

# Ergotamine Tartrate 1mg & Caffeine 100mg

Medication Information Leaflet

## What is this medication for?

This medication is a combination of ergot derivative and caffeine (stimulant). It is often used to treat acute migraine and stops migraine attacks when the attack begins but does not prevent a migraine.

Headache or migraine occurs due to widened blood vessels in the brain. This medication works by narrowing blood vessels in the brain. This reverses the widening of blood vessels, thereby stopping a migraine.

## How should I take/use this medication?

- Take one to two tablets as soon as you experience a migraine attack.
- If the migraine is not relieved, you may take another one to two tablets every 30-60 minutes, until the attack is relieved. Maximum 4 tablets per attack in 24 hours, not to be repeated at intervals of less than 4 days, maximum 8 tablets per week. This instruction is specific for Caffox<sup>(r)</sup> brand. If your medication is of a different brand, please check with your pharmacist for advice.
- You may take this medication with or without food.

## What precautions should I take?

Inform your healthcare professional if

- You are allergic to this medication or any of the other ingredients of this medication.
- You have history of the following:
  - Heart condition
  - Peptic ulcer disease
  - Narrowing of blood vessels in your arms, legs (peripheral vascular disease)
  - Uncontrolled blood pressure
  - Glaucoma (eye condition whereby the fluid pressure in the eye is high)
  - Liver or kidney problems
- You are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- You are taking any other medications, including supplements, traditional medications and herbal remedies.

## **What are some common side-effects of this medication?**

- Nausea and vomiting
- Tingling sensation
- Abdominal pain
- Muscle ache or weakness

## **What are some rare but serious side-effects that I need to seek medical advice immediately?**

The symptoms of a drug allergy include one or more of the following:

- Swollen face/eyes/lips/tongue
- Difficulty in breathing
- Itchy skin rashes over your whole body

If you experience any of these symptoms, you should stop your medication and see your healthcare professional immediately.

Please see a doctor immediately if you experience any of the following rare but serious side effects:

- Chest pain, especially if it spreads to your arms, jaw, back, neck or if you have trouble breathing, unusual sweating or feel faint.
- Numbing, cold feeling or pale fingers or toes.

## **What food or medication should I avoid when I take this medication?**

- Azole antifungals (e.g. itraconazole, voriconazole, ketoconazole)
- Protease inhibitors (e.g. letermovir)
- Macrolide antibiotics (e.g. erythromycin, clarithromycin)
- Triptans (e.g. sumatriptan)

Avoid taking grapefruit when you are taking this medication as grapefruit may interact with your medication and increases the risk of side-effects.

## **How should I store this medication?**

Store in a cool and dry place, away from direct sunlight. Keep this medication away from children.

## How should I throw away this medication safely?

Pack this medication into a black trash bag and seal it tightly before throwing into the rubbish chute or bin.

### Disclaimers

If you take more than the recommended dose, please seek medical advice immediately. The information provided on this page does not replace information from your healthcare professional. Please consult your healthcare professional for more information.

*This article is jointly developed by members of the National Medication Information workgroup. The workgroup consists of cluster partners (National Healthcare Group, National University Health System and SingHealth), community pharmacies (Guardian, Unity and Watsons) and Pharmaceutical Society of Singapore. The content does not reflect drug availability and supply information in pharmacies and healthcare institutions. You are advised to check with the respective institutions for such information.*

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