If you take MAXALT MELT too often this may result in you getting a chronic headache. In such cases you should contact your doctor as you may have to stop taking MAXALT MELT. Please tell your doctor or pharmacist about your symptoms. Your doctor will decide if you have migraine. You should take MAXALT MELT only for a migraine attack. MAXALT MELT should not be used to treat headaches that might be caused by other, more serious conditions. Please tell your doctor if you are taking or have recently taken or plan to take, any other medicines including medicines obtained without a prescription. This includes herbal medicines and those you normally take for a migraine. This is because MAXALT MELT can affect the way some medicines work. Also, other medicines can affect MAXALT MELT.

Other medicines and MAXALT MELT
Do not take MAXALT MELT:
- if you are already taking a 5-HT(1-B) agonist (sometimes referred to as 'triptans'), such as sumatriptan, naratriptan or zolmitriptan.
- if you are taking a monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor such as moclobemide, phenelzine, tranylcypromine, linezolid, or pargyline or if it has been less than two weeks since you stopped taking an MAO inhibitor.
- if you use ergotamine-type medications such as ergotamine or dihydro-ergotamine to treat your migraine.
- if you use methysergide to prevent a migraine attack.

The above listed medicines when taken with MAXALT MELT may increase the risk of side effects. You should wait at least 6 hours after taking MAXALT MELT before you take ergotamine-type medications such as ergotamine or dihydro-ergotamine or methysergide.

You should wait at least 24 hours after taking ergotamine-type medications before taking MAXALT MELT.

Ask your doctor for instructions and the risks about taking MAXALT MELT if you are taking propranolol (see section 3: How to take MAXALT MELT).

- if you are taking SSRIs such as sertraline, escitalopram oxalate, and fluoxetine or SNRIs such as venlafaxine, and duloxetine for depression.

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

MAXALT MELT with food and drink: MAXALT MELT can take longer to work if it is taken after food. Although it is better to take it on an empty stomach, you can still take it if you have eaten.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding think you are pregnant or planning to have a baby ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine. It is not known whether MAXALT MELT is harmful to an unborn baby when taken by a pregnant woman. Breast-feeding should be avoided for 24 hours after treatment.

Children and adolescents
The use of MAXALT MELT oral lyophilisates in children under 18 years of age is not recommended.

Use in patients older than 65 years
There have been no full studies to look at how safe and effective MAXALT MELT is amongst patients older than 65 years.

Driving or using machines
You may feel sleepy or dizzy while taking MAXALT MELT. If this happens, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

MAXALT MELT contains a source of phenylalanine
Phenylketonuric patients: Contains a source of phenylalanine. May be harmful for people with phenylketonuria. Each MAXALT MELT oral lyophilisate contains 3.75 mg of aspartame (which contains phenylalanine).

3. HOW TO TAKE MAXALT MELT
MAXALT MELT is used to treat migraine attacks. Take MAXALT MELT as soon as possible after your migraine headache has started. Do not use it to prevent an attack.

Always take MAXALT MELT exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or your pharmacist if you are not sure. The usual dose is 10 mg. If you are currently taking propranolol or have kidney or liver problems you should use the 5-mg dose of MAXALT. You should leave at least 2 hours between taking propranolol and MAXALT MELT up to a maximum of 2 doses in a 24-hour period.

If migraine returns within 24 hours
In some patients, migraine symptoms can return within a 24-hour period. If your migraine does return you can take an additional dose of MAXALT MELT. You should always wait at least 2 hours between doses.

If after 2 hours you still have a migraine
If you do not respond to the first dose of MAXALT MELT during an attack, you should not take a second dose of MAXALT MELT for treatment of the same attack. It is still likely, however, that you will respond to MAXALT MELT during the next attack.

Do not take more than 2 doses of MAXALT MELT in a 24-hour period, (for example, do not take more than two 10 mg oral lyophilisates or more than two 10 mg or 5 mg tablets in a 24-hour period). You should always wait at least 2 hours between doses.

If your condition worsens, seek medical attention.

How to administer MAXALT oral lyophilisates
- MAXALT (rizatriptan benzoate) is available as a 5 or 10 mg oral lyophilisate that dissolves in the mouth.
- open the MAXALT MELT oral lyophilisate blister pack with dry hands.
- the oral lyophilisate should be placed on your tongue, where it dissolves and can be swallowed with the saliva.
- the oral lyophilisate can be used in situations in which liquids are not available, or to avoid the nausea and vomiting that may accompany the ingestion of tablets with liquids.

