

Medication Information

Levothyroxine

(Le – vo – thi – rox – een)

Other names for this medication

Synthroid®
Thyroxine
Eltroxin®

How this medication is used

Thyroxine is a hormone found in your body.

This medication is used to help relieve symptoms caused by low levels of thyroxine in the body.

This medication can lessen:

- dry, brittle hair and nails
- cold, dry, yellowish skin
- puffy face, eyelids
- weak, painful muscles
- feeling very tired
- lack of menstruation in women
- weight gain
- feeling cold
- hoarse, deep voice
- slow heart rate
- constipation

Your doctor or health care provider will adjust the amount of medication you take based on the results of regular blood tests. It may take many months before you get the full effect of this medication.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor or health care provider.

This medication is usually taken one time a day.

Take this medication:

- in the morning on an empty stomach
- OR
- at bedtime on an empty stomach

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

Avoid taking antacids, iron or calcium supplements within 2 hours of taking Levothyroxine.

There are many possible medication interactions with Levothyroxine. Before you start any new medication (including over-the-counter) or herbal products, discuss with your doctor or health care provider.

Contact your doctor or health care provider if you notice

- increased appetite
- trouble staying still
- shaking
- trouble sleeping
- your heart beat is faster than normal
- changes in menstruation
- increased sweating; feeling hot all the time
- unusual mood changes
- too much weight loss
- severe vomiting or diarrhea

These problems may mean you need your dose changed.

Contact your pharmacist if you have any questions about your medication.