

Package leaflet: Information for the user

Emeside® 250mg Capsules

(ethosuximide)

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

The name of your medicine is Emeside 250mg Capsules but will be referred to as Emeside throughout this leaflet.

What is in this leaflet

1. What Emeside is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Emeside
3. How to take Emeside
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Emeside
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Emeside is and what it is used for

Emeside contain the active substance ethosuximide which is one of a group of medicines called anti-epileptic drugs; these medicines are used to treat epilepsy.

It is used to control epilepsy in children and adults.

Epilepsy is a condition where you have repeated seizures (fits).

Ethosuximide is used to control brief, sudden loss of consciousness (absence seizures, also called petit mal), and uncontrolled jerking movements (myoclonic seizures).

You should consult your doctor if you are unsure why you have been given Emeside, if you do not feel better or if you feel worse.

2. What you need to know before you take Emeside

Do not take Emeside:

- if you are allergic to ethosuximide, or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you are allergic to soya oil (see end of this section).
- if you have porphyria (a metabolism disorder which causes abdominal pains and mental disorder).

If any of the above apply to you, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

Warnings and precautions

Serious skin reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS) have been reported in association with Emeside treatment. Stop using Emeside and seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the symptoms described in section 4. These symptoms often occur within 28 days of starting this medicine, but can happen later.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Emeside if you suffer or have suffered in the past from any of the following conditions:

- Liver disease
- Kidney disease
- Bruising, fever, looking pale or a severe sore throat. These may be the first signs of a potentially serious blood disorder, which could be fatal if not detected.

Your doctor may take regular blood and/or urine samples to test for these.

Pay special attention to symptoms of bone marrow depression such as fever, inflammation of throat or pharynx tonsils as well as haemorrhagic tendency, and consult your doctor, if you experience any of these symptoms.

Your blood count should be checked regularly (initially monthly, after one year every six months) to identify potential injury of the medulla. Your liver enzymes should also be checked regularly. If you are taking anti-epileptic drugs, your doctor will routinely assess you for depression, anxiety and suicidality. If you are taking anti-epileptic drugs and you feel depressed and anxious, the symptoms of which are feeling low, loss of interest in everyday activities, lack of energy and a general feeling of unease, please consult your doctor.

A small number of people being treated with anti-epileptics such as ethosuximide have had thoughts of harming or killing themselves. If at any time you have these thoughts, immediately contact your doctor.

Other medicines and Emeside

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Some medicines may be affected by ethosuximide or they may affect how well ethosuximide will work. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking:

- isoniazid, a medicine used for certain types of infections.
- other medicines used for epilepsy, in particular phenytoin, sodium valproate and valproic acid. If Emeside are to replace your other medicines for epilepsy, your doctor will withdraw these gradually to avoid seizures.

Your doctor may need to test the amount of these medicines in your blood to help decide if any of these medicines are affecting your treatment.

Emeside with food and drink

Emeside can be taken before or after food and drink.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor for advice before taking this medicine.

You should not take Emeside if you are breast-feeding.

Driving and using machines

Emeside may cause dizziness or drowsiness. If you experience these symptoms, do not drive or use any tools or machinery.

Emeside contain sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate, sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate and soya

- **sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate and sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate**

This medicine contains sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate and sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate which may cause allergic reactions (possibly delayed).

- **soya**

This medicine also contains soya oil. If you are allergic to peanut or soya, do not use this medicinal product.

This medicine contains less than 1mmol sodium (23mg) per capsule, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

3. How to take Emeside

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you.

Your doctor will decide on the appropriate dose to suit your condition.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

- It is important to take the medicine at the right time and regularly, as directed by your doctor.
- Swallow the capsules whole with a drink of water.
- Take the capsules with or without food, whichever you prefer.

Recommended dose

Adults, elderly and children over 6 years: the usual starting dose is 2 capsules a day.

Your doctor may increase your dose by 1 capsule a day every 5 to 7 days until your epilepsy is well controlled.

A maximum dose of 8 capsules a day, taken in divided doses, may occasionally be necessary.

Do NOT change the dose yourself.

Use in children under 6 years

Children under 6 years and those unable to swallow capsules will be given ethosuximide in liquid form.

