CYPROTERONE

sye-pro-te-rone

What does it do?

Cyproterone blocks the effects of testosterone (a male sex hormone) in the body. In men it is used to treat prostate cancer or reduce sex drive. In women it is used to treat polycystic ovary syndrome, excess body hair, acne, or head hair loss.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart or liver problems, diabetes or depression, or if you have ever had a stroke or blood clot.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- *Cyproterone* can affect fertility in both men and women – discuss with your doctor.

How should you take it?

Take *cyproterone* regularly as directed with a glass of water.

What if you forget a dose?

If it is nearly time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take your next dose at the usual time. Otherwise, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. Do not take two doses at the same time.

Can you take other medicines?

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products or recreational drugs.

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain	Tell your doctor immediately
Short of breath	Tell your doctor
Sore or enlarged breasts Hot flushing, sweating Less body and facial hair Weight changes Tiredness or weakness Less interest in sex, trouble getting or keeping an erection	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- *Cyproterone* 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?)
- You will need regular blood tests while taking *cyproterone* to check if it is causing problems with your liver.