

Package leaflet: Information for the patient

Rufinamide Brown & Burk 100 mg Film-coated Tablets
Rufinamide Brown & Burk 200 mg Film-coated Tablets
Rufinamide Brown & Burk 400 mg Film-coated Tablets
Rufinamide

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask the doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to the doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Rufinamide is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Rufinamide
3. How to use Rufinamide
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Rufinamide
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Rufinamide is and what it is used for

Rufinamide Brown & Burk Film-coated Tablets contains a medicine called rufinamide. It belongs to a group of medicines called antiepileptics, which are used to treat epilepsy (a condition where someone has seizures or fits).

Rufinamide is used with other medicines to treat seizures associated with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome in adults, adolescents and children from 1 year of age. Lennox-Gastaut syndrome is the name given to a group of severe epilepsies in which you may experience repeated seizures of various types. Rufinamide has been given to you by your doctor to reduce the number of your seizures or fits.

2. What you need to know before you take Rufinamide

Do not take Rufinamide:

- if you are allergic to rufinamide or triazole derivatives or any of the other ingredients of Rufinamide (listed in section 6).

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist if:

- you have Congenital Short QT Syndrome or a family history of such a syndrome (electrical disturbance of the heart), as taking rufinamide could make it worse.
- you suffer from liver problems. There is limited information on the use of rufinamide in this group, so the dose of your medicine may need to be increased more slowly. If your liver disease is severe the doctor may decide Rufinamide is not recommended for you.

- you get a skin rash or fever. These could be signs of an allergic reaction. See the doctor immediately as very occasionally this may become serious.
- you suffer an increase in the number or severity or duration of your seizures, you should contact the doctor immediately if this happens.
- you experience difficulty walking, abnormal movement, dizziness or sleepiness inform the doctor, if any of these happen. if you take this medicine and have thoughts of harming or killing yourself at any time, **contact your doctor or go to a hospital straight away** (see section 4).

Consult the doctor, even if these events occurred at any time in the past.

Children

Rufinamide should not be given to children younger than 1 year of age since there is not enough information on its use in this age group.

Other medicines and Rufinamide

Tell the doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription. If you are taking the following medicines:

Phenobarbital, fosphenytoin, phenytoin or primidone, you may need to be carefully monitored for two weeks at the start of, or after the end of treatment with rufinamide, or after any marked change in the dose. A change in the dose of the other medicines may be needed as they may become slightly less effective when given with rufinamide.

Antiepileptic medicines and Rufinamide

If the doctor prescribes or recommends an additional treatment for epilepsy (e.g., valproate) you must tell the doctor you are taking Rufinamide as the dose may need adjusting. Adults and children taking valproate at the same time as rufinamide will result in high levels of rufinamide in the blood.

Tell your doctor if you are taking valproate as the dose of Rufinamide may need to be reduced by your doctor.

Tell the doctor if you are taking hormonal/oral contraceptives, e.g., “The pill”. Rufinamide may make the pill not effective at preventing pregnancy. Therefore, it is recommended that you use an additional safe and effective contraceptive method (such as a barrier method, e.g. condoms) when taking Rufinamide.

Tell the doctor if you are taking the blood thinner – warfarin. The doctor may need to adjust the dose.

Tell the doctor if you are taking digoxin (a medicine used to treat heart conditions). The doctor may need to adjust the dose.

Rufinamide with food and drink

See section 3 – ‘How to use Rufinamide’ for advice on taking Rufinamide with food and drink.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility

If you are pregnant, or think you might be pregnant, or are planning to get pregnant, ask the doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking Rufinamide. You must only take Rufinamide during your pregnancy if the doctor tells you to.

You are advised not to breast-feed while taking Rufinamide as it is not known if rufinamide will be present in breast milk.

If you are a woman of childbearing age, you must use contraceptive measures while taking rufinamide.

Ask the doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking any medicine at the same time as Rufinamide.

Driving and using machines

Rufinamide may make you feel dizzy, drowsy and affect your vision, particularly at the beginning of treatment or after a dose increase. If this happens to you do not drive or operate machinery.

Rufinamide contains lactose

If you have been told by the doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact the doctor before taking this medicinal product.

Rufinamide contains sodium

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per daily dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

3. How to use Rufinamide

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

It may take a while to find the best dose of Rufinamide for you. The dose will be calculated for you by the doctor and will depend on your age, weight and whether you are taking Rufinamide with another medicine called valproate.

Children aged between 1 and 4 years of age

The recommended starting dose is 10 mg for each kilogram of body weight, each day. Taken in two equal doses, half in the morning and the other half in the evening. The dose will be calculated for you by the doctor and may be increased by 10 mg for each kilogram of body weight, every third day.

The maximum daily dose will depend on whether or not you are also taking valproate. Maximum daily dose not taking valproate is 45 mg for each kilogram of body weight, each day. Maximum daily dose taking valproate is 30 mg for each kilogram of body weight, each day.

