

# Medication Information Card

## Nitrates - Oral (Nye – trates)

---

### Other names for this medication

Cedocard-SR <sup>®</sup>	Ismo
Isordil <sup>®</sup>	Isosorbide-5-Mononitrate
Isosorbide Dinitrate	Nitroglycerin
Imdur <sup>®</sup>	

### How this medication is used

This medication is used to reduce chest pain due to angina. It works by relaxing the blood vessels. This helps the heart work better.

This medication does not act right away to relieve chest pain.

### How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor. Take this medication even if you feel well. It is best to take this medication on an empty stomach however follow your doctor's instructions.

If you are taking this medication more than once a day talk to your doctor or pharmacist about when to take each dose. In order for this medication to work well for you, it may be important to space out the doses and have a 'nitrate-free time each day.

Do not take this medication if you take medication for erectile dysfunction such as Viagra<sup>®</sup>, Levitra<sup>®</sup> or Cialis<sup>®</sup>.

## **How to take this medication (continued)**

Tablets: If you have trouble swallowing the tablet, talk to your pharmacist before crushing the tablet.

Do not suddenly stop taking this medication as this may cause chest pain.

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

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

- dizziness
- headache

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.

You may take acetaminophen (Tylenol) for the headache.

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

- severe pounding headache
- fainting
- blurred vision
- skin rash
- trouble breathing
- fast heartbeat

To prevent fainting, avoid standing for long periods of time and exercising in hot weather.