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Bisacodyl Tablets

BP 5 mg

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using 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, pharmacist or nurse
- 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, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet?

1. What Bisacodyl Tablets are and what they are used for
2. What you need to know before taking Bisacodyl Tablets
3. How to take Bisacodyl Tablets
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Bisacodyl Tablets
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT BISACODYL TABLETS ARE AND WHAT THEY ARE USED FOR

Bisacodyl is used in the treatment of chronic or recent constipation. It is also used to evacuate the bowels before surgery, labour or X-rays. Bisacodyl Tablets do not help with weight loss.

You must talk to your doctor if you do not feel well after 5 days.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE TAKING BISACODYL TABLETS

Do not take Bisacodyl tablets if any of the following apply to you:

- If you are allergic to Bisacodyl or to any of the ingredients listed of this medicine (listed in section 6)
- If you suffer from intestinal obstruction
- If you are using suppositories
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Do not take antacids within one hour of taking Bisacodyl.

These tablets should not be used every day for long periods. If laxatives are needed every day, then you should go and see your doctor.

If possible Bisacodyl should not be used for the treatment of constipation in children.

This medicine should not be relied upon. Often only the simple provision of time and privacy for going to the toilet may be required.

If you go to a doctor, dentist or hospital for any reason, tell them you are taking Bisacodyl

3. HOW TO TAKE BISACODYL TABLETS

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Tablets should be taken with water and **should be swallowed whole not chewed or crushed.**

The recommended dose is mentioned below:

Dosage for constipation:

Adults including the elderly and children over 10 years:

1 to 2 tablets at night.

Children under 6 years:

Consult your doctor.

What to do if too many tablets are taken at the same time

If you accidentally take more tablets than recommended drink plenty of water and contact your nearest doctor or hospital casualty department at once. Take any remaining tablets with you and keep them in the original container or package so that they can be identified.

It may be harmful to

- Take too much of Bisacodyl Tablets or
- Take Bisacodyl Tablets for too long

This is because taking too much for too long may lead to:

- A 'lazy bowel', where the muscle in the bowel becomes too relaxed. This means that bowel emptying happens less often. This can lead to long-term constipation.
- Imbalance of fluid and salts in the body. This can affect the tightness of muscles such as those in the bowel. It can also affect the salts in the blood.
- Low levels of potassium in the blood (called 'hypo-kalaemia'). This can make you tired, dizzy, make your muscles weak and cause an uneven heart-beat.
- Dehydration, making you thirsty, feel faint and giving you headaches. It can also mean you cannot pass enough urine.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

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

Prolonged use of laxatives like Bisacodyl can lead to 'lazy bowels' (atonic non-functioning colon) and further cases of severe constipation.

Bisacodyl can also cause hypokalaemia (low blood potassium), gripping pains and abdominal cramps

If you notice any of the above reactions or side effects, or if you notice other unusual or worrying changes to your health contact your doctor.



Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects 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 in the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE BISACODYL TABLETS

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children,

You must keep this medicine in a safe place where children cannot get at it. Your medicine could harm them.

Keep your medicine in a dry place, below 25°C. Keep the tablets in the container in which they were given to you.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the container or blister pack.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Bisacodyl contains

The active substance is Bisacodyl BP.

Bisacodyl 5 mg tablets contain Bisacodyl BP 5.00 mg.

The other ingredients are lactose, maize starch, magnesium stearate, pregelatinised maize starch, talc, cellulose acetate phthalate, diethylphthalate, sucrose, povidone, titanium dioxide, E104

What Bisacodyl looks like and contents of the pack

Bisacodyl tablets are round sugar-coated yellow tablets.

Bisacodyl tablets are available in containers and blister packs of 8, 10, 20, 28, 30, 50, 56, 60, 84, 100, 250, 500 & 1000 tablets.

The name and address of the Product Licence Holder is:

Chelonia Healthcare Limited,
Boumpoulinas 11,
3rd Floor, Nicosia,
P.C. 1060, Cyprus

The Manufacturer of Bisacodyl is either:

DDSA Pharmaceuticals Limited,
310 Old Brompton Road,
London SW5 9JQ

Or

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories (UK) Limited,
208-214 York Road,
London SW11 3SD

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