MAXALT is also available as a tablet to be taken with liquids.

If you take more MAXALT MELT than you should:
- If you take more MAXALT MELT than you should, talk to your doctor or pharmacist straight away. Take the medicine pack with you.

Signs of overdosage can include dizziness, drowsiness, vomiting, fainting and slow heart rate.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS
Like all medicines, MAXALT MELT can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. The following side effects may happen with this medicine.

In adult studies, the most common side effects reported were:

Common (affects 1 to 10 users in 100)
- tingling (paraesthesia), headache, decreased sensitivity of skin (hypoesthesia), decreased mental sharpness, insomnia
- fast or irregular heart beat (palpitation)
- flushing (redness of the face lasting a short time)
- throat discomfort
- feeling sick (nausea), dry mouth, vomiting, diarrhoea, indigestion (dyspepsia)
- feeling of heaviness in parts of the body, neck pain, stiffness
- pain in abdomen or chest.

Uncommon (affects 1 to 10 users in 1000)
- bad taste in your mouth.
- unsteadiness when walking (ataxia), dizziness (vertigo), blurred vision, tremor, fainting (syncope)
- confusion, nervousness.
- high blood pressure (hypertension); thirst, hot flushes, sweating
- rash, itching and lumpy rash (hives), swelling of face, lips, tongue and/or throat which may cause difficulty breathing and/or swallowing (angioedema), difficulty breathing (dyspnoea)
- feeling of tightness in parts of the body, muscle weakness.
- changes in the rhythm or rate of the heartbeat (arrhythmia); abnormalities of the electrocardiogram (a test that records the electrical activity of your heart), very fast heartbeat (tachycardia)
- facial pain; muscle pain.

Rare (affects 1 to 10 users in 10,000)
- wheezing.
- allergic reaction (hypersensitivity); sudden life-threatening allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).
- stroke (this generally occurs in patients with risk factors for heart and blood vessel disease (high blood pressure, diabetes, smoking, use of nicotine substitution, family history of heart disease or stroke, man over 40 years of age, postmenopausal women, particular problem with the way your heart beats [bundle branch block])
- slow heartbeat (bradycardia).

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):
- heart attack, spasm of the blood vessels of the heart (these generally occur in patients with risk factors for heart and blood vessel disease (high blood pressure, diabetes, smoking, use of nicotine substitution, family history of heart disease or stroke, man over 40 years of age, postmenopausal women, particular problem with the way your heart beats [bundle branch block])).
- a syndrome called ‘serotonin syndrome’ that may cause side effects like coma, unstable blood pressure, extremely high body temperature, lack of muscle coordination, agitation, and hallucinations.
- severe shedding of the skin with or without fever (toxic epidermal necrolysis).
- seizure (convulsions/fits).
- spasm of blood vessels of the extremities including coldness and numbness of the hands or feet.
- spasm of the blood vessels of the colon (large bowel), which can cause abdominal pain.

Tell your doctor right away if you have symptoms of allergic reactions, serotonin syndrome, heart attack or stroke.

In addition, tell your doctor if you experience any symptoms that suggest an allergic reaction (such as a rash or itching) after taking MAXALT MELT.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the MHRA Yellow Card Scheme at:
www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard.

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE MAXALT MELT
Keep MAXALT MELT out of the sight and reach of children
Do not use MAXALT MELT after the expiry date which is stated on the carton/carry case/sachet/blister after ‘EXP’. The expiry date refers to the last day of the month.

Do not store MAXALT MELT oral lyophilisate above 30°C.

Store in the original package in order to protect from moisture.

Do not remove the oral lyophilisate blister from the outer aluminium sachet until you are ready to take the medicine inside. Do not use the medicine if the aluminium sachet is damaged. Always keep the aluminium sachets in the carrying case.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION
What MAXALT MELT contains
The active substance of the MAXALT MELT is rizatriptan. One oral lyophilisate contains 10 mg rizatriptan as 14.53 mg of rizatriptan benzoate.

The other ingredients of MAXALT MELT oral lyophilisates are: gelatin, mannitol (E421), glycine, aspartame (E951) and peppermint flavour (composed of peppermint oil, maltodextrin and dextrose).

What MAXALT MELT looks like and contents of pack
10 mg oral lyophilisates are white to off-white, round with a modified square on one side, with a peppermint flavour.

