Piportil® Depot 50 mg/ml 
Solution for Injection

Pipotiazine palmitate

PACKET LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

Is this leaflet hard to see or read? Phone 0845 372 7101 for help

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine:

• Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
• If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.
• If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

In this leaflet:
1. What Piportil is and what it is used for.
2. Before you are given Piportil.
3. How Piportil is given.
4. Possible side effects.
5. How to store Piportil.
6. Further information.

1. What Piportil is and what it is used for.

Piportil contains a medicine called pipotiazine palmitate. This belongs to a group of medicines called 'phenothiazines'. It works by blocking the effects of a chemical in the brain.

Piportil can be used for:
• Schizophrenia - this illness can make you feel, see or hear things which do not exist, have strange and frightening thoughts, change how you act and make you feel alone. Sometimes people with these symptoms may also feel tense, anxious or depressed.
• Paranoid psychoses - this illness may make you feel very anxious or afraid for your own well-being. You may also think that other people are 'out to get you' when they are not.
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2. Before you are given Piportil.

Do not have this medicine and tell your doctor if:
• You are allergic (hypersensitive) to pipotiazine, other phenothiazine medicines or the other ingredient of Piportil (listed in Section 6 below). Signs of an allergic reaction include: a rash, swelling or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.
• You have a blocked artery in the brain.
• You have had a stroke.
• You have a tumour on the adrenal gland called a 'phaeochromocytoma'.
• You have liver or kidney problems.
• You have severe heart problems.
• You have sudden palpitations.
• You have ever had severe breathing problems.
• You have ever had an enlarged thyroid gland.
• You have low blood pressure.
• You have Parkinson's disease.
• You have epilepsy or have had fits (seizures).
• You or members of your family have ever had glaucoma (painful eyes with blurred vision). Your doctor has told you that you might have a stroke.
• You or members of your family have ever had glaucoma (painful eyes with blurred vision).

Take special care with Piportil.

Check with your doctor or nurse before you have this medicine if:
• You have or have ever had heart trouble.
• You have had an enlarged prostate gland.
• You have had heart trouble.
• You have your heartbeat (such as amiodarone, disopyramide or quinidine).
• Some medicines for high blood pressure or prostate problems (such as olanzapine or prochlorperazine).
• Some medicines to help you sleep (sedatives).
• Medicines for depression.
• Other medicines used to calm emotional and mental problems (such as olanzapine or prochlorperazine).
• Desferrioxamine - used when you have too much iron in your blood.

• You have previously taken other phenothiazine medicines such as chlorpromazine and have ever had side effects when you suddenly stopped taking them.
• You have suddenly stopped drinking alcohol and are having signs of withdrawal. This may happen if you suddenly stop after drinking large amounts for a long time, or stop after a period of very heavy drinking.
• You are not eating properly.
• You are elderly, particularly during very hot or very cold weather.
• You are diabetic or have high levels of sugar in your blood (hyperglycaemia).
• Your doctor may want to monitor you more closely.

If you are not sure if any of the above applies to you, talk to your doctor or nurse before being given Piportil.

You should not be given Piportil if you are in a coma.

3. How Piportil is given.

Taking other medicines.

Tell your doctor or nurse if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines. This includes medicines you buy without a prescription, including herbal medicines. This is because Piportil can affect the way some other medicines work. Also some medicines can affect the way Piportil works.

In particular, do not have this medicine and tell your doctor if you are taking:
• Clozapine - used for mental illness, such as schizophrenia and psychoses.
• Chlorpromazine - used for mental illness, such as schizophrenia and psychoses.

The following medicines can increase the chance of you getting side effects, when taken with Piportil:
• Medicines to control your heartbeat (such as amiodarone, disopyramide or quinidine).
• Some medicines for high blood pressure or prostate problems (such as olanzapine or prochlorperazine).
• Some medicines for severe pain (such as morphine, codeine or pethidine).
• Medicines to help you sleep (sedatives).
• Medicines for depression.
• Other medicines used to calm emotional and mental problems (such as olanzapine or prochlorperazine).

