Piroxicam 10mg and 20mg capsules PIL - UK

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

What you need to know before you take Piroxicam capsules
Do not take Piroxicam capsules if you:
- are allergic to piroxicam or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- are allergic to aspirin or previously had a serious allergic drug reaction to piroxicam, other NSAIDs and other medications, especially serious skin reactions (regardless of severity) such as exfoliative dermatitis (intense reddening of skin, with skin peeling off in scales or layers),
- potentially life-threatening skin rashes (Steven-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis) have been reported with the use of piroxicam, appearing initially as reddish target-like spots or circular patches often with central blisters on the trunk. Additional signs to look for include: ulcers in the mouth, throat, nose, genitals and conjunctivitis (red and swollen eyes). These potentially life-threatening skin rashes are often accompanied by flu-like symptoms. The rash may progress to widespread blistering or peeling of the skin. The highest risk for occurrence of serious skin reactions is within the first weeks of treatment. If you have developed Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis with the use of Piroxicam, you must not be re-started on Piroxicam at any time. If you develop a rash or these skin symptoms, seek immediate advice from a doctor and tell them that you are taking this medicine.
- have ever experienced symptoms of swelling of face or hands (angioneurotic oedema), asthma, hayfever, swelling of nasal passage (nasal polyps) or hives with aspirin or NSAIDs.
- have a peptic ulcer (ulcer in your stomach or duodenum) or bleeding in your stomach, or have had two or more episodes of peptic ulcers, stomach bleeding or perforation.

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

What Piroxicam capsules are and what they are used for
What Piroxicam capsules contain
How to store Piroxicam capsules
Possible side effects
Contents of the pack and other information

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1. What Piroxicam capsules are and what they are used for

Before prescribing Piroxicam your doctor will assess the benefits this medicine may give you against your risk of developing side effects. Your doctor may need to give you check-ups and will tell you how often you need to be checked, due to your taking Piroxicam. Piroxicam belongs to a group of pain killers called Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) and is used to relieve some symptoms caused by osteoarthritis (arthritis, degenerative joint disease), rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis (rheumatism of the spine), such as swelling, stiffness and joint pain. It does not cure arthritis and will help you only as long as you continue to take it. Your doctor will prescribe Piroxicam to you only when you have had unsatisfactory relief of symptoms with other NSAIDs.
Piroxicam Capsules
10, 20mg x 28 & 56's (UK)

Medicines such as piroxicam may be associated with a small increased risk of heart attack ("myocardial infarction") or stroke. Any risk is more likely with high doses and prolonged treatment. Do not exceed the recommended dose or duration of treatment. If you have heart problems, previous stroke or think that you might be at risk of these conditions (for example if you have high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol or are a smoker) you should discuss your treatment with your doctor or pharmacist.

- have any liver or kidney problems.
- are elderly as you have an increased risk of getting side effects. If you are over 70 years old, your doctor may wish to minimise treatment duration and see you more often while you are taking piroxicam. You should not take this medicine if you are older than 80 years. Your doctor may like to prescribe you a medicine for protecting your stomach and intestines.
- have or have had asthma, have ever had gastrointestinal complications such as ulceration, bleeding or a history of ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease
- suffer with systemic lupus erythematosus or other connective tissue disorders.
- take a painkiller for headaches for more than 3 days it can make them worse.

are suffering from frequent headaches and regular use of analgesic drugs does not help you, you should contact your doctor. To prevent a possible deployment of chronic headache (MOH), recommended daily doses must be followed carefully and especially avoid high monthly consumption of migraine drugs.

Side effects may be minimised by using the lowest effective dose for the shortest duration necessary.

Children and adolescents
Piroxicam capsules is not recommended in children under 12 years of age.

Other medicines and Piroxicam capsules
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines or other medicines, you may need to take a different medicine or your doctor may prescribe another medicine to protect your stomach and intestine against side effects. It is especially important to mention:

- any diuretic medicine ("water tablets") e.g. furosemide, bendrofluamide or amiloride.
- aspirin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) or Cox-2 Inhibitors in patients with increased risk of gastrointestinal bleeding such as with aspirin.
- medicines to treat high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol (for example if you have high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol or are a smoker) you should discuss your treatment with your doctor or pharmacist.

- developed a rash, wheezing, rash, widespread raised patches (erythematosus). Your doctor will give you regular check-ups to make sure you are taking the best dose of piroxicam and will adjust your treatment to the lowest dose that best controls your symptoms.

Dose
- Adults (including the elderly): Initially 20mg a day as a single dose. The maintenance dose is 10-20mg a day as a single dose. The maximum daily dose is 20mg of piroxicam as one single dose.
- Elderly: If you are older than 70 years your doctor may prescribe a lower daily dose and reduce the duration of treatment.
- Children under 12 years: Piroxicam capsules should not be taken by children under 12 years of age.

If you take more Piroxicam capsules than you should
It is important not to take too many capsules. If you have taken more than you should, contact your doctor, pharmacist or nearest hospital casualty department immediately. Signs of an overdose include headache, dizziness, drowsiness, fainting, ringing in the ears, feeling or being sick, diarrhoea, stomach pain or bleeding, feeling disoriented or excited, coma or fits.

If you forget to take Piroxicam capsules
If you forget to take your capsules, take it as soon as you remember, unless it is nearly time for your next dose, do not take the dose you have missed. Do not take a double the dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

3. How to take Piroxicam capsules
Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Swallow the capsules with water, with or after food.

Drink plenty of water while taking Piroxicam to avoid dehydration.

Your doctor will give you regular check-ups to make sure you are taking the best dose of piroxicam and will adjust your treatment to the lowest dose that best controls your symptoms.

Under no circumstances should you change the dose without first speaking to your doctor. Your doctor may prescribe another medicine to protect your stomach and intestines from potential side effects. Do not increase the dose. If you feel that the medicine is not very effective, always to your doctor.

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4. Possible side effects
Like all medicines, Piroxicam capsules can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Stop taking Piroxicam capsules and contact your doctor immediately if you notice signs of:

- an allergic reaction: asthma or worsening of asthma, narrowing of the airways causing difficulty breathing / wheezing, rash, irregular raised patches with severe itching (hives), swelling of the face, lips, throat or tongue, blood vessel inflammation, serum sickness (rash, fever, joint pain, enlarged lymph nodes).
- skin reactions such as severe rash involving reddening, peeling and swelling of the skin that resembles severe burns (toxic epidermal necrolysis), severe form of skin rash with flushing, fever, blisters or ulcers (Stevens-Johnson syndrome). See section 2.

Colours/plates:

1. Black
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
Non Printing Colours
1. Profile
2.
3.

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