Pack sizes: Packs with 3, 6, 12 or 18 oral lyophilisates.

Manufacturer
Merck Sharp & Dohme BV, Waarderweg 39, 2031 BN, Haarlem, Netherlands.

Procured within the E.U. and re-packaged by Munro Wholesale Medical Supplies Ltd., 3 Young Place, East Kilbride, G75 0TD.

Product Licence holder; Ecosse Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 3 Young Place, East Kilbride, G75 0TD.

How can you obtain more information about MAXALT MELT?
This leaflet gives you some of the most important information about MAXALT MELT. If you have any questions after you have read it, ask your doctor or pharmacist who can give you further information.

Further information about migraine is available from the following organisations:

Migraine Action Association
4th Floor, 27 East Street, Leicester, LE1 6NB
Tel: 0116 275 8317 Fax: 0116 254 2023

And

The Migraine Trust
52-53 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HP
Tel: 020 7631 6970 Fax: 020 7436 2886

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MAXALT MELT® is a registered trademark of Merck Sharp & Dohme Limited.
Rizatriptan 10 mg Oral Lyophilisate
(rizatriptan benzoate)

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. 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 or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects, not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

In this leaflet:
1. What Rizatriptan is and what it is used for
2. Before you take Rizatriptan
3. How to take Rizatriptan
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Rizatriptan
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT RIZATRIPTAN IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR
Rizatriptan belongs to a class of medicines called selective serotonin 5-HT1B/1D receptor agonists. Rizatriptan is used to treat the headache phase of the migraine attack in adults.

Treatment with Rizatriptan:
Reduces swelling of blood vessels surrounding the brain. This swelling results in the headache pain of a migraine attack.

3. HOW TO TAKE RIZATRIPTAN
Do not take Rizatriptan if:
• you are allergic (hypersensitive) to rizatriptan benzoate or any of the other ingredients of Rizatriptan
• you have moderately severe or severe high blood pressure or mild high blood pressure that is not controlled by medication
• you have or have ever had heart problems including heart attack or pain on the chest (angina) or you have experienced heart disease related signs
• you have severe liver or severe kidney problems
• you have had a stroke (cerebrovascular accident CVA) or mini stroke (transient ischaemic attack TIA)
• you have blockage problems with your arteries (peripheral vascular disease)
• you are taking monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors such as moclobemide, phenelzine, tranylcypromine, or parglyline or if it has been less than two weeks since you stopped taking an MAO inhibitor
• you are now taking ergotamine-type medications, such as ergotamine or dihydro-ergotamine to prevent a migraine attack
• you are taking other medicines that may interact with Rizatriptan
• you are already taking a 5-HT1B/1D agonist (sometimes referred to as 'triptans'), such as sumatriptan, naratriptan or zolmitriptan.
• you are taking a monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor such as moclobemide, phenelzine, tranylcypromine, linezolid, or parglyline or if it has been less than two weeks since you stopped taking an MAO inhibitor.
• you use monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors such as ergotamine or dihydro-ergotamine to treat your migraine
• you use methysergide to prevent a migraine attack
• you have moderately severe or severe high blood pressure or mild high blood pressure that is not controlled by medication
• you have diabetes, you smoke or you are using nicotine
• you are a man over 40 years of age, or you are a post-menopausal woman
• you have heart disease, you have had a stroke (transient ischaemic attack TIA)
• you have had short lived symptoms including chest pain and tightness.

If you take Rizatriptan too often this may result in you getting a chronic headache. In such cases you should contact your doctor as you may have to stop taking Rizatriptan.

2. BEFORE YOU TAKE RIZATRIPTAN
Ask your doctor for instructions and the risks about taking Rizatriptan
if you are taking propranolol (see section 3: How to take Rizatriptan).
if you are taking SSRIs such as sertraline, escitalopram oxalate, and fluoxetine or SNRIs such as venlafaxine, and duloxetine for depression.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

5. HOW TO STORE RIZATRIPTAN
Do not take Rizatriptan:
• if you are already taking a 5-HT1B/1D agonist (sometimes referred to as 'triptans'), such as sumatriptan, naratriptan or zolmitriptan.
• if you are taking a monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor such as moclobemide, phenelzine, tranylcypromine, linezolid, or parglyline or if it has been less than two weeks since you stopped taking an MAO inhibitor.
• if you use monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors such as ergotamine or dihydro-ergotamine to treat your migraine
• if you use methysergide to prevent a migraine attack
• if you use ergotamine-type medications such as ergotamine or dihydro-ergotamine to treat your migraine
• if you use methysergide to prevent a migraine attack
• if you have moderately severe or severe high blood pressure or mild high blood pressure that is not controlled by medication
• if you have diabetes, you smoke or you are using nicotine
• if you are a man over 40 years of age, or you are a post-menopausal woman
• if you have heart disease, you have had a stroke (transient ischaemic attack TIA)
• if you have had short lived symptoms including chest pain and tightness.

