

New Zealand Consumer Medicine Information

PERSANTIN[®] 25 mg tablets

Dipyridamole tablets

This leaflet answers some common questions about PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets. It does not contain all available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. Keep this information with your tablets. You may need to read it again later.

To find out more about PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

You should ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about your medicine or if you have any concerns about taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets.

What PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets are used for

PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets are used in combination with other medicines helps to prevent blood clots in patients with prosthetic heart valves. The ability of PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets to prevent blood clots is due to its effect on blood cells known as platelets. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Before taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

When not to take PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

Only take PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets if it has been prescribed for you by a doctor. Never give it to someone else even if their symptoms seem to be the same as yours. Do not take PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets if you are allergic to it or to any of the ingredients. These ingredients are listed in full at the end of this leaflet. If you are uncertain as to whether you have such an allergy you should raise this concern with your doctor.

You should never take PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets after the EXPIRY DATE on the carton or blister pack.

Before you start taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

It is essential that your doctor knows your medical history before prescribing PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets. Before taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets, you must tell your doctor if you have, or have had, any of the following conditions:

- any heart condition (e.g. angina, heart attack or failure, heart valve problems)
- severe muscle disease (myasthenia gravis)
- gallstones

If you are uncertain as to whether you have, or have had, any of these conditions you should raise those concerns with your doctor. Before taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets you must tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, obtained with or without a doctor's prescription. In particular you must tell your doctor if you are taking:

- aspirin

- warfarin or any other agent that affects the ability of the blood to clot (these agents are known as anticoagulants)
- any medicine for the treatment of high blood pressure
- neostigmine, distigmine and related medicines (used, for example, in the treatment of myasthenia gravis)
- adenosine, used for heart rhythm disorders

Special care is required when PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets is used with aspirin or an anticoagulant such as warfarin.

Caution is recommended when driving a car or operating machinery. If you experience dizziness you should avoid potentially hazardous tasks such as driving or operating machinery.

PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets contains 13 mg sucrose and 25 mg lactose monohydrate, resulting in 312 mg sucrose and 600 mg lactose monohydrate per maximum recommended daily dose for adults. Patients with the rare hereditary conditions of fructose intolerance or galactose intolerance, the Lapp lactase deficiency or glucose-galactose malabsorption should not take this medicine. PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets also contain sunset yellow (E 110), which may cause allergic reactions.

Pregnancy

Ask for your doctor's advice if you are pregnant, or likely to become pregnant during your course of medication. Special care is recommended during pregnancy, particularly in the first three months.

Breastfeeding

Ask for your doctor's advice if you are breastfeeding or likely to breastfeed during the course of your medication. Special care is recommended if you are breastfeeding as the active ingredient has been reported to distribute into breast milk.

Children

There is limited information about the use of PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets in children.

Taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

Recommended Dose

The recommended dose for adults is three to four tablets four times a day one hour before meals (taken at regular intervals). If your doctor has prescribed a different dose, you should ask for further information from your doctor or pharmacist.

Discuss with your doctor how long you will need to take this medicine.

If you forget to take a dose

It is important to take PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets as directed. If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. However, if you remember when it is almost time for your next dose, take only your usual dose at that time. Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

Overdose

Contact your doctor, pharmacist or Poisons Information Centre (telephone 0800 764766) immediately if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets. Signs of overdose may include feeling warm, flushing, sweating, restlessness, weakness and dizziness. There may be effects on the heart and circulation causing chest pain, an increase in pulse rate and a drop in blood pressure.

While you are taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you begin taking any other medicine while you are taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets. This applies to all medicines obtained with or without a doctor's prescription. If you plan to have 'pharmacological stress testing', make sure you tell your doctor that you are taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets.

Side effects

You should be aware that all prescription medicines carry some risks and that all possible risks may not be known at this stage despite thorough testing. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets against the benefits they expect it will have for you. Ask for the advice of your doctor or pharmacist if you have any concerns about the effects of taking this medicine. If side effects occur, they are usually mild and transient when PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets are used at the recommended dose. In most cases, side effects reduce or disappear as treatment is continued.

The following side effects have been reported with PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets:

- Headache, dizziness
- Stomach upset, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting
- Muscle aches and pains
- Hot flushes
- Low blood pressure (dizziness, lightheadedness), fast heart beat, angina
- Gallstones
- Reduction in blood platelet count (thrombocytopenia), which may result in unusual bruising or bleeding
- Increased bleeding during or after surgery

There have also been rare reports of worsening of heart disease after the use of PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets. Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you experience any side effects during or after using PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets, so that these may be properly treated.

Allergic reactions have been reported. Symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- Skin rash, hives or itching
- Swelling of the face, lips or tongue
- Difficulty in breathing

Tell your doctor immediately if you have an allergic reaction. You may require urgent medical attention. In addition, unexpected effects, not listed above, can occur with any medicine. You should tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything unusual, during or after taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets.

After taking PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets

Storage

Leave all tablets in the blister pack until it is time to take a dose. The blister packaging protects the tablets. PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets should be kept in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C. For example, do not leave your tablets in a car or store them in the bathroom. Heat and dampness will damage the tablets.

Keep PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets where children cannot reach them.

Disposal

If you have been told by your doctor that you will not be needing PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets anymore, or the tablets have passed their expiry date, the unused medicine should be returned to your pharmacist so that it can be disposed of safely.

Product Description

What the tablets look like

PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets is the brand name of the tablets prescribed for you by your doctor. They are round, orange, shiny, biconvex sugar-coated tablets. PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets are sold to the pharmacist in packs of 84 tablets.

Ingredients

Each PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets tablet contains 25 mg of dipyridamole. The other ingredients are lactose monohydrate, maize starch, soluble starch, silica colloidal anhydrous, magnesium stearate, sunset yellow fcf (E110), sucrose, talc, acacia, titanium dioxide (E171), macrogol 6000, beeswax and carnauba wax.

Manufacturer

PERSANTIN 25 mg tablets are made in France and supplied in New Zealand by:
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM (N.Z.) LIMITED
PO Box 76-216
Manukau City
Auckland
Ph 0800 802461

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