

CAUTION

Children exposed in utero to valproate have a high risk of severe developmental (mental and motor) and behavior disorders (up to 10% of cases) and / or malformations (approximately 10% of cases).
If you are a girl, a female teenager, a woman of childbearing age or pregnant woman, your specialist doctor will prescribe you valproate only in case of intolerance or intolerance to other treatments.
If you are a woman of childbearing age, you must use effective contraception during treatment. If you are planning a pregnancy, you should not stop treatment without first talking with your doctor and being agreed on changing treatment if possible.
Your doctor will discuss this with you but you must follow the advice given in section 2 of this leaflet.
Contact your specialist doctor if you are pregnant or think you may be.

1 WHAT IS VALOXINE 57.64 mg/ml syrup, bottle of 150 ml AND IN WHICH CASES IS IT USED?

Composition
The active substance is:
Valproate de sodium 5,764 g

Excipients are:
- Hydroxy acid or sodium hydroxide, peach flavor, glycerol, potassium sorbate, sucrose, sorbitol 70% solution, purified water.....s.q.f. 100 ml
Pharmaceutical form
Syrup.

Pharmacotherapeutic class - ATC code
Antiepileptic - N02AG01

Therapeutic indications
VALOXINE is used alone or combined with another antiepileptic drug, for the treatment of various forms of epilepsy in adults and children.
In children, it is also used as a preventive treatment of seizures caused by fever.

2 WHAT ARE THE INFORMATION TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE VALOXINE 57.64 mg/ml syrup, bottle of 150 ml?

List of information to know before taking this medicine
If you have a genetic problem causing intolerance to some sugars, contact him before taking this medicine.

Contra-indications
Never take VALOXINE:

- If you are allergic to valproate, to divalproate, to valproamide or to any of the other VALOXINE ingredients;
 - If you have a liver disease, such as acute or chronic hepatitis;
 - If you or a member of your family have had a serious liver disease, especially related to a medicine;
 - If you have porphyria (hereditary disease caused by abnormal production of pigments called porphyrins);
 - If you have a genetic problem causing mitochondrial disease, e.g. Alpers-Huttenlocher syndrome;
 - If you take mefloquine, or St. John's wort.
- IF IN DOUBT, ASK YOUR DOCTOR OR YOUR PHARMACIST FOR ADVICE.**

Special warnings and precautions
- This medicine may cause damage to the liver or pancreas may endanger the patient's life. This can occur especially in the first 6 months of treatment. Tell your doctor immediately if you develop the following signs:

- Sudden tiredness, loss of appetite, depression, drowsiness, loss of weight, general malaise;
 - Repeated vomiting, stomach pains, nausea, yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice);
 - Reappearance of seizures while you're following your treatment properly.
- Your doctor will decide on the need to prescribe you blood tests to stop or change treatment.
- Tell your doctor if you have kidney disease (kidney failure), systemic lupus erythematosus, hereditary enzyme deficiencies or genetic problem that is responsible for a mitochondrial disorder.
 - If you need surgery, tell the medical staff you are taking this medicine.
 - In the beginning of treatment, if you are a woman, the doctor must ensure that you are not pregnant and you have a means of contraception (see pregnancy section).
 - At the beginning of treatment, it is possible that seizure frequency increases or that different types of crises appear. Then, consult your doctor immediately.
 - This drug may cause weight gain. Your doctor will give you dietary advice and monitor your weight.
 - If you have a deficiency of carnitine palmitoyl transferase (CPT) type II (inherited metabolic disease), the risk of kidney and muscle problems (rhabdomyolysis) with this drug will be more important.
 - Self-harming or killing thoughts were also observed in a small number of people being treated with antiepileptics such as Valoxine. If you have these thoughts, contact your doctor immediately.

- If you or your child is taking another antiepileptic drug or suffering from other neurological or metabolic disease and severe forms of epilepsy.

Interactions with other drugs
Other medicines and VALOXINE
You should never take this medicine if you take:

- Mefloquine (medicine to treat malaria);
- St. John's wort (medicine to treat depression).

You must tell your doctor if you take:

- Lamotrigine (medicine to treat epilepsy)
- The penems (antibiotics to treat bacterial infections)

Tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine, if prescribed aspirin or other medication derived from aspirin.

INFORM YOUR DOCTOR OR YOUR PHARMACIST IF YOU ARE TAKING, HAVE RECENTLY TAKEN OR MAY TAKE ANY MEDICINE.

