

## LEVOMEPRMAZINE (injection)

*lee-voe-meh-pro-mah-zeen*

### What does it do?

*Levomepromazine* is used to treat nausea and vomiting, some mental health problems, and sometimes other conditions.

### Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart, liver, bowel, bladder or prostate problems.
- Tell your doctor if you have diabetes, Parkinson's disease, angle-closure glaucoma, have ever had a seizure, blood clot, stroke or 'mini-stroke', or if you have experienced strange body movements with another medicine.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- Your doctor may do a heart test (ECG) before you start and while you are taking *levomepromazine*.

### How is it given?

*Levomepromazine* is given as an injection into a muscle, vein or under the skin by a health professional.

### Can you take other medicines?

Some medicines available without a prescription may react with *levomepromazine* including:

- some antihistamines or anti-nausea medicines such as promethazine (e.g. Phenergan®), hyoscine (e.g. Scopoderm®), meclozine (e.g. Sea-legs®)

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products (e.g. St John's wort, valerian) or recreational drugs (e.g. cannabis).

### What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects  | Recommended action              |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Fever, stiffness, sweating, confusion<br>Feeling restless, strange or uncontrolled movements, tremor<br>Fast or irregular heartbeat, fainting<br>Symptoms of a blood clot including: sudden shortness of breath, swelling or pain in one leg<br>Seizures<br>Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain<br>Prolonged erection (longer than four hours) | Tell your doctor immediately    |
| Dry mouth, blurred vision, constipation or trouble peeing (anticholinergic effects)<br>Drowsiness, dizziness<br>Weight gain, stomach upset<br>Changes in periods, sore or enlarged breasts, breastmilk production<br>Less interest in sex, impotence<br>Change in skin colour (blue, grey)<br>Pain, tenderness or redness at injection site   | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

If you notice any other effects, discuss them with your doctor or pharmacist.

### Other information:

- *Levomepromazine* can impair your ability to do tasks such as driving or using machines. Alcohol makes this worse. Discuss your risk with your health professional. (search NZTA - Are you safe to drive?)
- Protect yourself from too much sunlight while being treated with *levomepromazine*. Always cover up and apply a thick layer of broad spectrum sunscreen (at least SPF 30) when outside. Do not use sunbeds.
- *Levomepromazine* reduces your body's ability to maintain a normal temperature. Be careful of becoming too cold or too hot. When exercising, drink plenty of water.
- You have an increased risk of getting diabetes while taking *levomepromazine*. Discuss with your doctor.
- Do not stop taking *levomepromazine* without talking to your doctor first.
- This medicine is also known as *methotrimeprazine*.

**This leaflet contains important, but not all, information about this medicine.**

Prepared by the MyMedicines Committee at Christchurch Hospital, Te Whatu Ora - Wāitaha, New Zealand. March 2023