New Zealand Formulary
PATIENT INFORMATION

BUPROPION

bew-pro-pee-on

What does it do?

Bupropion is used to help you stop smoking. It is also used to treat depression.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems, bipolar disorder, 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 *bupropion* regularly as directed with a glass of water. Swallow the tablets whole. 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 (e.g. St John's wort) or recreational drugs (e.g. ecstasy).

What side effects might you notice?

Side Effects	Recommended action
Seizures Suicidal thoughts	Tell your doctor immediately
Anxiety, restlessness	Tell your doctor
Trouble sleeping, tremor Headache, dizziness, ringing in the ears Dry mouth, changes in taste Change of appetite or weight, nausea, constipation	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- *Bupropion* 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?)
- It may take a few weeks for *bupropion* to start working.
- Do not stop taking *bupropion* without talking to your doctor first.