Interactions with food and drinks
VALOXINE with alcohol
Taking alcoholic beverages is not recommended during treatment by VALOXINE.

Use during pregnancy and lactation
Pregnancy
Important advice to the attention of women:

- If you are a woman of childbearing age, your doctor will prescribe you valproate only in case of failure of other treatments. Valproate is dangerous for the unborn child if taken during pregnancy.

- Valproate expose to a risk if taken during pregnancy. The higher the dose is, the higher the risks are; however, all doses expose to this risk.

- Children exposed in utero to valproate have high risks of severe birth malformations and developmental (mental and motor) and behavior disabilities. Reported malformations include spina bifida (bone deformity of the spine), malformations of the face, upper lip and palate, skull, heart, kidneys, urinary tract and genital organs and also members.

- If you take valproate during pregnancy, you will have a higher risk than other women to have a child with malformations requiring medical treatment. Since Valproate has been used for many years, it is established that almost 10% of children born to mothers under valproate have malformations, against 2-3% of children in the general population.

- It is estimated that up to 30 to 40% of preschool children, whose mothers took valproate during pregnancy, have developmental problems in infancy. The children involved walk later and / or speak later, and / or have lower intellectual abilities than other children and / or have difficulty with language and / or memory.

- The autism spectrum disorders are more often diagnosed in children exposed to valproate.

- Limited data to date indicate that children are more likely to develop the symptoms of attention deficit / hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) when they are exposed to Valproate.

- Before prescribing this drug, your specialist doctor will have you explained the possible risks to your child if you become pregnant while taking valproate. If later you are planning a pregnancy, you should not stop treatment without first talking with your doctor and agreed to further treatment if possible.

- If you try to have a baby, ask your specialist about taking folic acid. Folic acid supplementation before pregnancy may reduce the risk of closure of neural tube malformations and early miscarriage. However, prevention of malformations mediated by folic acid is not proven to date.

FIRST-PRESCRIPTION
If this is the first time you have been prescribed valproate your doctor will have explained the risks to an unborn child if you become pregnant. Once you are of childbearing age, you will need to make sure you use an effective method of contraception throughout your treatment. Talk to your doctor or family planning clinic if you need advice on contraception.

Key messages:
- Make sure you are using an effective method of contraception.

- Tell your doctor at once if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant.

CONTINUING TREATMENT AND NOT TRYING FOR A BABY
If you are continuing treatment with valproate but you don't plan to have a baby make sure you are using an effective method of contraception. Talk to your doctor or family planning clinic if you need advice on contraception.

Key messages:
- Make sure you are using an effective method of contraception.

- Tell your doctor at once if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant.

CONTINUING TREATMENT AND CONSIDERING TRYING FOR A BABY
If you are continuing treatment with valproate and you are now thinking of trying for a baby you must not stop taking either your valproate or your contraceptive medicine until

you have discussed this with your prescriber. You should talk to your doctor well before you become pregnant so that you can put several actions in place so that your pregnancy goes as smoothly as possible and any risks to you and your unborn child are reduced as much as possible.
Your doctor may decide to change the dose of valproate or switch you to another medicine before you start trying for a baby.

If you do become pregnant you will be monitored very closely both for the management of your underlying condition and to check how your unborn child is developing.
Ask your doctor about taking folic acid when trying for a baby. Folic acid can lower the general risk of spina bifida and early miscarriage that exists with all pregnancies. However, it is unlikely that it will reduce the risk of birth defects associated with valproate use.

Key messages:
- Do not stop using your contraception before you have talked to your doctor and worked together on a plan to ensure your bipolar is controlled and the risks to your baby are reduced

- Tell your doctor at once when you know or think you might be pregnant.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY WHILST CONTINUING TREATMENT
Babies born to mothers who have been on valproate are at serious risk of birth defects and problems with development which can be seriously debilitating. If you are taking valproate and you think you are pregnant or might be pregnant contact your doctor at once. Do not stop taking your medicine until your doctor tells you to.

Ask your doctor about taking folic acid. Folic acid can lower the general risk of spina bifida and early miscarriage that exists with all pregnancies. However, it is unlikely that it will reduce the risk of birth defects associated with valproate use.

Key messages:
- Tell your doctor at once when you know or think you might be pregnant.

- Do not stop your treatment unless your doctor has asked you to.

Make sure you have read and understood the patient's information booklet and signed the agreement form that will be provided by your specialist. Ask your doctor or your pharmacist for advice.

Breast-feeding
You should not breastfeed if you are taking this medicine unless your doctor told you to.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR OR YOUR PHARMACIST BEFORE TAKING ANY MEDICINE.

