

## PERGOLIDE

*per-go-lide*

### What does it do?

*Pergolide* is used to treat Parkinson's disease and sometimes other conditions.

### Before you start

- Tell your doctor if you have heart, lung, liver, kidney, stomach or high blood pressure problems, migraines, diabetes, a mental health problem, had a stroke, or ever had a seizure.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.

### How should you take it?

Take *pergolide* as directed with a glass of water. Swallow the tablets whole.

### 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 *pergolide* including:

- some antihistamines (may be in anti-allergy, anti-nausea and cough/cold medicines)
- anti-nausea medicines (e.g. prochlorperazine, hyoscine (e.g. Scopoderm TTS®), metoclopramide (e.g. Sea-legs®))

Tell your pharmacist or doctor about all medicines or treatments that you may be taking, including vitamins, herbal products (e.g. kava) or recreational drugs (e.g. "P").

### What side effects might you notice?

| Side Effects                                                                                                                                                                                     | Recommended action              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Seizures, dizziness, fainting, headache<br>Fast or irregular heartbeat, chest pain, trouble breathing                                                                                            | Tell your doctor immediately    |
| Drowsiness, trouble sleeping<br>Changes in vision, changes in smell<br>Confusion, hallucinations, mood changes<br>Strange or uncontrolled movements<br>Cold hands and feet, swollen feet or legs | Tell your doctor                |
| Constipation, nausea, loss of appetite<br>Dry mouth, changes in taste, nasal stuffiness<br>Muscle pain or cramps, tiredness or weakness<br>More interest in sex                                  | Tell your doctor if troublesome |

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

### Other information:

- *Pergolide* 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?)
- Limit alcohol intake. You may have increased alcohol-related side effects while taking *pergolide* (e.g. dizziness or stomach upset).
- Do not stop taking *pergolide* without talking to your doctor first.