

Gastro-Stop

(loperamide hydrochloride)

Consumer Medicine Information

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet provides a summary of some of the important things you need to know about this medicine. Only your doctor or pharmacist is able to weigh up all the relevant facts and you should consult them about all aspects of this medicine as it relates to you.

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

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

What Gastro-Stop is used for

Gastro-Stop belongs to a group of drugs used for the treatment of diarrhoea.

Gastro-Stop capsules are used to treat acute diarrhoea for short periods; i.e. up to 2 days in adults and children over 12 years old.

Doctors may sometimes prescribe these capsules for other reasons.

Do not give Gastro-Stop to children under 12 years of age.

This medicine is for you only, do not give it to anyone else.

Before you take it

Consult your doctor or pharmacist before taking Gastro-Stop if the answer to any of the following questions is “Yes”.

- * Have you ever had an allergic reaction to loperamide, the active ingredient in Gastro-Stop?
- * Is your diarrhoea accompanied by fever or by blood in the stools?
- * Are you taking any other medication, especially antibiotics, tranquillizers or narcotic pain medication?
- * Will you be drinking alcohol while taking this medication?
- * Are you pregnant or breast feeding?
- * Do you suffer from glaucoma?
- * Do you suffer from bowel obstruction, constipation or abdominal bloating?
- * Do you suffer from Inflammatory Bowel Disease; e.g. colitis?
- * Do you suffer from liver disease?
- * Do you suffer from kidney disease?
- * Do you suffer from bladder obstruction?
- * Are you under 12 years of age?
- * Are you over 65 years of age?

Taking Gastro-Stop

Always follow the directions which are on the label. If you do not understand these directions or you are in any doubt, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

The usual initial dose in adults (and children over 12 years of age) is 2 capsules followed by 1 capsule, as needed, after each loose bowel motion. Gastro-Stop should be swallowed whole with a glass of water.

Do not take more than 8 capsules per day.

How long to take it

Do not use beyond 48 hours.

If diarrhoea persists after 48 hours, see a doctor.

If you forget to take it

If you forget to take a capsule after a loose bowel motion, take another as soon as you remember.

If you take too much (overdose)

In the event of an accidental overdose, immediately telephone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre on 131126 for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too many Gastro-Stop capsules.

You may need medical attention.

After taking it

As with most medicines, Gastro-Stop can sometimes cause unwanted side-effects in some people.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist immediately if you notice any of the following:

- * abdominal cramps or bloating
- * nausea and/or vomiting
- * tiredness
- * skin reactions such as nettle rash or hives
- * blurred vision
- * giddiness.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell, even if you think the problems are not connected with this medicine and are not referred to in this leaflet.

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

What it looks like

Gastro-Stop capsules are green and dark grey in colour and are marked "LOP2" on both halves.

It is available in packs of 12 and 20 capsules.

Ingredients

Each capsule contains 2 mg loperamide hydrochloride as the active ingredient.

It also contains starch-maize, lactose, povidone, sodium starch glycollate and magnesium stearate. The capsule shell contains gelatin and is coloured with patent blue V (E131), titanium dioxide (E171), yellow iron oxide (E172) and black iron oxide (E172).

Storage

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date shown on the outside packaging.

Keep your capsules in the blister pack until it is time to take them. Do not transfer them to another container.

Keep it in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.

Keep it in a secure place where children cannot get at them.

Sponsor

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Australia Registration Number: AUST R 48935

This leaflet was revised in December 2010.