New Zealand Formulary
PATIENT INFORMATION

PIZOTIFEN

piz-oh-tif-en

What does it do?

Pizotifen is used to prevent migraines and cluster headaches.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have eye problems (e.g. glaucoma), trouble peeing, 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 *pizotifen* 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?

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

- other medicines that may cause drowsiness (e.g. pain-killers, anti-nausea and cough/cold medicines – ask your pharmacist)

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
Seizures	Tell your doctor immediately
Increased appetite, weight gain Dry mouth, nausea Drowsiness, dizziness	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- *Pizotifen* 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?)
- Do not stop taking *pizotifen* suddenly without talking to your doctor first. Your doctor may reduce the dose gradually.
- Do not use *pizotifen* to treat migraines or cluster headaches once symptoms have started - discuss with your doctor.