PIOGLITAZONE

pye-oh-glit-ah-zone

What does it do?

Pioglitazone is used to treat diabetes by lowering blood sugar.

Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart problems, or have ever had bladder cancer.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

How should you take it?

Take *pioglitazone* 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 *pioglitazone* including:

- anti-inflammatories, such as diclofenac (e.g. Voltaren®) or ibuprofen (e.g. Nurofen®). These can also be found in some cold and flu medicines (e.g. Nurofen Cold and Flu®).

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
Trouble breathing	Tell your doctor immediately
Swollen feet or legs, short of breath Tiredness, dizziness, pale skin Changes in vision Bloody pee	Tell your doctor
Weight gain Headache Sore throat, cough, runny nose, sneezing	Tell your doctor if troublesome

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

Other information:

- Test your blood sugar as directed by your health professional.
- *Pioglitazone* can weaken your bones. You may need tests to check for this before you start.