Driving and using machines
A drowsiness effect can be caused by taking this medicine, especially when combined with other drugs acting on the central nervous system.

If you get this effect and if your disease is not controlled, that is to say, if you continue to have seizures, you should not drive or operate machinery.

List of excipients with known effect:
- Sorbitol and sucrose are not recommended in patients with fructose intolerance, malabsorption of glucose and galactose or sucrose-intolerance deficiency (rare hereditary disease). If your doctor has told you have an intolerance to some sugars, please talk to him before taking this medicine.

This medicine contains 13.85 mg sodium per 100 mg of sodium valproate. To be taken into account in patients on a controlled sodium diet.

3 HOW TO TAKE VALOXINE 57.64 mg/ml syrup, bottle of 150 ml?

Instructions for proper use
VALOXINE treatment should be initiated and supervised by a specialist in the treatment of epilepsy.

ALWAYS RESPECT THE DOSE PRESCRIBED BY YOUR DOCTOR. IF IN DOUBT, CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR OR PHARMACIST.

Dosage
The dose to use is determined by your doctor.
It is strictly individual.

Your doctor should prescribe a dose in milligrams (mg) and not in milliliters (ml).

This information is important because the syringe used to withdraw the correct dose in the vial is graduated in milligrams (mg). If your prescription was written in milliliters (ml), contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Frequency of administration
Respect the prescription from your doctor.
Usually, the daily dose is administered, preferably during meals.

- In 2 doses in patients less than 1 year.
- In 3 doses in patients over 1 year.

Method and route of administration
Oral route.
Syrup bottle comes with a pipette for oral administration with which the correct dose is inserted into the adapter plug. The graduations indicate the dosages expressed in milligrams (one graduation every 10 mg from 0 to 300 mg).

Administer the syrup only with the pipette present in this box.

1. Open the bottle and introduce the pipette equipped with the reducer in the bottle neck.

2. Hold the bottle «upside down». While keeping the pipette in place, slowly and steadily pull the plunger to the required graduation.

3. Turn the bottle «head up» and remove the pipette. Keep the reducer in the bottle neck.

4. The bottle should be resealed after use.

5. Insert the pipette into the mouth without pushing and administer the syrup gently pressing the plunger.

After use, remove the pipette, rinse and dry.

Duration of the treatment
You must observe the prescribed dosage and treatment duration, especially you should not stop treatment without consulting your doctor.

Symptoms and instructions in case of overdose
If you take more of VALOXINE than you should:
Check with your doctor or emergency medical service.

Instructions in case of missing one or more doses
If you forget to take VALOXINE:
Do not take a double dose to make up the dose you missed.

Risk of withdrawal syndrome
If you stop taking VALOXINE:
Do not stop taking VALOXINE without the advice of your doctor. Discontinuation of therapy should be introduced gradually; indeed abrupt discontinuation of treatment (or significant reduction of doses) may lead to a recurrence of seizures.

4 WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS?
Description of side effects
Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist if any of the following occurs:

- Impairment of the liver or pancreas can be serious and put your life in danger. It can occur suddenly by fatigue, loss of appetite, exhaustion, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, stomach pain.

- Allergic reactions:
 - Sudden swelling of the face and / or neck that can cause difficulty breathing and put your life in danger (angioedema).
 - Serious allergic reaction (drug hypersensitivity syndrome) involving several symptoms such as fever, skin rash, enlarged lymph nodes, liver disease or kidney disease, an increased number of some white blood cells (eosinophils) in the blood.

- Appearance of a rash on the skin with bubbles that sometimes can also affect the mouth (erythema multiforme), rash bubbles with peeling skin which can multiply spread to the whole body and put you in danger (toxic epidermal necrolysis, Stevens-Johnson syndrome).

Other possible side effects:

- Congenital malformations, impaired intellectual and motor development (see section Pregnancy and breastfeeding).

Very common (affecting more than 1 in 10 people):

- Nausea
- Tremors

Common (affecting up to 1 in 10 people):

- Effects that can occur in some patients early in treatment, but usually respond within a few days without treatment interruption: vomiting, stomach pain, diarrhea, gum disease (mainly increased gingival volume), stomatitis (mouth swollen, painful and burning sensation of the mouth)

- Weight gain
- Headache
- Drowsiness
- Convulsions
- Memory problems
- Menstrual irregularities
- Bleeding
- Hair loss
- Anemia (low red blood cells), thrombocytopenia (low platelets)
- Hyponatremia (decrease of the amount of sodium in the blood)
- Extrapyramidal disorder: a set of symptoms such as tremors, stiffness of members and difficulty walking,

sometimes irreversible. In some cases the Parkinsonian syndrome can be reversible.

