

Medication Information Card

Quetiapine (Kwet – eye – a – pene)

Other names for this medication

Seroquel[®]

How this medication is used

This medication helps block psychotic thoughts.

This helps:

- decrease anxiety and agitation
- decrease hallucinations
- decrease aggressive behaviour
- decrease social withdrawal
- improve sleep
- improve mood
- improve concentration

It may take up to 6 weeks before you get the full effect of this medication.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor at the same time each day. It must be taken regularly, even when you feel well.

Do not take more of this medication without talking to your doctor first.
Do not stop taking this medication without talking to your doctor first.

How to take this medication (continued)

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

This medication increases the effects of alcohol making you more sleepy and tired. Do not drink alcohol such as wine, beer or liquor while taking this medication.

While taking this medication you may notice

- headache
- dizziness
- drowsiness
- constipation
- weight gain
- dry mouth

Most of these effects will go away as your body gets used to the medication. If not, contact your doctor.

Grapefruit can affect the way this medication works. If you eat grapefruit or drink grapefruit juice, do not change the amount you have each day.

To avoid weight gain, follow a healthy diet and exercise plan. Talk to your doctor or dietitian for help.

To help dry mouth, try sucking sugar-free candy or chewing sugar-free gum. Sucking on ice chips also helps if you are not on a limited fluid diet. Good care of your teeth is very important at this time.

Avoid strenuous exercise and exposure to heat for long periods of time because this medication may cause you to sweat less than normal.

To avoid feeling dizzy, get up slowly when you have been sitting or lying down. If you feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you are no longer dizzy, then get up slowly.

Contact your doctor if you notice

- skin rash
- uncontrolled, jerky movements of your face, hands and arms
- muscle stiffness
- trouble staying still
- changes in how much or how often you urinate
- any changes in your vision