4. Possible side effects.

The symptoms of an allergic reaction include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.

If you are not sure if any of the above applies to you, talk to your doctor or nurse before being given Piportil.

You should not be given Piportil if you are in a coma.

5. How to store Piportil.

6. Further information.

• Sibutramine - used for weight loss.
• Tetrahydrozoline - used for muscle tremors or tics.
• Adrenaline - used for life threatening allergic reactions.
• Lithium - used for some types of mental illness.
• Anti-cholinergic medicines - includes some medicines for irritable bowel syndrome, asthma or incontinence.
• Anaesthetics.
• Water tablets (diuretics).

The following medicines can affect the way Piportil works or Piportil can affect the way some of these medicines work:
• Medicines for Parkinson's disease (such as levodopa, apomorphine, pergolide, lisuride, bromocriptine or cabergoline).
• Medicines for indigestion and heartburn (antacids).
• Medicines for diabetes.
• Amphetamines - used for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
• Guanethidine - used for high blood pressure.
• Cimetidine - used for stomach ulcers.
• Ritonavir - used for HIV infections.
• Kaolin - used for diarrhoea.

Having Piportil with food and drink.

Do not drink alcohol while you are having Piportil. This is because alcohol can increase the effects of Piportil and cause serious breathing problems.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding.

Talk to your doctor before having this medicine if you are pregnant, might become pregnant, or think you may be pregnant. The following symptoms may occur in newborn babies, of mothers that have used Piportil in the last trimester (last three months of their pregnancy): shaking, muscle stiffness and/or weakness, sleeplessness, agitation, breathing problems, and difficulty in feeding. If your baby develops any of these symptoms you may need to contact your doctor. You should not breast-feed if you are having Piportil. This is because small amounts may pass into mothers' milk. If you are breast-feeding or planning to breast-feed, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before having this medicine.

Ask your doctor or nurse for advice before taking any medicine if you are pregnant or breast-feeding.
4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Piportil can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Tell a nurse or doctor straight away if you have:

- An allergic reaction. The signs may include: a rash, swallowing or breathing problems, swelling of your lips, face, throat or tongue.
- A sudden high temperature or an infection due to low numbers of white blood cells. These could be signs of a serious side effect called ‘neuroleptic malignant syndrome’.
- Blood clots in the veins especially in the legs (symptoms include swelling, pain and redness in the leg), which may travel through blood vessels to the lungs causing chest pain and difficulty in breathing. If you notice any of these symptoms seek medical advice immediately.

Tell a nurse or doctor as soon as possible if you have any of the following side effects:

- Breathing problems
- Changes in skin or eye colour after having Piportil for a long time
- Feeling dizzy, light-headed or faint when you stand or sit up quickly (due to low blood pressure)
- Feeling restless and unable to sit still
- Rigid or stiff muscles, trembling or shaking, difficulty moving
- Passing large amounts of urine, excessive thirst and having a dry mouth or skin. You may be more likely to get infections, such as thrush. This could be due to too much sugar in your blood (hyperglycaemia)
- Difficulty in getting or keeping an erection (impotence)
- Feeling agitated
- Dry mouth
- Weight gain
- Being more sensitive to the sun than usual
- Stuffy nose
- Skin rashes
- If you had any of these side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

5. How to store Piportil

This medicine will be kept by your doctor or pharmacist in a safe place where children cannot see or reach it. Store in the original package in order to protect from light.

Do not use Piportil after the expiry date, which is stated on the ampoule and the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of the month.

Medicines should 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 Piportil contains

- Each 1 ml of the injection contains 50 mg of the active substance, pipotiazine palmitate
- The other ingredient is sesame oil which contains an antioxidant called butylhydroxyanisole (E320)

What Piportil looks like and contents of the pack

Piportil® Depot Injection 50 mg/ml is a yellow liquid supplied in 10 x 1 ml and 10 x 2 ml clear glass ampoules. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

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This leaflet does not contain all the information about your medicine. If you have any questions or are not sure about anything, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

This leaflet was last revised in 2011. © Sanofi, 1980 - 2013