

INFORMATION TO THE PATIENT

Please read this leaflet carefully before you start to take your medicine. If you still have any questions after reading this, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

BILTRICIDE[®] (praziquantel) can only be obtained with a prescription from your doctor. This drug has been prescribed by your doctor to treat the infection you have that is caused by worms and/or liver flukes. Do not give this medicine to other people.

Important Points to Note Before Taking Your Medicine

1. Tell your health-care provider about all medications (prescription or non-prescription) that you are currently taking.
2. You should not use BILTRICIDE[®] (praziquantel) if you took it before and had an allergy to it.
3. You should not take BILTRICIDE[®] (praziquantel) and rifampin at the same time because the amount of praziquantel in your body may be lowered below the level required to treat your infection.
4. You should not drive or operate machinery on the day of your treatment and during the next 24 hours as your reflexes may be impaired.
5. If any of the following apply to you, make sure you tell your doctor:
 - (i) you are pregnant or think you may be
 - (ii) you are breastfeeding
 - (iii) you have impaired renal (kidney) function, uncompensated liver insufficiency or suffer from cardiac irregularities.
6. The safety and effectiveness of BILTRICIDE[®] (praziquantel) in children under 4 years of age has not been established.
7. Keep this medicine out of the reach of children.

How to Take Your Medicine

1. The dose depends on your weight. You must take the medicine exactly as it is prescribed by your doctor. If you are not sure how many tablets to take or how often to take them, consult your doctor or pharmacist.
2. You should not change the dose prescribed by your doctor.
3. The tablets should be swallowed unchewed with some liquid, preferably during or after meals. Keeping the tablets (and pieces of the tablets) in your mouth may release a bitter taste which can cause you to gag or vomit.
4. The space between doses should be at least 4 hours and not more than 6 hours.
5. BILTRICIDE® (praziquantel) is supplied as a 600 mg white, oblong tablet with three notches. It is marked BAYER on one side and LG on the other. When broken, each of the four pieces that result contains 150 mg of active ingredient (praziquantel). This allows your doctor to easily adjust the dose depending on your weight.
6. Pieces are broken off by pressing the notch with your thumbnails. If only one quarter of a tablet is required, this is best achieved by breaking the tablet from the outer end.

Side Effects

After taking your medicine you may experience some side effects. These vary according to the dose and duration of your treatment. They also depend on the type of infection you have, how long you have had the infection, and where in your body the infection is. The side effects, if there are any, are most often one or more of the following: abdominal pain, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, headache, weakness, dizziness, drowsiness, muscle pain or fever. Often it is hard to tell if the side effects are due to the medicine or the infection itself. If you are concerned about how you are feeling after you take the medicine, or if you feel noticeably worse, contact your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible.

What to Do If You Take an Overdose

It is important to follow exactly the dosage instructions on the label of your medicine. If you do take too much of the medicine, contact your doctor or the nearest hospital emergency department immediately.

Storing Your Medicine

Store this medicine at room temperature below 30°C. Keep this and all medicine in a safe place out of the reach of children. Do not store in a damp place and keep away from light.

Further Information

This leaflet is only a brief information summary about your medicine. If you still have any questions, you should ask your doctor or pharmacist.