Stilnoct 5mg film-coated Tablets

zolpidem tartrate

SANOFI

Is this leaflet hard to see or read?
Phone 0845 372 7101 for help.

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 your 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 your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

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

1. What Stilnoct is and what it is used for

The name of your medicine is Stilnoct 5mg film-coated Tablets (called Stilnoct in this leaflet). Stilnoct contains a medicine called zolpidem tartrate. This belongs to a group of medicines called hypnotics. It works by acting on your brain to help you sleep.

Stilnoct is used for temporary sleep problems in adults that are causing you severe distress or that are affecting your everyday life. This includes sleep problems in adults such as:
- Difficulty falling asleep
- Waking in the middle of the night
- Waking too early

Your doctor will identify your sleep problem wherever possible and the underlying factors before prescribing this medicine for you. The failure of your sleep problems to stop after a 7-14 day course of treatment may indicate you have an underlying disorder, your doctor will assess you at regular intervals.

Stilnoct is used for short-term treatment of insomnia in adults. Do not use long-term. Treatment should be as short as possible, because the risk of dependence increases with the duration of treatment. Ask your doctor for advice if you are unsure.

2. What you need to know before you take Stilnoct

Do not take Stilnoct if:
- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to zolpidem tartrate or any of the other ingredients of Stilnoct (listed in section 6).
- Signs of an allergic reaction include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.
- Your lungs do not work properly (respiratory failure).
- You have severe liver problems.
- You have a problem where you stop breathing for short periods at night (sleep apnoea).
- You have a problem that causes severe muscle weakness (myasthenia gravis).
- You have been told by a doctor that you have a mental illness (psychosis).
- You are under the age of 18.
- You have a mental illness (psychosis).

Do not take this medicine if any of the above applies to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Stilnoct.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Stilnoct if:
- You have a history of alcohol or drug abuse.
- You have liver problems.
- You have depression or have had another mental illness in the past.
- You have recently taken Stilnoct or other similar medicines for more than four weeks.
- You are elderly.

Use of Stilnoct may lead to the development of abuse and/or physical and psychological dependence. The risk of dependence is greater when Stilnoct is used for longer than 4 weeks, and in patients with a history of mental disorders and/or alcohol, illicit substance or drug abuse. Tell your healthcare provider if you have ever had a mental disorder, or have abused or have been dependent on alcohol, substance or drugs.

Some studies have shown an increased risk of suicidal ideation, suicide attempt and suicide in patients taking certain sedatives and hypnotics, including this medicine. However, it has not been established whether this is caused by the medicine or if there may be other reasons. If you have suicidal thoughts, contact your doctor as soon as possible for further medical advice.

Stilnoct can cause drowsiness and decrease your level of alertness. This could cause you to fall, sometimes leading to severe injuries. If you are not sure if any of the above applies to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Stilnoct.
Next-day psychomotor impairment (see also ‘Driving and using machines’)
The day after taking Stilnoct, the risk of psychomotor impairment, including impaired
driving ability may be increased if:
• You take this medicine less than 8 hours before
performing activities that require your alertness.
• You take a higher dose than the recommended
dose.
• You take Stilnoct while you are already taking
other central nervous system depressants or
another medicine that increases Stilnoct in
your blood, or while drinking alcohol, or
while taking illicit substances.
Take the single intake immediately at bedtime.
Do not take another dose during the same night.

Other medicines and Stilnoct
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking,
have recently taken or might take any other
medicines. This includes medicines you buy
without a prescription, including herbal
medicines. This is because Stilnoct can affect
the way some other medicines work. Also some
medicines can affect the way Stilnoct works.

Stilnoct may increase the effect of the
following medicines:
While taking Stilnoct with the following medicines, drowsiness and next-day
psychomotor impairment effects, including impaired driving ability, may be increased.
• Medicines for some mental health problems (antipsychotics).
• Medicines for sleep problems (hypnotics).
• Medicines to calm or reduce anxiety.
• Medicines for depression.
• Medicines for moderate to severe pain (narcotic analgesics).
• Medicines for epilepsy (anti-convulsants).
• Medicines used for anaesthesia.
• Medicines for hay fever, rash, or other
allergies that can make you sleepy (sedative
antihistamines).

While taking Stilnoct with antidepressants
including bupropion, desipramine, fluoxetine,
sertraline and venlafaxine, you may see things
that are not real (hallucinations).
It is not recommended to take Stilnoct with
fluvoxamine, ciprofloxacin or St John’s Wort
(a herbal medicine) used for mood swings and
depression.

Risks from concomitant use with opioids
Concomitant use of Stilnoct and opioids (strong
painkillers, medicines for substitution therapy
and some cough medicines) increases the risk of
drowsiness, difficulties in breathing (respiratory
depression), coma and may be life-threatening.
Because of this, concomitant use should only be
considered when other treatment options are
not possible.
However, if your doctor does prescribe Stilnoct
with opioids the dosage and duration of
concomitant treatment should be limited by
your doctor.
Please tell your doctor about all opioid medicines
you are taking, and follow your doctor’s dosage
recommendation closely. It could be helpful to
inform friends or relatives to be aware of signs
and symptoms stated above. Contact your
doctor when experiencing such symptoms.

