Oxazepam tablets 10mg and 15mg tablets

Other considerations
• Dependence - when taking this medicine there is a risk of dependence, which increases with the dose and duration of treatment and also in patients with a history of alcoholism and drug abuse.
• Tolerance - if after a few weeks you notice that the tablets are not working as well as they did when first starting treatment, you should speak to your doctor.
• Withdrawal - treatment should be gradually withdrawn. Withdrawal symptoms occur with Oxazepam tablets even when normal doses are given for short periods of time. See Section 3, ‘If you stop taking Oxazepam tablets.’

Taking other medicines
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription. Especially:
• antihypertensives; antipsychotics (to treat mental problems),
• sedative antihistamines eg chlorphenamine (to treat allergies),
• anaesthetics, lofexidine (to help relieve symptoms when you stop taking opioids), nalbuphine (to treat nausea and vomiting), hypnotics (to help you sleep), alpha blockers or moxonidine, muscle relaxants (eg baclofen, tizanidine), probenecid (used to treat gout),
• These medicines with Oxazepam could make you very sleepy,
• some strong pain killers may give you a heightened sense of well being when taken with Oxazepam, which can increase your desire to continue taking these medicines (dependence) or can make you very sleepy.
• medicines for epilepsy eg hydantoins, in particular phenytoin, or barbiturates (Oxazepam may make side effects more likely).
• oestrogen-containing contraceptives, as these can cause Oxazepam to be less effective.
• rifampicin (an antibiotic) as this can cause Oxazepam to be removed from the body more quickly than usual.
• medicines to lower high blood pressure (increased effect).
• levodopa (to treat Parkinson’s Disease) as Oxazepam may cause levodopa to not work so well.

Taking Oxazepam tablets with food and drink
Do not drink alcohol while you are taking Oxazepam tablets. Alcohol may increase the sedative effects of Oxazepam tablets and make you very sleepy.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
You should not take Oxazepam tablets if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant or are breast feeding. If you take Oxazepam tablets late in your pregnancy or during labour your baby might have a low body temperature, flappiness, and breathing difficulties. If taken regularly during late pregnancy, your baby may develop withdrawal symptoms. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine.

Driving and using machines
Oxazepam tablets may affect how your muscles work or may make you feel sleepy or forgetful. It may also impair your alertness (especially if you don’t have enough uninterrupted sleep). Do not drive or use any tools or machines if you are affected in this way. The medicine can affect your ability to drive as it may make you sleepy or dizzy.
**Possible Side Effects**

Like all medicines, Oxazepam tablets can cause side-effects, although not everybody gets them.

Contact your doctor at once if the following symptoms occur:

- restlessness, agitation, irritability, aggressiveness, delusion, experiencing rages, nightmares, hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that are not there), psychoses (loss of contact with reality), inappropriate behaviour (more likely to occur in children and the elderly), depression with feelings of suicide.

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following side effects or notice any other effects not listed:

- mild drowsiness and light-headedness may occur during the first few days of treatment.
- allergic reaction: skin rashes, itching.
- dizziness, fainting, loss of co-ordination, Pins and Needles sensation or headache with or without drowsiness, tiredness.
- becoming less alert, disorientation, dreams, confusion, excitement, numbed emotions, slurred speech or speech disorder, loss of memory, lack of muscle control / co-ordination, difficulty in controlling movements, changes in perception.
- changes in blood cells, if you notice increased bruising, nosebleeds, sore throats, infections, excessive tiredness, breathlessness on exertion, or abnormal paleness of the skin, you should tell your doctor who may want to have a blood test, reduction in white blood cells, changes in sex drive, blurred or double vision, low blood pressure, muscle weakness, tremor, fever, tiredness.
- stomach upset or cramps, feeling sick, changes in saliva.
- yellowning of the skin or whites of the eyes (jaundice), increased liver enzymes seen in tests, difficulty passing urine, water retention, incontinence.

Withdrawal symptoms: see Section 3, "If you stop taking Oxazepam tablets."

**Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the 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.

**How to store**

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

Store below 25°C in a dry place protected from light.

Do not use Oxazepam tablets after the expiry date stated on the label carte or bottle.

The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

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

**Further Information**

What Oxazepam tablets contain:

- The active substance (the ingredient that makes the tablet work) is Oxazepam. Each tablet contains either 10mg or 15mg of the active ingredient.
- The other ingredients are colloidal silica, lactose, magnesium stearate, maize starch, microcrystalline cellulose (E460).
- The 10mg tablets also contain sodium lauryl sulfate.

What Oxazepam tablets looks like and contents of the pack:

Oxazepam tablets are white, uncoated tablets. Pack sizes are 28 tablets.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer:**

Actavis, Barnstaple, EX32 8NS, UK.

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