

# Medication Information Card

## Antiparkinson Antipsychotic/Neuroleptic

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### Other names for this medication

Benzotropine – Cogentin<sup>®</sup>  
Procyclidine – Kemadrin<sup>®</sup>  
Trihexyphenidyl – Artane<sup>®</sup>

There are many other names for this medication.

### How this medication is used

This medication reduces shaking, tremors, shuffling walk, stiffness and muscle tremors caused by a medication you are taking called an antipsychotic / neuroleptic. Some people find they are less restless as well. This medication may also be used to help in Parkinson's Disease.

- When given by injection, this medication can work in 10 to 15 minutes.
  - When taken as a pill, this medication can start to work within 1 hour although it may take 2 to 3 days before this medication begins to work fully.

## **How to take this medication**

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor.

Take this medication with food to avoid stomach upset and reduce dry mouth.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if you miss a dose by more than 4 hours, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

Always check with your health care provider such as nurse, doctor or pharmacist before taking any over-the-counter medications such as antihistamines, cold remedies or natural and herbal products.

Do not drink alcohol such as wine, beer and liquor because these medications increase the effect of alcohol.

Until you know how this medication affects you, do not drive or operate machinery.

## **Storing this medication:**

Store this medication in a closed container at room temperature, away from heat, moisture and direct light. Keep away from children. Never share your medication with anyone.

## **While taking this medication you may notice**

- dry mouth
  - blurred vision
  - nausea
  - heartburn
  - constipation
  - feeling tired or drowsy
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## **While taking this medication you may notice (continued)**

To help dry mouth, try sucking sugar free candy or chewing sugar free gum. Sucking on ice chips also helps. Good care of your teeth is very important at this time.

To avoid constipation, eat food high in fibre, drink 6 to 8 glasses of liquid each day and exercise regularly. Food with fibre includes whole grain products, vegetables and fruit.

Avoid exposure to extreme heat or cold. This medication may reduce your body's ability to control body temperature, which could result in overheating or chills.

## **Contact your doctor if you notice**

- confusion
- trouble passing water or urinating
- skin rash or itching
- dry mouth that persists
- blurred vision that persists
- restless or excited feelings
- increase in psychosis

Contact your health care provider if you have any questions about your medication.