The following medicines can increase the chance
of you getting side effects when taken with
Stilnoct. To make this less likely, your doctor
may decide to lower your dose of Stilnoct:
• Some antibiotics such as clarithromycin or
erythromycin.
• Some medicines for fungal infections such as
eketoconazole and itraconazole.
• Ritonavir (a protease inhibitor) – for HIV infections.

The following medicines can make Stilnoct
work less well:
• Some medicines for epilepsy such as
carbamazepine, phenobarbital or phenytoin.
• Rifampicin (an antibiotic) – for infections.

Stilnoct with alcohol
Do not drink alcohol while you are taking
Stilnoct. Alcohol can increase the effects of
Stilnoct and make you sleep very deeply so that you
do not breathe properly or have difficulty waking.

Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility
Pregnancy
Use of Stilnoct is not recommended during
pregnancy. If you are pregnant, think you may
be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask
your doctor for advice.
If used during pregnancy there is a risk that the
baby is affected. Some studies have shown that
there may be an increased risk of cleft lip and
palate (sometimes called ‘harelip’) in the
newborn baby.
Reduced fetal movement and fetal heart rate
variability may occur after taking Stilnoct
during the second and/or third trimester of
pregnancy.
If Stilnoct is taken at the end of pregnancy or
during labour, your baby may show muscle
weakness, a drop in body temperature,
difficulty feeding and breathing problems
(respiratory depression).
If this medicine is taken regularly in late
pregnancy, your baby may develop physical
dependency and may be at risk of developing
withdrawal symptoms such as agitation or
shaking. In this case the newborn should be
closely monitored during the postnatal period.

Breast-feeding
Do not take Stilnoct if you are breast-feeding or
planning to breast-feed. This is because small
amounts may pass into mothers’ milk.
Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before
taking any medicine if you are pregnant or
breast-feeding.
Driving and using machines

Stilnoct has major influence on the ability to drive and use machines such as 'sleep-driving'. On the day after taking Stilnoct (as with other hypnotic medicines), you should be aware that:

- You may feel drowsy, sleepy, dizzy or confused.
- Your quick decision-making may be longer.
- Your vision may be blurred or double.
- You may be less alert.

A period of at least 8 hours is recommended between taking Stilnoct and driving, using machinery and working at heights to minimize the above listed effects.

Do not drink alcohol or take other psychoactive substances while you are taking Stilnoct as it can increase the above listed effects.

Stilnoct contains lactose

If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, talk to your doctor before taking this medicine.

3. How to take Stilnoct

Always take Stilnoct exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Taking this medicine

- Take this medicine by mouth.
- Swallow the tablet whole with a drink of water.
- The recommended dose per 24 hours is 10mg of Stilnoct. A lower dose may be prescribed to some patients.
- Stilnoct should be taken as a single intake just before bedtime.
- Make sure you have a period of at least 8 hours after taking this medicine before performing activities that require your alertness.
- Do not exceed 10mg per 24 hours.
- The usual length of treatment is 2 days to 4 weeks.

How much to take

Adults

- The usual dose is two Stilnoct tablets (10mg) just before bedtime.

Elderly

- The usual dose is one tablet (5mg) just before bedtime.

Patients with liver problems

- The usual starting dose is one tablet (5mg) just before bedtime. Your doctor may decide to increase this to two tablets (10mg) if it is safe to do so.

Children and adolescents

Stilnoct should not be used in people under 18 years old.

If you take more Stilnoct than you should

If you take more Stilnoct than you should, tell a doctor or go to a hospital casualty department straight away. Take the medicine pack with you. This is so the doctor knows what you have taken.

Taking too much Stilnoct can be very dangerous. The following effects may happen:

- Feeling drowsy, confused, sleeping deeply and possibly falling into a fatal coma.

If you forget to take Stilnoct

Stilnoct must only be taken at bedtime. If you forget to take your tablet at bedtime, then you should not take it at any other time, otherwise you may feel drowsy, dizzy and confused during the day. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

If you stop taking Stilnoct

Keep taking Stilnoct until your doctor tells you to stop. Do not stop taking Stilnoct suddenly, but tell your doctor if you want to stop. Your doctor will need to lower your dose and stop your tablets over a period of time. If you stop taking Stilnoct suddenly, your sleep problems may come back and you may get a 'withdrawal effect'. If this happens you may get some of the effects listed below.

