

# **Nabilone**

**(NA – bi – lone)**

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## **How this medication is used**

Nabilone is also known as Cesamet<sup>®</sup>. It is used for chronic pain management. It may also be used to treat the severe nausea and vomiting associated with some types of cancer chemotherapy and to improve appetite. It is similar to marijuana in its actions, but usually has less effect on mood.

## **Reminders**

Tell your doctor all of the medications you take (prescriptions, non-prescriptions and herbals), especially those that cause drowsiness, such as sleeping pills, pain pills, muscle relaxants or medication for allergies.

Tell your doctor if you have any other medical conditions such as heart or liver disease, high blood pressure, emotional disorders, history of drug abuse, or are pregnant or breast feeding.

## **How to take this medication**

Take this medication as directed by your doctor. It is usually started at a low dose and increased slowly. When increasing your daily dose as instructed, start with the bedtime dose, as it could make you drowsy.

Use caution if using marijuana while taking Nabilone, as this may cause an overdose.

## While taking this medication you may notice

- **Drowsiness.** Until you know how it affects you, do not drive or operate machinery.
- **Dizziness.** 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.
- **Increased effects of alcohol.** Making you more sleepy, dizzy and lightheaded. Do not drink alcohol (wine, beer and liquor) while on this medication.
- **A dry mouth.** Suck on ice chips, sugar-free candy or chew sugar-free gum. Good care of your teeth is very important at this time.
- Clumsiness
- Headache
- Memory loss or difficulty concentrating
- Loss of appetite

## Contact your doctor or seek medical help if you notice

- rapid heartbeat or trouble breathing
- burred vision
- severe drowsiness
- flushing of face
- slurred speech
- changes in mood or hallucinations