

Medication Information

Paroxetine

(Pear – ox – e – teen)

Other names for this medication

Paxil[®]
Paxil CR[®]

There are many other names for this medication.

How this medication is used

This medication helps to improve mood and is used to treat depression.

This medication may also be used to treat eating and anxiety disorders. It may also be used to treat other conditions. Ask your doctor or health care provider if you are not sure why you are taking this medication.

It may take up to 4 weeks before you get the full effect of this medication.

If you are pregnant or thinking about getting pregnant, talk to your doctor about the risks and benefits of taking this medication.

How to take this medication

Tablets: Take with a full glass of water or other liquid.

Long Acting Swallow whole tablet with a full glass of water.

CR tablets: Do not split, chew or crush.

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.

To avoid stomach upset, take this medication with a snack or meal.

If this medication makes you sleepy, take it in the evening. If it makes you active, take it in the morning.

Do not stop taking this medication without talking to your doctor first.

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor. It is usually taken once a day.

Always check with your doctor or health care provider before taking any over-the-counter medications such as antihistamines, cold remedies or natural and herbal products.

While taking this medication you may notice

- nausea
- headache
- dizziness
- drowsiness
- blurred vision
- trouble sleeping
- constipation
- diarrhea
- increased sweating
- dry mouth
- tremor
- weight gain
- unusual tiredness or weakness

While taking this medication you may notice (continued)

Most of these side effects will go away as your body gets used to this medication.

Until you know how this medication affects you, do not drive or operate machinery.

To avoid feeling dizzy, get up slowly when you have been sitting or lying down. If you feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you are no longer dizzy, then get up slowly.

To prevent constipation, eat food high in fibre, drink 6 to 8 glasses of liquid each day and exercise regularly. Food high in fibre includes whole grain products, vegetables and fruit.

Contact your doctor if you notice

- you feel less interested or able to have sex
- skin rash or itchy skin
- restless or excited feelings
- behavioural or emotional changes, including thoughts of self-harm or suicide
- fast heart beat, excessive sweating and muscle twitching

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