Blood tests may be carried out to check the level of ethosuximide in your body.

If you take more Emeside than you should

If you take more capsules than you should you may feel very drowsy or confused.

1. Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nearest hospital casualty department immediately.
2. Take the container and any remaining capsules with you so that people can see what you have taken.
3. Do this even if you feel well.

If you forget to take Emeside

If you forget to take a dose take it as soon as you remember, but if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the forgotten dose and continue as usual.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you stop taking Emeside

Do not stop taking Emeside unless your doctor tells you to. If you suddenly stop taking this medicine you may have a seizure. Should you need to stop taking Emeside, your doctor will decide which method is best for you.

Ethosuximide helps to control your condition but does not cure it. Therefore, you must take your medicine every day, even if you feel well.

Do not let yourself run out of medicine, especially over the weekend or on holidays.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop using Emeside and seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the following symptoms:

- Reddish patches on the trunk, the patches are target-like macules or circular, often with central blisters, skin peeling, ulcers of mouth, throat, nose, genitals and eyes. These serious skin rashes can be preceded by fever and flu-like symptoms (Stevens-Johnson syndrome) (Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)).
- Widespread rash, high body temperature and enlarged lymph nodes (drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS)) (Frequency not known). If these are severe and you also experience pain and inflammation of the joints this could be related to a condition called Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)).

Seek medical attention if you notice any of the following symptoms:

- Changes in your blood (bruising or bleeding more easily, fever, you are looking pale or you have a severe sore throat, mouth ulcers, fatigue, repeated infections or infections that will not go away). These may be the first signs of an abnormality of the blood, including decreases in the number of red cells, white cells or platelets and bone marrow suppression, please consult your doctor. Your doctor may take regular blood samples to test for these effects (Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)).
- If you experience an increase in the number of your generalized fits (tonic-clonic seizures) (Frequency not known).

Other side-effects that may occur are:

- **Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):** decreased appetite, headaches, unsteadiness, difficulty in controlling movements, dizziness, drowsiness, stomach ache and cramps, feeling sick, being sick (vomiting), skin rash including measles-like reactions which are mild, hives.
- **Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):** aggressive behaviour, nightmares, depression, thinking about suicide, psychotic disorder, disturbance to sleep patterns, shaking, abnormal or uncoordinated movements, sluggishness, inability to concentrate, short sightedness, hiccups, diarrhoea, enlarged gums, swollen tongue, blood in the urine, vaginal bleeding, fatigue, irritability, weight loss, feelings of persecution, hyperactivity, changes to your blood counts, particularly white blood cells called eosinophils.
- **Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):** Sense of great well-being, an increased sex drive, extreme restlessness, loss of interest in activities, violent muscle contractions, swelling of the lymph glands.

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at:

www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the **Google Play** or **Apple App Store**.

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Emeside

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not store above 30 °C. Do not refrigerate.

Keep the bottle tightly closed in order to protect from light and moisture. Do not take the capsules after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and bottle labels after 'Exp'. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

If the capsule becomes discoloured or shows any signs of deterioration, seek the advice of your pharmacist.

Remember if your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine, return any unused medicine to your pharmacist for safe disposal. Only keep this medicine if your doctor tells you to.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Emeside contains

The active ingredient in the Emeside is ethosuximide.

Each soft capsule contains 250mg ethosuximide.

The other ingredients are macrogol 400, gelatin, glycerin, sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate (E215), sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate (E217), traces of medium chain triglycerides, traces of soya lecithin (See end of Section 2 for further information on sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate, sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate and soya lecithin and sodium).

What Emeside looks like and contents of the pack

Emeside is clear oval soft gelatin capsules.

It is available in pack size of 56 tablets.

Manufactured by:

Catalent France Beinheim SA, 74, rue Principale, 67930 Beinheim, France.

Procured from within the EU & repackaged by the Product Licence holder: B&S Healthcare, Unit 4, Bradfield Road, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0NU, UK.

Emeside® 250mg Capsules; PL 18799/4232

Leaflet date: 19.09.2025

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Emeside is the registered trademark of Chemidex Generics Limited.

