

A medication information leaflet for paediatric patients

LAMOTRIGINE

Other names: Lamictal®, Arrow-Lamotrigine®, Logem®, Mogine®



Important note: The following information is intended to add to, not replace, the knowledge and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

The name of your child's medication is: Lamotrigine

Why is your child taking this medicine?

Lamotrigine is used to treat some types of seizures (fits). It may be used alone or in combination with other medicines for the treatment of epilepsy.

When to give this medicine to your child

- Give exactly as directed by your doctor or pharmacist, never give more than the prescribed dose.
- Treatment is usually commenced with low doses.
- The dose is usually slowly increased every one to two weeks according to your child's response to therapy and to minimise side effects.
- Give lamotrigine at the same time(s) every day after food. Marking a calendar may be a helpful reminder.
- Lamotrigine tablets may be swallowed whole, chewed or dispersed in a small amount of water.
- Ensure you always have a supply of medicine on hand.

DO NOT STOP giving lamotrigine without your doctor's permission.

What should you do if your child misses a dose?

Give the dose as soon as possible except when it is close to the time for the next dose. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and return to the regular dosing schedule. You should not give two doses at the same time.

What should you do if your child vomits after a dose?

If the vomiting occurs less than 15 minutes after the medicine is given, give the entire dose again. If more than 15 minutes have passed, do not give it again until the next scheduled dose.

Side effects

Unfortunately as well as having good effects, most medicines have some effects on the body that are unwanted. These are called *side effects*.

Call your doctor or speak to your pharmacist **immediately** if your child has any of these side effects:

- rash
- mood changes
- double or blurred vision
- unexplained fever or influenza type symptoms
- pain in joints or back
- easy bruising or unusual bleeding

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if your child has these side effects:

- drowsiness may occur – usually improves after about one month of treatment
- dizziness or unsteadiness
- headache
- upset stomach or nausea

The list of side effects is **not** complete. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if any side effect is of a concern to you.

Lamotrigine can make your child's skin more sensitive to the sun; avoid exposure to the sun and use a high-factor sun block (at least SPF > 30).

Other Medication

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if your child is taking any other medicines including herbal or complementary products and medicines you can buy without a prescription.

Lamotrigine can interact with a large number of medicines e.g. other antiepileptic medication. Please check with your doctor or pharmacist when stopping or starting medicines as these may affect how well lamotrigine controls your child's epilepsy.

Storage

Keep all medicines out of the reach of children.

Read this leaflet and discuss any questions you have about your medicines with your doctor or pharmacist.