

Medication Information

Phenobarbital (Fee – no – bar – bi – tal)

How this medication is used

This medication is used to control or prevent seizures.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your health care provider. It is usually taken at bedtime because this medication makes you sleepy. It must be taken regularly to prevent seizures, even if you feel well.

It is important to see your health care provider regularly, while taking this medication.

Do not stop taking this medication without checking with your health care provider first.

When it is time to stop taking this medication, your health care provider will slowly decrease the amount of medication. If stopped suddenly, you could become very ill.

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.

How to take this medication (continued)

You may need to take Vitamin D. Talk to your health care provider.

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

Liquid: May be mixed with water or juice.

Talk to your health care provider if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

Also, talk to your health care provider if you intend to breastfeed, as this medication can harm your baby.

While taking this medication you may notice

This medication can make you drowsy. Until you know how this medication affects you, do not drive or operate machinery.

This medication increases the effects of alcohol, making you more sleepy, dizzy and lightheaded. Do not drink alcohol such as wine, beer or liquor while on this medication.

Contact your health care provider if you notice

- confusion
- feeling more anxious, nervous, or irritable
- trouble sleeping
- signs of bleeding such as easy bruising, nosebleeds, black or bloody stools, red urine
- yellowing of eyes or skin
- you have more seizures