If you take Rizatriptan too often this may result in you getting a chronic headache. In such cases you should contact your doctor as you may have to stop taking Rizatriptan.

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist about your symptoms. Your doctor will decide if you have migraine. You should take Rizatriptan only for a migraine attack. Rizatriptan should not be used to treat headaches that might be caused by other, more serious conditions.

5. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS
If you take Rizatriptan you may feel sleepy or dizzy while taking Rizatriptan. If this happens, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

3. HOW TO TAKE RIZATRIPTAN
Rizatriptan is used to treat migraine attacks. Take Rizatriptan as
Always take Rizatriptan exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or your pharmacist if you are not sure.
The usual dose is 10 mg. If you are currently taking propranolol or have kidney or liver problems you should use the 5-mg dose of Rizatriptan. You should leave at least 2 hours between taking propranolol and Rizatriptan up to a maximum of 2 doses in a 24-hour period.

If migraine returns within 24 hours
In some patients, migraine symptoms can return within a 24-hour period. If your migraine does return you can take an additional dose of Rizatriptan. You should always wait at least 2 hours between doses.
If after 2 hours you still have a migraine
If you do not respond to the first dose of Rizatriptan during an attack, you should not take a second dose of Rizatriptan for treatment of the same attack. It is still likely, however, that you will respond to Rizatriptan during the next attack.

Do not take more than 2 doses of Rizatriptan in a 24-hour period, (for example, do not take more than 10 mg oral lyophilisates or more than two 10 mg or 5 mg tablets in a 24-hour period). You should always wait at least 2 hours between doses.

If your condition worsens, seek medical attention.

If you do not respond to the first dose of Rizatriptan during an attack, you should not take a second dose of Rizatriptan for treatment of the next attack.

If after 2 hours you still have a migraine, tell your doctor right away if you have symptoms of allergic reactions, serotonin syndrome, heart attack or stroke.

In addition, tell your doctor if you experience any symptoms that suggest an allergic reaction (such as a rash or itching) after taking Rizatriptan.

If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5. HOW TO STORE Rizatriptan

Keep Rizatriptan out of the sight and reach of children

Do not use Rizatriptan after the expiry date which is stated on the carton/carry case/sachet/blister after ‘EXP’. The expiry date refers to the last day of the month.

Do not store oral lyophilisate above 30°C.

Store in the original package in order to protect from moisture.

Do not remove the oral lyophilisate blister from the outer aluminium sachet until you are ready to take the medicine inside. Do not use the medicine if the aluminium sachet is damaged.

Always keep the aluminium sachets in the carrying case.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Rizatriptan contains

The active substance of the Rizatriptan is rizatriptan. One oral lyophilisate contains 10 mg rizatriptan as 14.53 mg of rizatriptan benzoate.

The other ingredients of MAXALT MELT oral lyophilisates are: gelatin, mannitol (E421), glycine, aspartame (E951) and peppermint flavour (composed of peppermint oil, maltodextrin and dextrin).

What Rizatriptan looks like and contents of pack

10 mg oral lyophilisates are white to off-white, round with a modified bevel.

Pack sizes: Packs with 3, 6, 12 or 18 oral lyophilisates.

Manufacturer

Merck Sharp & Dohme BV, Waarderweg 39, 2031 BN, Haarlem, Netherlands.

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How can you obtain more information about Rizatriptan?

This leaflet gives you some of the most important information about Rizatriptan. If you have any questions after you have read it, ask your doctor or pharmacist who can give you further information.

Further information about migraine is available from the following organisations:

Migraine Action Association

4th Floor, 27 East Street, Leicester, LE1 6NB

Tel: 0116 275 8317 Fax: 0116 254 2023

And

The Migraine Trust

52-53 Russell Square, London, WC1B 4HP

Tel: 020 7631 6970 Fax: 020 7436 2886

Email: info@migrainetrust.org

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