**What Maxolon is used for**

Your Maxolon tablets contain the active ingredient metoclopramide. Metoclopramide belongs to a group of medicines known as the antiemetics.

In adults 20 years and over this medicine is used to:

- treat nausea and vomiting caused by the following: gastrointestinal disorders, migraine, chemotherapy treatment, congestive heart failure, deep X-ray or cobalt therapy, or following anaesthesia
- activate stomach contractions in conditions where there is a need to encourage normal passage of food through the stomach and intestines
- with X-rays to help diagnose problems of the stomach and/or intestines
- help with passing tubes into the intestine.

In young adults under 20 years and children over 1 year of age this medicine is used to:

- treat severe vomiting of known cause or following chemotherapy or radiation treatment
- help with passing tubes into the intestine
- as part of the premedication before surgical procedures.

This medicine works by blocking the action of a chemical in the brain which causes nausea and vomiting. It also acts in the stomach and upper intestine to increase muscle contractions.
Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you or your child. Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

Before you or your child take Maxolon

When you or your child must not take it
Do not take Maxolon if you or your child have an allergy to:

- any medicine containing Metoclopramide
- any of the other ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- shortness of breath
- wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Do not take Maxolon if you or your child have any of the following:

- active bleeding from the stomach and/or digestive tract.
- blockage of the stomach and/or digestive tract.
- recent surgery of the stomach and/or digestive tract.
- Phaeochromocytoma (an adrenaline-producing tumour of the adrenal gland).

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date printed on the pack or if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If it has expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

If you are not sure whether you or your child should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you or your child start to take it
Tell your doctor if you or your child have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breast-feeding. Your doctor can discuss with you the risks and benefits involved.

Tell your doctor if you or your child have or have had any of the following medical conditions:

- epilepsy
- Parkinson’s disease
- liver or kidney problems.
If you have not told your or your child's doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you or your child start taking Maxolon.

**Taking other medicines**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you or your child are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines and Maxolon may interfere with each other. These include:

- tranquilizers or anti-anxiety medications.
- strong pain relievers (e.g. codeine or morphine)
- sedatives or sleeping medication
- atropine-like medications (e.g. some cold preparations, travel sickness medicines)
- tetracycline antibiotics, paracetamol, levodopa.
- digoxin.

These medicines may be affected by Maxolon or may affect how well it works. You or your child may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

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**How to take Maxolon**

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully. They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the box, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

**How much to take**

Follow your doctor's instructions about how much Maxolon to use. The dose of Maxolon varies with the age of the patient and with the reason for use.

The total daily dosage of Maxolon, especially for children and young adults, should not normally exceed 0.5mg/kg bodyweight or 30mg daily. Space the doses as evenly as possible throughout the day.

The usual dose for adults 20 years and over is 10mg (one tablet), three times daily.

For adults under 60kg and children over 1 year of age, in most cases, the dose will be less than this.

Children and young adults are very sensitive to the effects of Maxolon. Your doctor will normally start treatment at the lower dose.
**How to take it**
Swallow the tablets with a full glass of water.

The tablets can be broken in half (along the break-line).

Do not exceed the prescribed dose.

**When to take it**
Take the medicine at about the same time each day. Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

**How long to take it**
Continue taking the medicine for as long as your doctor tells you however it is recommended not to exceed consecutive 5 days.

**If you or your child forget to take it**
Take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking the medicine as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that was missed. This may increase the change of getting an unwanted side effect.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

**If you take too much (overdose)**
Immediately telephone your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Maxolon. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

Symptoms of an overdose may include drowsiness, confusion, tremor, twitching or uncontrolled spasm of muscles.

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**While you or your child are using Maxolon**

**Things you must do**
If you or your child's vomiting or nausea persist, tell your doctor.

If you or your child are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you or your child are taking Maxolon.
Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who treat you or your child that you or your child are taking this medicine.

If you or your child are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist that you or your child are taking this medicine. It may affect other medicines used during surgery.

If you become pregnant while taking this medicine, tell your doctor immediately.

**Things you must not do**

Do not use Maxolon to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not give your or your child’s medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition.

**Things to be careful of**

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Maxolon affects you.

This medicine may cause dizziness, light-headedness, tiredness or drowsiness in some people. If you have any of these symptoms, do not drive, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous. Children should be careful when riding bicycles or climbing trees.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are taking this medicine. If you drink alcohol, it may make you sleepy.

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**Side effects**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you or your child do not feel well while taking Maxolon.

This medicine may have unwanted side effects in a few people. All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects. You or your child may not experience any of them.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- drowsiness, tiredness
- restlessness
- dizziness, headache
- bowel irregularities
- nausea
- insomnia.

The above list includes the more common side effects of your medicine. They are usually mild and short-lived.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:

- uncontrolled or repeated movements, e.g. sucking or smacking of the lips, darting of the tongue, chewing movements, uncontrolled movements of the arms or legs.
- fast heartbeat.

The above list includes serious side effects that may require medical attention. Serious side effects are rare.

If any of the following happen, tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital:

- allergic reaction including fainting, swelling of limbs, face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty swallowing or breathing.
- sudden uncontrolled muscle spasm, stiffness of the arms or legs, muscle spasm of the face, locked-jaw or upturned eyes.
- shuffling walk, slowing of all movement, muscle tremor.
- neuroleptic malignant syndrome, a serious reaction with a sudden increase in body temperature, extremely high blood pressure and severe convulsions.
- tardive dyskinesia, uncontrollable twitching or jerking movements of the arms and legs.

The above list includes very serious side effects. You or your child may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation. These side effects are very rare.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything that is making you or your child feel unwell. Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

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**After taking Maxolon**

**Storage**

**Keep your medicine in the pack until it is time to take it.** If you take the tablets out of the pack they may not keep well.

**Keep your tablets in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C. Protect from light.**

**Do not store Maxolon or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car.** Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.
Keep it where children cannot reach it. A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

**Disposal**

If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or the expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.

**Product description**

**What it looks like**
Maxolon tablet: White, round tablet marked with 'MAXOLON' on one side with a break line on the other.

**Ingredients**
Maxolon tablets contain 10 mg of metoclopramide as the active ingredient.

It also contains:

- starch - maize
- silica - colloidal anhydrous
- magnesium stearate
- starch - pregelatinised maize
- lactose.

Maxolon preparations do not contain sucrose, gluten, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

**If you want to know more**

Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

**Who supplies this medicine**

Bausch & Lomb (NZ) Ltd
P O Box 4199
c/o Bell Gully
AUCKLAND 1140 Telephone: 09-257-0521

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