

Consumer Medicine Information

ACUPAN™

**Nefopam hydrochloride
30 mg tablets**

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about ACUPAN tablets. However, it does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. **If you have any questions about ACUPAN that are not answered by this leaflet, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking ACUPAN against the benefits before prescribing it to you. **If you are worried about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

Keep this leaflet with your medicine as you may want to read it again.

What ACUPAN is used for

The name of your medicine is ACUPAN. ACUPAN belongs to a group of medicines called analgesics, commonly known as pain killers or pain relievers. It contains nefopam hydrochloride as the active ingredient. Nefopam hydrochloride interrupts the pain messages being sent to your brain, and it also acts in your brain to stop pain messages being felt. This means that ACUPAN does not stop the pain from happening, but you will not be able to feel the pain as much.

ACUPAN is used to relieve both short term pain and long lasting pain (for example pain after an operation, dental pain, joint or muscle pain or after an injury). ACUPAN should not be used to treat the pain from a heart attack.

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

Your doctor may have prescribed ACUPAN for another purpose.

Before you take ACUPAN

When you must not take it

Do not take ACUPAN if you have an allergy to:

- Any medicine containing nefopam
- Any of the 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 use this medicine for the treatment of a heart attack.

Do not use this medicine if you:

- have a history of epilepsy (fits)
- are taking a medicine called a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) to treat depression.

Do not give this medicine to a child under 12 years old.

Safety and effectiveness in children younger than 12 years have not been established.

Do not use ACUPAN after the expiry date printed on the pack has passed 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.

Before you start to take ACUPAN

Tell your doctor if you:

- have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes
- have any heart problems
- have an eye condition called glaucoma
- have any liver or kidney problems, including difficulty passing urine
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- are breastfeeding.

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

Taking Other Medicines

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

Some medicines may be affected by ACUPAN. These include:

- Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (known as MAOIs) for depression
- Tricyclic antidepressants and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) for depression
- Anticholinergics for relief of stomach cramps or spasms
- Sympathomimetic agents (e.g. pseudoephedrine)
- Alcohol and other central nervous system depressants.

You may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines. Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or to avoid while taking ACUPAN.

How to take ACUPAN

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

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

How much to take

Adults: The usual dose is 1 – 3 tablets three times a day. The recommended starting dose is 2 tablets three times a day.

ACUPAN may be taken with or without food. Your doctor will prescribe the correct dose for you.

Take ACUPAN only as directed by your doctor or pharmacist. Do not change the dose or stop taking ACUPAN unless your doctor tells you to do so.

If you forget to take your medicine

If you miss a dose and remember within an hour of the missed dose, take it right away. If you do not remember until later, skip the missed dose and go back to taking it as you would normally.

Do not take more than one dose at the same time to make up for the forgotten dose.

While you are taking ACUPAN

Things you must do

Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking ACUPAN.

Tell your doctor immediately if you become pregnant while taking ACUPAN.

Do not drive or operate heavy machinery until you know how ACUPAN affects you.

ACUPAN may cause blurred vision or make you feel drowsy, dizzy, light-headed or less alert than usual.

ACUPAN may cause a dry mouth in some people. For temporary relief chew sugarless gum, suck on an ice cube or use a saliva substitute.

Talk to your dentist if a dry mouth continues.

Continued dry mouth may increase the chance of dental disease, including tooth decay, gum disease and fungal infections.

Things you must not do

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

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

Side Effects

All medicines can cause unwanted side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not.

Talk to your doctor if any of the following side effects occur and they worry you:

More common: Nausea, nervousness, dry mouth, lightheadedness and difficulty passing urine.

Less common: Vomiting, blurred vision, drowsiness, sweating, insomnia, headache, confusion, seeing, feeling or hearing things that are not there, rapid heartbeat and worsening of chest pain.

Rarely a temporary harmless pink discolouration of the urine may occur.

Tell your doctor immediately, or go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of the following:

Signs of allergy such as rash or hives, swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat, wheezing or difficulty breathing or swallowing.

These symptoms are usually rare but may be serious and need urgent medical attention.

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

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

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 the Emergency Department your nearest hospital if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much ACUPAN. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You may need urgent medical attention. Symptoms of an overdose include agitation, seeing, feeling or hearing things that are not there, fits or seizures, fast heartbeat and coma.

After taking ACUPAN

Storage

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

Do not store it or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car.

Keep all medicines where children cannot reach them.

A locked cupboard at least 1.5 metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

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

Product Description

What it looks like

ACUPAN are white, round tablets with APN marked on one side. It comes in a blister pack containing 90 tablets.

Ingredients

Each ACUPAN tablet contains nefopam hydrochloride as the active ingredient.

ACUPAN also contains the following inactive ingredients:

- Magnesium stearate
- Calcium hydrogen phosphate
- Hydrogenated vegetable oil
- Microcrystalline cellulose
- Pregelatinised maize starch
- Colloidal silicon dioxide
- Hypromellose
- Titanium dioxide

ACUPAN contains no preservatives, sugar, gluten or lactose.

Supplier

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