ATOMOXETINE

at-oh-mox-e-teen

What does it do?

Atomoxetine is used to treat ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have liver, heart, or mental health problems, angle-closure glaucoma, or if you have ever had a seizure.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *atomoxetine* regularly as directed with a glass of water. You can take it with or without food.

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 a fast or irregular heartbeat including: fluttering, pounding or pain in your chest, dizziness or fainting Prolonged erection (longer than four hours) Symptoms of liver problems including: yellow skin or eyes, itching, dark urine, pale bowel motions, abdominal pain Eye pain, severe headache	Tell your doctor immediately
Unusual behaviour or thinking, agitation, mood changes Trouble peeing	Tell your doctor
Headache, trouble sleeping, drowsiness Shaking, tingling or numbness, tiredness or weakness Sweating Less interest in, or trouble having sex Dry mouth, loss of appetite, weight loss, constipation, stomach upset	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- *Atomoxetine* 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?)
- *Atomoxetine* does not work straight away. It should start to work in about a month.
- If you are having surgery, it is important to tell your doctor that you are taking *atomoxetine*.