

# INFORMATION FOR THE PATIENT

**DRUGS-ABOUT.COM**

## PR APO-TIAPROFENIC

### Tiaprofenic Acid Tablets

#### **HOW TO MAKE APO-TIAPROFENIC WORK BEST FOR YOU?**

Your doctor has decided that APO-TIAPROFENIC (tiaprofenic acid) is the best treatment for you. As you take APO-TIAPROFENIC tablets, remember that your chances of controlling your symptoms are greater if you cooperate fully with your doctor and try to become well informed about your condition.

This leaflet is meant to supplement what your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Your doctor knows and understands your personal condition; be sure to follow your doctor's instructions carefully and read any materials he or she gives you. If you have any questions after reading this information leaflet, be sure to ask your doctor or pharmacist.

#### **WHAT IS APO-TIAPROFENIC AND HOW DOES IT WORK?**

APO-TIAPROFENIC is the product name for tiaprofenic acid, a medicine used to relieve the pain and inflammation associated with certain types of arthritis. It belongs to a family of medicines known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).

Conditions like yours are usually associated with three (3) symptoms: pain, inflammation and stiffness. By reducing the production of certain substances (prostaglandins) and thus helping to control inflammation and other body reactions, APO-TIAPROFENIC helps to relieve these symptoms.

#### **WHAT DOES APO-TIAPROFENIC LOOK LIKE?**

APO-TIAPROFENIC is available as round, white, biconvex, bisected, film-coated tablets. The 200 mg tablet, engraved "APO" over "200" on one side, contains 200 mg of tiaprofenic acid. The 300 mg tablet, engraved "APO" over "300" on one side, contains 300 mg of tiaprofenic acid.

#### **HOW SHOULD YOU TAKE APO-TIAPROFENIC TO MAKE IT WORK BEST FOR YOU?**

Your doctor has chosen the strength (dose) that he or she thinks will be most effective in relieving your condition, based on experience with similar medical problems.

The usual dose of APO-TIAPROFENIC tablets is 600 mg daily taken as 1 tablet of 300 mg morning and night, or 1 tablet of 200 mg three (3) times daily.

To help reduce the possibility of stomach upset, take APO-TIAPROFENIC immediately after a meal or with food or milk.

You should take APO-TIAPROFENIC only as directed by your doctor. Do not take more or less of it, do not take it more often and do not take it for a longer period of time than your doctor ordered.

It is important to keep taking APO-TIAPROFENIC even after you start to feel better. This helps to keep your pain, tenderness and stiffness under control. In some types of arthritis, up to two weeks may pass before you feel the full effects of this medicine. However, some people are able to feel improvement in their symptoms right away. If you are not getting adequate relief from your medicine, speak to your doctor before you stop taking it. During treatment, your doctor may decide to adjust the dosage according to your response to the medication.

#### **WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS A DOSE?**

If you miss a dose of APO-TIAPROFENIC tablets, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule.

#### **NEVER DOUBLE DOSES.**

#### **COMBINING APO-TIAPROFENIC WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS**

Do not take ASA (acetylsalicylic acid, Aspirin®), ASA-containing compounds or other drugs used to relieve symptoms of arthritis while taking APO-TIAPROFENIC unless directed to do so by your physician.

#### **DOES APO-TIAPROFENIC HAVE SIDE EFFECTS?**

Along with its beneficial effects, APO-TIAPROFENIC like all other NSAIDs, may sometimes cause undesirable effects. Relatively common unwanted side effects of NSAIDs are heartburn, stomach pain, indigestion, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. If these side effects occur and continue, contact your doctor.

Elderly, frail or debilitated people often seem to experience more frequent or more severe side effects. Although not all of the following side effects are common, when they do occur they may require medical attention. Check with your doctor immediately if any of the following are noted:

- bloody or black tarry stools;
- shortness of breath, wheezing, any trouble in breathing or tightness in the chest;
- skin rash, swelling, hives or itching;
- indigestion, nausea, vomiting, stomach or lower abdominal pain or diarrhea (particularly if you have a history of stomach upset or ulcers);
- yellow discolouration of the skin or eyes, with or without fatigue;
- any changes in the amount or colour of your urine (such as dark; red or brown);
- swelling of the feet or lower legs;
- blurred vision or any visual disturbance;
- mental confusion, depression, dizziness, lightheadedness;
- hearing problems;
- any pain experienced while urinating.

If you are prescribed this medicine for use over a long period of time, your doctor will check your health during regular visits to assess your progress and to ensure that this medication is not causing unwanted effects.

#### **WHAT SHOULD YOU ALWAYS REMEMBER?**

Before taking this medication tell your doctor and pharmacist if you:

- are allergic to APO-TIAPROFENIC (tiaprofenic acid) or other related medicines of the NSAID group such as acetylsalicylic acid (Aspirin®), diclofenac, diflunisal, fenpropfen, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, ketoprofen, mefenamic acid, naproxen, piroxicam, sulindac, or tolmetin;
- have a history of liver or kidney diseases;
- have a history of stomach upset or ulcers, since all non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs may aggravate your problem and sometimes even cause bleeding or ulcers in your stomach or intestines;
- are pregnant or intend to become pregnant while taking this medication;
- are breast feeding;
- are taking any other medication (either prescription or non-prescription). This is important because some medicines can interact with each other and cause some unwanted effects;
- have any other medical problem(s).

While taking this medication:

- tell any other doctor, dentist or pharmacist that you consult or see, that you are taking this medication ;
- be cautious about driving or participating in activities that require alertness if you are drowsy, dizzy or lightheaded after taking this medication;
- check with your doctor if you are not getting any relief or if any problems develop;
- report any untoward reactions to your doctor. This is very important as it will aid in the early detection and prevention of potential complications.

Your regular medical checkups are essential.

Do not share your medication with other members of your family or friends since it may not be appropriate for them.

Keep your medication out of the reach of children and protect it from excessive heat, light or humidity.

If you require more information concerning this drug, consult your doctor or pharmacist

#### **WHO MANUFACTURES APO-TIAPROFENIC**

Apotex Inc.  
150 Signet Drive  
Weston, Ontario  
M9L 1T9

#### **REMINDERS:**

**This medicine has been prescribed only for you. Do not give it to anybody else.**

***If you require any further information or advise please consult your doctor or pharmacist.***