- Rapid, uncontrollable eye movements
- Hearing loss.
- Confusion, hallucinations, aggression, agitation, attention disorders

Uncommon (affecting up to 1 in 100):

- Vigilance disorders up to transient coma, which regresses after dose reduction or discontinuation.
- Difficulty coordinating movement
- Numbness or tingling of hands and feet
- Decreased number of white blood cells (leukopenia), decreased number of all blood cells (pancytopenia)
- Difficulty breathing and pain due to inflammation of the protective membrane of the lungs (pleural effusion);
- Swelling of the extremities (peripheral edema);
- Abnormal hair texture, changed hair color, abnormal hair growth;
- Excessive hair growth, particularly among women, virilization, acne (hyperandrogenism);
- Drop in body temperature (hypothermia);
- Swelling of the extremities (peripheral edema);
- Absence of menstrual periods (amenorrhea)
- Renal failure;
- Cases of bone disorders have been reported: bone thinning (osteopenia), decreased bone mass (osteoporosis), fractures. Consult your doctor or pharmacist in case of long term treatment with an antiepileptic drug, a history of osteoporosis or taking corticosteroids.

Rare (affecting up to 1 in 1000):

- Decreased production of blood cells (bone marrow aplasia);
- Significant decrease of the white blood cells number (agranulocytosis), increased volume of red blood cells (macrocytosis);
- Decreased coagulation factors, coagulation tests abnormalities (prolonged prothrombin time, increased time of active thrombin plasma, lengthening of thrombin time, increased INR)
- Kidney disease (tubulointerstitial nephritis);
- Impaired memory and mental abilities of gradual onset (cognitive impairment, dementia), reversible a few weeks a few months after stopping treatment
- Difficulty or inability to retain the urine (enuresis, urinary incontinence);
- Decreased activity of the thyroid gland (hypothyroidism);
- Increased amount of ammonium in the blood (hyperammonemia);
- Production of abnormal blood cells (myelodysplastic syndrome);
- Decreased sperm motility;
- Abnormal activity of the ovaries (polycystic ovaries);
- Autoimmune reaction with joint pain, rashes on the skin and fever (systemic lupus erythematosus);
- Muscle pain, muscle weakness which may be serious (rhabdomyolysis);
- Behavioral disorders, increased psychomotor activity, learning difficulties;

5 HOW TO STORE VALOXINE 57.64 mg/ml syrup?
Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
Expiration date
Do not use VALOXINE 57.64 mg / ml syrup after the expiry date stated on the box.

Storage conditions
Store below 30 ° C.

If necessary, warning against certain visible signs of deterioration
Medicines should not be disposed of to wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of unused medicines. These measures will help protect the environment.

6 FURTHER INFORMATION
Table C / List II
Website: www.opalia-pharma.com

M.A. Holder: OPALIA PHARMA RECORDATI GROUP S.A. Industrial Zone Kalat El Andalou 2022 Ariana Tunisia

M.A. N°: 902 395 1. VALOXINE 57,64 mg/ml syrup, bottle of 150 ml

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GENERAL ADVICE
Epilepsy is a neurological disease. It is the expression of acute and transitory abnormal operation of the brain electrical activity, resulting in seizures. Seizures can be repeated for a time in the life of a person.

The expressions of crises and changes are various: there is not one but many epilepsies.

Similarly, there is no one treatment but many treatments: your doctor will prescribe the one that is best suited to your case.

For the medication that was prescribed to be effective, you must follow the recommendations of your doctor and follow:

- The prescribed daily dose;
- The dosing schedule;
- The duration of treatment, usually extended;
- The lifestyle advice: avoid overwork, lack of sleep and alcohol.

Modifying doses and especially the abrupt withdrawal may lead to a recurrence of disorders.

REMEMBER YOUR MEDICINE IF YOU GO ON TRAVEL.



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THIS IS A MEDICINE

- A medicine is a product, but not a product as others.
- A medicine is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous.
- Comply strictly with the prescription and instruction of use as prescribed by your doctor.
- Follow the advice of your pharmacist.
- The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks.
- Do not interrupt by your self the period of treatment prescribed for you.
- Neither repeat the prescription nor increase the dose without consulting your doctor.

Keep medicines out of the reach of children