See a doctor straight away if you get any of the following effects:

- Feeling anxious, restless, irritable or confused
- Headache
- Faster heartbeat or uneven heartbeat (palpitations)
- Nightmares, seeing or hearing things that are not real (hallucinations)
- Being more sensitive to light, noise and touch than normal
- Feeling dizzy, feeling faint and being sick
- Being more sensitive to smells
- High blood pressure
- Slow heartbeat
- Being more sensitive to taste
- Dizziness
- Shaking or trembling
- Nervousness
- Being more sensitive to sound
- Feeling less able to concentrate
- Feeling restless
- Feeling more irritable
- Difficulty in sleeping
- Numbness or tingling in your hands and feet
- Aching muscles
- Stomach problems
- Feeling more sensitive to sunlight
- Feeling more sensitive to light
- Feeling more sensitive to touch
- feeling 'puppet-like' or having a feeling of being detached from yourself
- Feelings of fear and hopelessness

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Stop taking Stilnoct and see a doctor or go to a hospital straight away if:

- You have an allergic reaction. These may include: an itchy, lumpy rash (hives) or nettle rash (urticaria), swelling of the hands, feet, ankles, face, lips or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you have any of the following side effects:

Common side effects (may affect less than 1 in 10 people)

- Poor memory while taking Stilnoct (amnesia) and strange behaviour during this time. This is more likely to affect you in the few hours after you take this medicine. By having 7-8 hours sleep after taking Stilnoct, this is less likely to cause you a problem
- Feeling anxious, restless, irritable or confused
- Headache
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Uncommon side effects (may affect less than 1 in 100 people)
- Blurred eyesight or ‘seeing double’

Rare side effects (may affect less than 1 in 1,000 people)
- Being less aware of your environment
- Falling, especially in the elderly

Sleep-driving and other sleep-related behaviour
There have been some reports of people doing things while asleep that they do not remember when waking up after taking a sleeping medicine. This includes sleep-driving, sleepwalking, preparing and eating food, and having sex. Alcohol and some medicines for depression or anxiety can increase the chance that this serious effect will happen.

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

Common side effects (may affect less than 1 in 10 people)
- Diarrhoea
- Feeling sick (nausea) or being sick (vomiting)
- Abdominal pain
- Respiratory infection
- Headache
- Feeling tired or agitated
- Nightmares
- Depression
- Feeling dizzy
- Feeling drowsy or sleepy
- Back pain

Uncommon side effects (may affect less than 1 in 100 people)
- Itching skin or skin rash
- Excessive sweating
- Feeling restless, aggressive, confused or irritable
- Feeling overly happy/confident (euphoric)
- Unusual skin sensations such as numbness, tingling, pricking, burning or creeping on the skin (paraesthesia)
- Tremor
- Sleepwalking (see ‘Sleep-driving and other sleep-related behaviour’)
- Lack of concentration
- Speech problems
- Blurred vision
- Changes in the amount of liver enzymes – shown up in the results of blood tests
- Changes in appetite or behaviour concerning appetite
- Muscle pain
- Muscle spasms
- Limp or weak muscles

Rare side effects (may affect less than 1 in 1,000 people)
- Itchy, lumpy rash (urticaria)
- Thinking things that are not true (delusions)
- Changes in sex drive (libido)
- You have discolouration of the skin or eyes, pain in the abdomen (stomach) or a bloated feeling, severe itching, pale or bloody stools, extreme weakness, nausea or loss of appetite. This could be caused by an infection or injury to the liver
- An illness where removal of bile from the liver is blocked (cholestasis). Signs include jaundice, rash or fever and the colour of your water (urine) becomes darker
- Changes in the way you walk

Very rare side effects (may affect less than 1 in 10,000 people)
- Any changes of vision, in particular loss of vision
- Slower breathing (respiratory depression)
- Becoming dependent on Stilnoct

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from available data)
- A feeling of being out of touch with reality and being unable to think or judge clearly (psychosis)
- Feeling angry or showing unusual behaviour
- Needing to take more Stilnoct in order to sleep

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 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 Stilnoct
Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
Store below 30°C. Keep the blister strip in the carton in order to protect from moisture.
Do not use Stilnoct after the expiry date which is stated on the carton or blister after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
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 protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information
What Stilnoct 5mg film-coated Tablets contain
Each tablet of Stilnoct contains 5mg of the active substance zolpidem tartrate.
- Other ingredients are lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, hypromellose, titanium dioxide (E171), sodium starch glycollate, magnesium stearate and macrogol 400.

What Stilnoct 5mg film-coated Tablets look like and contents of the pack
Stilnoct is a round, white, film-coated tablet contained within PVC/foil blisters in cartons containing 4, 14, 28, or 56 tablets. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer
Marketing Authorisation Holder
Sanofi, One Onslow Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4YS, UK
Tel: 0845 372 7101
Email: uk-medicalinformation@sanofi.com

Manufacturer
Sanofi Winthrop Industrie,
30 - 60 avenue Gustave Eiffel, 37 000 Tours, France.

This leaflet does not contain all the information about your medicine. If you have any questions or are not sure about anything, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
This leaflet was last revised in: February 2019
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