Suffer from a condition called vagotonia (this is a condition where overactivity of the vagus nerve causes symptoms such as slow heart rate, low blood pressure, constipation, sweating and painful muscle spasms).

Have an overactive thyroid gland

Have had an operation to remove your thymus gland.

There is no evidence to suggest that Mestinon has any special effects on elderly patients.

Taking other medicines
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription. This is extremely important, as using more than one medicine at the same time can strengthen or weaken the effect of the medicines. In particular, tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Medicines known as steroids or other immunosuppressant medicines.
- Medicines known as antimuscarinics (e.g. atropine, hyoscine).
- Medicines containing methylcellulose
- Antibiotics
- Medicines to treat an irregular heart beat
- Other medicines that interfere with transmission between nerves and muscles.

If you are going to have surgery
Tell your doctor that you are taking Mestinon. Mestinon can stop the effect of some medicines used to relax muscles during surgery (e.g. pancuronium, vencuronium). Mestinon can also prolong the effect of other muscle relaxants (e.g. suxamethonium).

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
Tell your doctor before you start treatment if you:

- Are pregnant, if you think you are pregnant, or if you intend to become pregnant.
- Are breast-feeding, as Mestinon passes into breast milk in small amounts.

Your doctor will then decide if you can take this medicine.

Driving and using machines
Mestinon may reduce the sharpness of your eyesight and therefore your ability to drive or use machines. Do not drive or operate machines if this medicine affects your ability to see clearly.

Important information about some of the ingredients of Mestinon Tablets
Mestinon Tablets contain lactose. Therefore, if you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.
3. HOW TO TAKE MESTINON
Swallow the tablets with water or another non-alcoholic drink. If you have difficulty swallowing, you can break the tablets into pieces.
You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure how to take Mestinon.
The dose will depend on your illness, your needs and on your age as follows:
For myasthenia gravis:
• The usual adult dose is ½ to 2 tablets (30 to 120 mg Mestinon) to be taken five to six times daily, or higher doses if needed, as recommended by your doctor.
• For children under 6 years, the usual dose is ½ a tablet (30 mg). For children aged 6 to 12 years, the usual starting dose is 1 tablet (60 mg). The doctor will then gradually increase the dose until maximum improvement is seen. In children the total dose per day is usually 30 to 360 mg.
The tablets take 30 to 60 minutes to start working after you have taken them.
The effect of each dose should last about four hours during the day and about six hours at night.
You should try to take your medicine so that it can work when your muscles are needed most, for example, when you get up and about 30 to 60 minutes before a meal.
For paralytic ileus (constipation) and post-operative inability to pass urine:
• The usual adult dose is 1 to 4 tablets (60 to 240 mg Mestinon) daily and for children ½ to 1 tablet (15 to 60 mg) daily, depending on the needs of the patient.
If you take more Mestinon than you should
If you take too many tablets or someone else accidentally takes your medicine, contact your doctor, pharmacist or nearest hospital straight away.
If you forget to take Mestinon
If you forget to take one of your daily doses, take it as soon as you remember, and take the next dose at the normal time. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. If you miss more than a single dose, you should contact your doctor for advice.
4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS
Like all medicines, Mestinon can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.
Possible side effects with Mestinon:
Side effects of unknown frequency:
• visual disturbance, producing more tears than usual
• an irregular heart beat, heart block, low blood pressure, fainting
• producing more phlegm than usual combined with constriction of the airways
• feeling sick, vomiting, diarrhoea, stomach cramps, producing more saliva than usual
• rash
• excessive sweating
• muscle weakness and twitching, shaking, muscle cramps
• sudden, compelling urge to urinate.
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
By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.
5. HOW TO STORE MESTINON TABLETS
Keep Mestinon Tablets out of the reach and sight of children.
Store the bottle in the original outer carton.
Keep the bottle tightly closed in order to protect from moisture.
Do not store above 25 °C.
Do not use Mestinon Tablets after the expiry date which is stated on the bottle label and outer carton after the text “EXP”. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
Medicines must not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.
6. FURTHER INFORMATION
What Mestinon contains
Active substance: Each tablet contains 60 mg of pyridostigmine bromide.
Other ingredients: Colloidal hydrated silica, maize starch, lactose monohydrate, talc and magnesium stearate.
What Mestinon looks like and contents of the pack
The tablets are scored on one side so that they can be broken into halves or quarters and “Mes˝” is imprinted on the other side.
The tablets come in packs of 200.
A desiccant is enclosed in the bottle.
Marketing Authorisation Holder
Mylan Products Ltd. Station Close, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 1TL, United Kingdom.
Manufacturer
Labiana Pharmaceuticals S.L.U., Casanova 27-31, 08757-Corbera de Llobregat (Barcelona), Spain.
For any information about this medicine, please contact the Marketing Authorisation Holder or local distributor.
This leaflet was last revised in February 2018.
Support and information for patients with myasthenia and their families in the UK and Ireland can be obtained from:
Myaware
Tel: +44(0)1332 290219
www.myaware.org

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