

CILICAINE® VK

Phenoxymethylpenicilin capsules 250mg and 500mg

What is in this leaflet

Please read this leaflet carefully before you start taking CILICAINE VK.

This leaflet answers some common questions about CILICAINE VK.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking CILICAINE VK against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

What CILICAINE VK is used for

CILICAINE VK is used to treat and prevent infections in the body caused by bacteria.

This medicine to a group of medicines called penicillins.

CILICAINE VK contains the active ingredient phenoxymethylpenicillin.

It works by killing bacteria which are causing infections or preventing bacteria from growing and causing an infection.

CILICAINE VK will not work against infections caused by viruses, such as colds or the flu.

Some bacteria are or may become resistant to this medicine so that it doesn't kill them. It is important you

use the medicine exactly as your doctor tells you to.

Your doctor may have prescribed this medicine for another reason.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.

This medicine is available only with a doctor's prescription.

This medicine is not addictive.

This medicine is not expected to affect your ability to drive a car or operate machinery.

Before you take CILICAINE VK

When you must not take it

Do not take CILICAINE VK if you have an allergy to:

- Phenoxymethylpenicillin
- any medicine containing penicillins
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- cephalosporins (medicines used to treat infections) as you may have an increased chance of being allergic to penicillins as well

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 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 should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to take it

Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

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

- kidney problems
- bleeding disorders
- allergic diseases or bronchial asthma

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.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start taking CILICAINE VK.

Taking other medicines

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

You should also tell any health professional who is prescribing a new medication for you that you are taking CILICAINE VK.

Some medicines may interfere with CILICAINE VK These include:

- other medicines used to treat infections.

- probenecid (a medicine used to treat gout)
- antacids (medicines used for heartburn and indigestion)
- oral contraceptives containing oestrogen
- methotrexate (a medicine used to treat arthritis, severe psoriasis and some cancers)
- aminoglycosides (a group of antibiotic medicines that are usually given by injection).

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

CILICAINE VK may decrease the effectiveness of the contraception. Talk to your doctor about the need for an additional form of contraception while taking CILICAINE VK.

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

How to take CILICAINE VK

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

For treating an infection, the usual dose is:

250 mg capsule: One to two capsules every four to six hours at least one hour before eating.

500 mg capsule: One capsule every four to six hours at least one hour before eating.

The dose can be changed depending on how bad the infection

is, and how well this medicine works against the bacteria causing the infection.

For serious infections such as pneumonia and erysipelas (a skin infection), and at least in the initial stage of other infections it is suggested that the dose is three times a day as this improves effectiveness of the medication

For preventing rheumatic fever returning the usual dose is

250 mg capsule: One capsule twice a day.

How to take it

Swallow the capsules whole with a full glass of water.

When to take it

Take your medicine at about the same times 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.

Food can interfere with the absorption of this medicine. Your doctor can discuss with you on whether you should take this medicine on an empty stomach or not. Ideally the medicine be taken on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after meals) to ensure maximum absorption.

If you need to take an antacid, take it at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after your dose of CILICAINE VK.

How long to take it

For the treatment of an infection or preventing an infection occurring before some types of surgery or dental treatment.

Continue taking your medicine until you finish the pack. **Do not stop taking CILICAINE VK even if you feel better.** Your infection and symptoms may return if you stop taking your medicine too early.

For rheumatic fever your treatment should be for 10 days.

For preventing infections returning

This medicine helps prevent you becoming ill again and should be taken for a long time so make sure you get repeat prescriptions of CILICAINE VK and do not allow yourself to run out of this medicine. It is important you continue taking your medicine even if you feel well.

If you forget to take it

If it is less than 1 hour before your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.

Otherwise, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

This may increase the chance of you 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.

While you are taking CILICAINE VK

Things you must do

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking CILICAINE VK.

Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who treat you that you are taking this medicine.

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

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

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine.

It may interfere with the results of some tests.

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.

Your doctor may do some tests from time to time to make sure the medicine is working and to prevent unwanted side effects.

Things you must not do

Do not take CILICAINE VK to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not give your medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not stop taking your medicine or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor.

If you stop taking it your infection may worsen or return.

Do not take any medicine for diarrhoea without first checking with your doctor.

Things to be careful of

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

In case of overdose

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the National Poisons Centre (telephone 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) or go to accident and emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much CILICAINE VK. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking CILICAINE VK.

This medicine helps most people with treating an infection, but it 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 treatment if you get some of the side effects.

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:

- hairy black tongue
- colouring of the surface of the teeth
- itchy skin
- red streaky or spotted rash
- scaly or peeling rash
- unusually heavy perspiration

The above list includes some of side effects of your medicine.

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

- bleeding under the skin
- tiredness
- headaches
- dizziness
- looking pale
- nausea
- vomiting
- bruising or bleeding more easily than usual
- sore mouth or throat
- fever or chills
- creamy yellow patches in mouth
- painful swollen joints
- feeling of 'pins and needles'
- tingling or numbness of hands or feet
- weakness
- loss of appetite
- skin rash, blistering, peeling or pustule formation
- blisters and sores in mouth and on mucous membranes

The above list includes serious side effects that may require medical attention. Some of these side effects may only become evident 3 to 4 weeks after stopping the medicine.

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

- signs of an allergic reaction such as swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body, itching, rash, wheezing or difficulty breathing
- hypersensitivity
- yellow skin and/or eyes
- dark urine
- fits (convulsions)
- stomach or abdominal cramps
- diarrhoea which may be bloody

The above list includes very serious side effects some of which may occur some weeks after you have finished your medicine. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

If you develop an allergic reaction, tell your doctor immediately as treatment should be discontinued immediately. You may then need to be treated with adrenaline, antihistamines and corticosteroids.

Patients with diarrhoea should be closely monitored so you need to let your doctor know if you have this side effect

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people. Tell your doctor if you notice any other effects.

Some of these side effects (for example, changes in liver function, or blood disorders) can only be found when your doctor does tests from time to time to check your progress.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

After taking CILICAINE VK

Storage

Keep your capsules in the pack until it is time to take them.

If you take the capsules out of the pack as they may not keep well.

Keep your capsules in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store CILICAINE VK 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

CILICAINE VK capsules are both opaque hard gelatin capsules with a maroon body and cap.

The 250 mg and 500 mg capsules are both supplied in blister packs of 50 capsules

Ingredients

Active ingredient(s):

CILICAINE VK 250 mg capsules contain 250 mg of phenoxymethylpenicillin as the active ingredient.

CILICAINE VK 500 mg capsules contain 500 mg of phenoxymethylpenicillin as the active ingredient.

Inactive ingredient(s):

CILICAINE VK capsules also contain:

- magnesium stearate
- titanium dioxide
- red iron oxide
- gelatin

Contains sulfites.

If you want to know more

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

Who supplies this medicine

CILICAINE VK is supplied in New Zealand by:

Viatrix Ltd
PO Box 11-183
Eilerslie
AUCKLAND
www.viatrix.co.nz
Telephone 0800 168 169

Date of Preparation

28 June 2023.
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Cilicaïne® is a Viatrix company trade mark.