Sodium Valproate Oral Solution contains a medicine called valproic acid. This is a type of medicine called an antiepileptic. Valproic acid prevents abnormal activity in nerve cells in the brain, which helps to prevent seizures. It is not known how valproic acid works. When you are prescribed Sodium Valproate Oral Solution, your doctor will have explained what might happen to your unborn child if you become pregnant whilst taking Sodium Valproate Oral Solution and whether the risk of birth defects associated with valproate use is worth the risk of your illness getting worse.

**Key messages:**

- Talk to your doctor immediately if you are planning to have a baby or are pregnant. Valproate may lower the general risk of early miscarriage that exists with all pregnancies. However, if you are planning to have a baby, you will need to make sure your illness is fully controlled and your doctor will have explained what might happen to your unborn child if you become pregnant whilst taking Sodium Valproate Oral Solution and whether the risk of birth defects associated with valproate use is worth the risk of your illness getting worse.

**Important advice for women:**

- If you are a parent or a caregiver of a female child and want to become pregnant – this is to make sure your illness is fully controlled and your doctor will have explained what might happen to your unborn child if you become pregnant whilst taking Sodium Valproate Oral Solution and whether the risk of birth defects associated with valproate use is worth the risk of your illness getting worse.

**Important advice for men:**

- If you are a father and want to become a father – this is to make sure your illness is fully controlled and your doctor will have explained what might happen to your unborn child if you become pregnant whilst taking Sodium Valproate Oral Solution and whether the risk of birth defects associated with valproate use is worth the risk of your illness getting worse.

**Key messages:**

- The risk of birth defects associated with valproate use is worth the risk of your illness getting worse.

**Warnings and precautions:**

- If you are prescribed Sodium Valproate Oral Solution you must not breastfeed.
- If you become pregnant whilst taking Sodium Valproate Oral Solution your unborn child may be at risk of developing severe birth defects.
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Key messages
- Your doctor may give you a different appointment with your doctor if you are pregnant or think you might be.
- Do not stop taking valproate while your doctor tells you to. If you do not, you may feel or become more confused or have fits or become more depressed.
- You may stop taking valproate if you are no longer experiencing epileptic seizures.
- You will feel or become more confused or have fits or become more depressed if you do not take valproate as prescribed.

Have your prescription checked.
- Your doctor will discuss this with you.
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Do not use this medicine if:
- Have had an allergic reaction to valproate.
- Have had an allergic reaction to this medicine.
- Have had an allergic reaction to any of the ingredients in this medicine.

Do not take valproate if:
- You are allergic to this medicine.
- You are allergic to this medicine.
- You are allergic to this medicine.

Do not take valproate if you:
- Have a full stomach.
- Have a full stomach.
- Have a full stomach.

If you take too much Sodium Valproate Oral Solution:
- Call your doctor immediately if you think you have taken more Sodium Valproate Oral Solution than you should.
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- Call your doctor immediately if you think you have taken more Sodium Valproate Oral Solution than you should.

Do not give Sodium Valproate Oral Solution to children unless your doctor tells you to do so.
- Do not take Sodium Valproate Oral Solution and be sure you have a blood test before you stop taking it.
- Do not take Sodium Valproate Oral Solution and be sure you have a blood test before you stop taking it.
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Tell your doctor straight away if you notice any of the following side effects.
- Changes in mood, loss of memory, lack of concentration, feeling low.
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Being underactive thyroid gland, which may cause tiredness or weight gain.
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Hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid gland, which can cause tiredness or weight gain).
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Hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar).
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Newborn babies of mothers who took valproate during pregnancy can have problems with balance and coordination.
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Side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects not listed in this leaflet.

Reporting of side effects
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Other sources of information
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