

# Pancreatin

Medication Information Leaflet

## What is this medication for?

This medication is used to treat conditions where there is not enough production of secretions from the pancreas necessary for digestion. This includes conditions such as pancreatitis, cystic fibrosis and patients who have had their pancreas surgically removed.

## How should I take/use this medication?

- Do not stop taking your medication without checking with your healthcare professional.
- You may take this medication with or after food.
- Capsules should be swallowed whole without crushing or chewing, with enough fluid during or after a meal or snack as directed by your healthcare professional.
- When the swallowing of capsules is difficult (e.g.\* for the elderly), capsules may be carefully opened and the contents added to fruit juice or yoghurt.
- Crushing the contents of the capsule may result in increased exposure of the mouth to its contents which may lead to reduced effectiveness of the drug and irritation.

## What should I do if I forget to take/use this medication?

If you forget to take a dose, take your next dose as directed by your healthcare professional. Do not take two doses to make up for the missed dose.

## 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 including pork and/or pork protein. This preparation contains ingredients from a pork source.
- 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?

Common side effects abdominal discomfort, constipation, nausea and vomiting. If symptoms are persistent, please consult your healthcare professional.

## **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.

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

None of significant note.

## **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.*

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