Venlafaxine is used to treat depression and certain anxiety disorders. Details of the conditions covered are given in the section "Conditions covered (uses)".

Venlafaxine is not for use in children and adolescents (see section 4.6). Children and adolescents.

If you have any concerns about how you should use this medicine, or about this medicine, it is important that you talk to your doctor before you start treatment and also if you notice any changes during your treatment.

If you are thinking of taking this medicine, you should also read the "Pregnancy" section of this leaflet which contains information on whether this medicine can be used during pregnancy.

If you are taking other medicines, especially those prescribed by your doctor, you should talk to your doctor before you start treatment.

If you have any questions about this medicine, you should talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not start or stop taking any medicines, including over-the-counter medicines, without your doctor's consent.

This medicine is not intended for use as a sedative.

Venlafaxine may cause side effects affecting your ability to drive or use machinery. You should not drive or use machinery until you know how the medicine affects you.

Some people who are depressed may think of harming or killing themselves. If this happens you should ask your doctor or go to a hospital as soon as possible. This applies particularly if you stay on treatment for the first time or if you are having treatment for a longer period of time.

This medicine can cause loss of sleep. You should ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice on how to deal with it.

Robins depression scores have been assessed using a depression specific questionnaire (The Clinical Assessment of Depressive Symptoms - CADS). The CADS is a clinician-rated instrument used to assess depressive symptoms. In its most severe form, serotonin syndrome may cause problems including muscle stiffness or spasms, strange blood tests and, in its most severe form, it is a medical emergency. Serotonin syndrome may be caused by an increase in the amount of serotonin in the body, which can happen if you take certain medicines, or if you already have a high level of serotonin in your body.

Examples of medicines that are not covered by this are: Medicines containing dextromethorphan (used to treat cough and cold symptoms). Medicines containing moclobemide, a reversible monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI), used to treat depression. Medicines containing linezolid, an antibiotic (used to treat infections). Medicines containing due to the risk of developing serotonin syndrome or less likely, a neuroleptic malignant syndrome (NMS) - a rare, but potentially dangerous condition - and the medicine may be stopped if necessary. In several cases, this medicine has been associated with increased activity of the fibres that affect your ability to move around, and that control your heart rate. This may happen if you get a treatment for a short time, your condition may be improved by taking the medicine at longer time intervals. 5. HOW TO TAKE VENLAFAXINE

Take Venlafaxine exactly as prescribed by your doctor. You should take the tablets just before you go to bed. In contrast, in young children, the medicine may cause more serious and more difficult to treat symptoms such as delusions, hallucinations or thoughts which are not there, mistakes beliefs, agitation, restlessness, irritability, anxiety, anxiety, panic attacks. The signs of serotonin syndrome (for example, confusion, sweating, increased pulse rate, diaphoresis, coma, tremor, vomiting) may occur more rapidly in older adults. It may also be affected by any other medicines you take. Discuss the treatment plan with your doctor. Some medicines may be more likely to cause problems when used with venlafaxine. This may increase the risk of tooth decay.

Other medicines and medicines to treat depression, for instance those used to treat cannabis abuse, alcohol misuse, bulimia, Eating and overweight disorders (ADHD), narcolepsy and obesity.

In these circumstances you should tell your doctor or pharmacist before you start treatment with venlafaxine.

In such cases, your doctor may decide to use a lower dose of the medicine or switch to another medicine. However, you should not stop taking this medicine without your doctor's consent.

Tell your doctor if you have ever been: Tell your doctor if you:

• have a history of fits (seizures).
• have a history of heart problems.
• have a history of high blood pressure.
• have eye problems, such as certain kinds of glaucoma (increased pressure in the eye).
• have had, mania or bipolar disorder (feeling over-excitement or euphoria).
• have a history of diabetes.
• have had, a stroke, a heart attack or other circulatory problems.
• have had, mania or bipolar disorder (feeling over-excitement or euphoria).
• have a history of cancer.
• if you think you may become pregnant during treatment.

If you have any doubts about whether or not to take the medicine, you should not stop taking it without following your doctor's advice. You should tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including over-the-counter medicines. You should also tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including over-the-counter medicines.

If you are taking any other medicines, especially those prescribed by your doctor, you should talk to your doctor before you start treatment.

Examples of these medicines include:

• Medicines containing the antihistamine terfenadine (used to treat hay fever, urticaria, allergic reactions), which are known to prolong the QT interval.
You should avoid alcohol while you are taking Venlafaxine.

Precautions and breast-feeding

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, you may be unable to breast-feed because Venlafaxine passes into breast milk. There is a risk to the baby but you should consult your doctor before making this decision.

Driving and operating machinery

If you are affected by the side effects in section 4 (see "Side effects") which may affect your ability to drive or operate machinery, you should not drive or operate machinery until your doctor tells you this is safe.

Important information about some of the ingredients

This product contains lactose. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to any of the ingredients of Venlafaxine, please consult your doctor before taking this medicine.

3. HOW TO TAKE VENLAFAXINE

Never take Venlafaxine empty on your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist before you start taking any other medicine while taking this one.

Side effects are known to occur when people stop taking Venlafaxine. To reduce the risk of these side effects, your doctor may ask you to reduce your dose slowly before stopping treatment altogether.

Do not stop taking your treatment or reduce the dose yourself. Your doctor may ask you to reduce your dose slowly before stopping treatment altogether. If any of the following happen, do not take more than the usual dose (ranging from sleepiness to coma), blurred vision, tremor; muscle cramps, weakness (asthenia); sweating (including night sweats) or rarely electric shock sensations, fever, overactive reflexes, diarrhoea, coma, nausea, disorientation and confusion often accompanied by a high temperature, sensitive to light, increased muscle stiffness, confusion, agitation, depression, hallucinations, convulsions, abnormal blood clotting, agitation, impotence, decreased or blurred vision.

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