

## Patient Information leaflet

# PARACETAMOL 500 mg CAPLETS

**Read all of this leaflet carefully because it contains important information for you.**

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you need more information or advice.

### 1. WHAT PARACETAMOL CAPLETS ARE AND WHAT THEY ARE USED FOR

Paracetamol reduces pain and fever.

Paracetamol 500 mg Caplets are used in the treatment of painful and feverish conditions such as headache, migraine, toothache, colds, influenza, sore throat, period pains, muscular aches and pains, nerve pain and rheumatic pain.

### 2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE PARACETAMOL CAPLETS

**Do NOT take Paracetamol Caplets if:**

- you are allergic (hypersensitive) to paracetamol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6). Signs of an allergic reaction include a rash and breathing problems. There can also be swelling of the legs, arms, face, throat or tongue.

**DO NOT TAKE WITH ANYTHING ELSE CONTAINING PARACETAMOL WHILE TAKING THIS MEDICINE.**

**Warnings and precautions**

**Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before you take this medicine if:**

- you have severe kidney or liver disease, including alcoholic liver disease
- you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant.

**Taking other medicines:**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before you take this medicine if you are taking any of the following:

- medicines for nausea or sickness, such as metoclopramide or domperidone
- colestyramine for high cholesterol or high blood fats
- warfarin or other medicines to thin the blood and reduce the risk of clotting
- imatinib, used to treat certain cancers
- some antibiotics (chloramphenicol)
- any other tablets or medicines including any not prescribed by your doctor.

**Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

Talk to your doctor before taking these tablets if:

- You are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or plan to get pregnant.
- You are breast-feeding or planning to breastfeed.

Paracetamol can be used during pregnancy. You should use the lowest possible dose that reduces your pain and/or your fever and use it for the shortest time possible. Contact your doctor or midwife if the pain and/or fever are not reduced or if you need to take the medicine more often.

### 3. HOW TO TAKE PARACETAMOL CAPLETS

Always take paracetamol exactly as instructed on this leaflet. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

- **Do not take more than the recommended dose**
- **If you need to use this medicine for more than three days at a time, see your doctor**

**Adults and children over 16**

- The usual dose of paracetamol is 2 tablets
- Swallow the tablets whole with a drink of water
- Wait at least 4 hours before taking another dose
- Do not take more than 4 doses in any 24-hour period



**Use in children aged 10 to 15**

Take one tablet every four to six hours when necessary to a maximum of four doses in 24 hours.

**Use in children under 10**

Paracetamol 500mg Tablets should not be given to children under 10 years of age.

**If you take more paracetamol than you should:**

- Talk to a doctor at once if you take too much of this medicine even if you feel well.  
This is because too much paracetamol can cause delayed, serious liver damage.
- Remember to take any remaining tablets and the pack with you. This is so the doctor knows what you have taken.

**If you forget to take paracetamol**

If you forget to take a dose at the right time, take it as soon as you remember. However, do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. Remember to leave at least 4 hours between doses.

**4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.  
The following side effects may happen with this medicine:

**Stop taking paracetamol and see a doctor or go to a hospital straight away if:**

- You get swelling of the hands, feet, ankles, face, lips or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing.  
You could also notice an itchy, lumpy rash (hives) or nettle rash (urticaria).  
This may mean you are having an allergic reaction to paracetamol
- You get serious skin reactions. Very rare cases have been reported.

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any of the following side effects gets serious or lasts longer than a few days:**

- You get infections or bruise more easily than usual. This could be because of a blood problem (such as agranulocytosis, neutropenia or thrombocytopenia). This side effect has only happened in a few people taking paracetamol.

**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 at:  
[www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard)

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**5. HOW TO STORE PARACETAMOL CAPLETS****Keep out of the sight and reach of children.**

Store below 25°C, in a dry place and protect from light.

Keep in the original container.

Keep well closed. Do not use after the expiry date printed on the pack.

**6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION****What Paracetamol Caplets contain:**

- The active ingredient in each caplet is paracetamol 500mg.
- The other ingredients are maize starch, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate, potassium sorbate (E202).

**What Paracetamol Caplets look like and contents of the pack:**

- The caplets are white, capsule shaped tablets with "PARA 500" on one side and a breakline on the other.
- They are available in blister packs of 32,45,48,50,56,60,75,84,96 or 100 tablets and in plastic tubs of 100,250,500 or 1000 tablets.

\* Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer:**

M & A Pharmachem Ltd, Bolton BL5 2AL, UK.

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