**Blind or partially sighted?
Is this leaflet hard to see or read?
Call 0208 515 3763 to obtain the
leaflet in a format suitable for you.**

Ethosuximide Essential Generics 250mg capsules

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- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

The name of your medicine is Ethosuximide Essential Generics 250mg capsules but will be referred to as Ethosuximide throughout this leaflet.

What is in this leaflet

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2. What you need to know before you take Ethosuximide
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1. What Ethosuximide is and what it is used for

Ethosuximide contain the active substance ethosuximide which is one of a group of medicines called anti-epileptic drugs; these medicines are used to treat epilepsy.

It is used to control epilepsy in children and adults.

Epilepsy is a condition where you have repeated seizures (fits).

Ethosuximide is used to control brief, sudden loss of consciousness (absence seizures, also called petit mal), and uncontrolled jerking movements (myoclonic seizures).

You should consult your doctor if you are unsure why you have been given Ethosuximide, if you do not feel better or if you feel worse.

2. What you need to know before you take Ethosuximide

Do not take Ethosuximide :

- if you are allergic to ethosuximide, or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you are allergic to soya oil (see end of this section).
- if you have porphyria (a metabolism disorder which causes abdominal pains and mental disorder).

If any of the above apply to you, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

Warnings and precautions

Serious skin reactions including Stevens-Johnson syndrome and drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS) have been reported in association with Ethosuximide treatment. Stop using Ethosuximide and seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of the symptoms described in section 4. These symptoms often occur within 28 days of starting this medicine, but can happen later.

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Ethosuximide if you suffer or have suffered in the past from any of the following conditions:

- Liver disease
- Kidney disease
- Bruising, fever, looking pale or a severe sore throat. These may be the first signs of a potentially serious blood disorder, which could be fatal if not detected.

Your doctor may take regular blood and/or urine samples to test for these.

Pay special attention to symptoms of bone marrow depression such as fever, inflammation of throat or pharynx tonsils as well as haemorrhagic tendency, and consult your doctor, if you experience any of these symptoms.

Your blood count should be checked regularly (initially monthly, after one year every six months) to identify potential injury of the medulla. Your liver enzymes should also be checked regularly. If you are taking anti-epileptic drugs, your doctor will routinely assess you for depression, anxiety and suicidality. If you are taking anti-epileptic drugs and you feel depressed and anxious, the symptoms of which are feeling low, loss of interest in everyday activities, lack of energy and a general feeling of unease, please consult your doctor.

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Ethosuximide with food and drink

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You should not take Ethosuximide if you are breast-feeding.

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Ethosuximide contain sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate, sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate and soya

- **sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate and sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate**
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Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

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- Swallow the whole with a drink of water.
- Take the with or without food, whichever you prefer.

Recommended dose

Adults, elderly and children over 6 years: the usual starting dose is 2 a day.

Your doctor may increase your dose by 1 capsule a day every 5 to 7 days until your epilepsy is well controlled.

A maximum dose of 8 a day, taken in divided doses, may occasionally be necessary.

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- Widespread rash, high body temperature and enlarged lymph nodes (drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms (DRESS)) (Frequency not known). If these are severe and you also experience pain and inflammation of the joints this could be related to a condition called Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people)).

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www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the **Google Play** or **Apple App Store**.

By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Ethosuximide

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not store above 30 °C. Do not refrigerate.

Keep the bottle tightly closed in order to protect from light and moisture.

Do not take the capsules after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and bottle labels after 'Exp'. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

If the capsule becomes discoloured or shows any signs of deterioration, seek the advice of your pharmacist.

Remember if your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine, return any unused medicine to your pharmacist for safe disposal. Only keep this medicine if your doctor tells you to.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Ethosuximide contains

The active ingredient is ethosuximide.

Each soft capsule contains 250mg ethosuximide.

The other ingredients are macrogol 400, gelatin, glycerin, sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate (E215), sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate (E217), traces of medium chain triglycerides, traces of soya lecithin. (See end of Section 2 for further information on sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate, sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate and soya lecithin and sodium).

What Ethosuximide looks like and contents of the pack

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It is available in pack size of 56 tablets.

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B&S Healthcare, Unit 4, Bradfield Road, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0NU, UK.

Ethosuximide Essential Generics 250mg capsules; PL 18799/4232

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