularly for the rest of the day.
- **Store** metoclopramide at room temperature in the container it was dispensed in, out of the reach of children, away from heat, light and moisture.
- Other drugs that cause drowsiness may **interact** with metoclopramide. Check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start taking any new drugs.
- The **drinking of alcohol** (in small amounts) will not affect the safety or usefulness of metoclopramide. However, drowsiness caused by metoclopramide may be increased, sometimes dramatically.
- **Side effects are temporary** and usually stop within a day of finishing metoclopramide. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you find the side effects troublesome. Often they can be reduced by adjusting your dose.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>You may feel restless or have muscle spasms (less common), particularly involving the face and neck muscles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Take diphenhydramine (BENADRYL®) 25 mg every 4 hours to control muscle spasms. ·If severe muscle spasms occur (uncommon), stop taking metoclopramide and go to the nearest Emergency Department to get diphenhydramine by injection.
<p>Drowsiness is common and should decrease after a day or two of use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you feel drowsy, dizzy, or less alert than usual. ·Avoid alcohol as it may make you more drowsy or dizzy.

CHECK WITH YOUR DOCTOR IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:

- Uncontrolled nausea or vomiting.

Notes: