Norethisterone 5mg tablets

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. It may harm you, even if signs of the 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 Norethisterone tablets are and what they are used for
2. What you need to know before you take Norethisterone tablets
3. How to take Norethisterone tablets
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Norethisterone tablets
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. What Norethisterone tablets are and what they are used for

Norethisterone tablets belong to a group of medicines called progesterones. These work by changing the behaviour of the womb in such a way as to suggest the effects of the natural hormone, progesterone.

Norethisterone tablets may be used to:
• prevent abnormal or unexpected bleeding from the uterus
• treat conditions that cause bleeding when sex is not a factor, including breast pain, headaches, migraines, weight retention and mood disturbances
• painful periods
• certain types of breast cancer

The tablets can also be used as stop pills.

2. What you need to know before you take Norethisterone tablets

Your doctor will discuss your medical and family history with you. Your doctor will also need to do some checks, such as a breast examination, that will be specific to your medical needs and/or concerns.

Do not take Norethisterone tablets and tell your doctor if you have:
• an allergy to norethisterone or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
• pregnancy: if you think you might be pregnant.
• breastfeeding.
• if you have:
  • ever had a problem with your blood circulation: this includes chest pain (angina), shortness of breath, unexplained and sudden pain in your arms or hands, unusual and intense headache, severe chest pain, fainting

• any condition caused by damaged blood vessels (such as loss of vision or blurred vision)
• any condition caused by swelling of the brain (such as swelling of the head, severe headache, seizures)
• certain types of cancer

• any type of cancer which might be made worse by exposure to female hormones (including breast cancer)
• problems with genital bleeding for which the cause is unknown
• a condition called endometrial hyperplasia which has not been treated.

In addition, do not take Norethisterone tablets if you have had any of the following conditions when you were pregnant:
• following the advice (Advisory action of pregnancy)
• bleeding of the whole body (vaginal bleeding).

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Norethisterone tablets if you:
• have diabetes. Norethisterone tablets can produce changes in blood sugar levels. If you are diabetic, your doctor will check your blood sugar before starting treatment and regularly during treatment.

Continued top of next column

AAA4433

- an overweight BMI of 30+;
- high blood pressure;
- have had a heart valve disorder or a heart rhythm disorder (heart problems);
- have had a thrombosis or embolism (the chance in your blood clot that may cause a stroke or a heart attack or a blockage in a blood vessel);
- have had damaged blood vessels (such as angina, stroke or arthritis);
- have had a disease that makes you more at risk of developing clots (such as diabetes, ulcerative colitis or sarcoidosis);
- have ever had a problem with your blood circulation. This includes a stroke, intermittent claudication (pain in your legs when you walk), any condition which makes you more at risk of developing clots (such as diabetes, ulcerative colitis or sarcoidosis);
- have ever had a problem with your blood circulation. This includes chest pain (angina), shortness of breath, unexplained and sudden pain in your arms or hands, unusual and intense headache, severe chest pain, fainting;
- been treated for a blood clot in your veins or arteries (such as leg ulcers, varicose veins or high blood levels of cholesterol or triglycerides (fatty substances))
- ever suffered depression;
- an abnormal ovary from which you have had or have been told you have breast cancer;
- have had endometriosis.

Norethisterone tablets can produce changes in blood sugar levels. If you are diabetic, your doctor will check your blood sugar before starting treatment and regularly during treatment.

Continued over page
If you do not take Norethisterone tablets
Talk to your doctor before you stop taking the tablets and follow their advice. If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.