



# CETIRIZINE

*se-tih-rih-zeen*

## What does it do?

*Cetirizine* is used to treat and prevent allergic conditions such as hayfever and skin rashes.

## How should you take it?

Take *cetirizine* as directed.

Take the tablets with a glass of water.

Measure the liquid carefully with an oral syringe or measuring spoon.

## What if you forget a dose?

Should an occasional dose be missed it need not be taken later.

## Can you take other medicines?

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

- other antihistamines (may be in anti-allergy, anti-nausea and cough/cold medicines)
- 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
Drowsiness, headache, weakness, dizziness Dry mouth, cough Trouble sleeping Stomach upset	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

## Other information:

- Tell your doctor if you have kidney problems.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- *Cetirizine* 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?)