Children 4 years of age or older weighing less than 30 kg

The recommended starting dose is 200 mg a day. Taken in two equal doses, half in the morning and the other half in the evening. The dose will be calculated for you by the doctor and may be increased by 200 mg every third day.

The maximum daily dose will depend on whether or not you are also taking valproate. Maximum daily dose not taking valproate is 1000 mg each day. Maximum daily dose taking valproate is 600 mg each day.

Adults, adolescents and children weighing 30 kg or over

The recommended starting dose is 400 mg a day. Taken in two equal doses, half in the morning and the other half in the evening. The dose will be calculated for you by the doctor and may be increased by 400 mg every other day.

The maximum daily dose will depend on whether or not you are also taking valproate. Maximum daily dose not taking valproate is no more than 3200 mg, depending on body weight. Maximum daily dose taking valproate is no more than 2200 mg, depending on body weight.

Some patients may respond to lower doses and your doctor may adjust the dose depending on how you respond to the treatment.

If you experience side effects, your doctor may increase the dose more slowly.

Rufinamide tablets must be taken twice daily with water, in the morning and in the evening. Rufinamide should be taken with food. If you have difficulty swallowing, you can crush the tablet, then mix the powder in about half a glass (100 ml) of water and drink immediately. You can also break the tablets into two equal halves and swallow with water.

Do not reduce the dose or stop this medicine unless the doctor tells you to.

If you take more Rufinamide than you should

If you may have taken more Rufinamide than you should, tell the doctor or pharmacist immediately, or contact your nearest hospital casualty department, taking the medicine with you.

If you forget to take Rufinamide

If you forget to take a dose, continue taking the medicine as normal. Do not take a double dose to make up for forgotten dose. If you miss taking more than one dose, seek advice from the doctor.

If you stop taking Rufinamide

If the doctor advises stopping treatment, follow their instructions concerning the gradual reduction of Rufinamide in order to lower the risk of an increase in seizures. If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask the doctor or pharmacist.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, rufinamide can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

The following side effects can be very serious:

Rash and/or fever. These could be signs of an allergic reaction. If they happen to you tell your doctor or go to a hospital immediately:

Change in the types of seizures you experience / more frequent seizures which last a long time (called status epilepticus). Tell your doctor immediately.

A small number of people being treated with antiepileptics such as rufinamide have had thoughts of harming or killing themselves. If at any time you have these thoughts contact your doctor immediately (see section 2).

You may experience the following side effects with this medicine. Tell the doctor if you have any of the following:

Very common (more than 1 in 10 patients) side effects of rufinamide are:

Dizziness, headache, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness, fatigue.

Common (more than 1 in a 100 patients) side effects of rufinamide are:

Problems associated with nerves including:

difficulty walking, abnormal movement, convulsions/ seizures, unusual eye movements, blurred vision, trembling.

Problems associated with the stomach including: stomach pain, constipation, indigestion, loose stools (diarrhoea), loss or change in appetite, weight loss

Infections: ear infection, flu, nasal congestion, chest infection.

In addition, patients have experienced: anxiety, insomnia, nose bleeds, acne, rash, back pain, infrequent periods, bruising, head injury (as a result of accidental injury during a seizure).

Uncommon (between 1 in a 100 and 1 in a 1000 patients) side effects of rufinamide are:

Allergic reactions and an increase in markers of liver function (hepatic enzyme increase).

Reporting of side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme, Website: www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard, or search for MHRA Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Rufinamide

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the blister and carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not use this medicine if you notice that the appearance of the medicine has changed.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Rufinamide contains

- The active substance is rufinamide.
- Each film-coated tablet contains 100 mg rufinamide.

- Each film-coated tablet contains 200 mg rufinamide.
- Each film-coated tablet contains 400 mg rufinamide.

- The other ingredients are lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, maize starch, croscarmellose sodium, hypromellose 3mPas, magnesium stearate, hypromellose 100mPas sodium laurilsulfate and silica, colloidal anhydrous. The film-coating consists of hypromellose 3 mPas, macrogols (mw 8000), titanium dioxide (E171), talc and ferric oxide red (E172).

What Rufinamide looks like and contents of the pack

- Rufinamide Brown & Burk 100 mg tablets are pink colored, oblong shaped, film coated tablets, scored on one side, debossed with “4” on one half and “0” on other half and score line on the other side (approximate length 10.10 mm and width 5.20 mm). The tablet can be divided into equal halves.

They are available as pack of 10 & 60 film-coated tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed

- Rufinamide Brown & Burk 200 mg tablets are pink colored, oblong shaped, film coated tablets, scored on one side, debossed with “E” on one half and “31” on other half and score line on the other side (approximate length 14.90 mm and width 6.00 mm). The tablet can be divided into equal halves.

They are available as pack of 60 film-coated tablets.

- Rufinamide Brown & Burk 400 mg tablets are pink colored, oblong shaped, film coated tablets, scored on one side, debossed with “E” on one half and “30” on other half and score line on the other side (approximate length 17.90 mm and width 7.60 mm). The tablet can be divided into equal halves.

- They are available as pack of 60 film-coated tablets.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

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