

Information about Venlafaxine

This is an easy way to say...Ven...la...fax...een



What is Venlafaxine?



Venlafaxine is a medication that will help if you have depression and anxiety.

Venlafaxine can sometimes be called a different name like **EfeXor**.

Venlafaxine can be taken as tablets or liquid medicine.

Where do I get Venlafaxine?



You can only get this medication with a prescription.

The doctor or consultant



- Will ask you questions about your health
- May also check your blood pressure
- Will ask you if you are taking other medication
- Will tell you if you need to have an electrocardiograph



An electrocardiograph is a test to check your heart

How do I take Venlafaxine?



The doctor will talk to you about how much Venlafaxine you need to take.



The doctor will tell you how to take your Venlafaxine. You need to take Venlafaxine for some time so that it works best.



You will usually take Venlafaxine once a day. Sometimes you may need to take Venlafaxine in the morning and the evening.



If you forget to take your medication you must tell your carer and ask your doctor for advice.

You should not stop taking your medication suddenly as this could make you feel unwell.



What is good about Venlafaxine?



Venlafaxine can help reduce depression.

Venlafaxine can help you get better quicker.

Venlafaxine can help stop you feeling low and fed up.

Venlafaxine also helps you to stop feeling very anxious or tense.



What is not good about Venlafaxine?



There are some health problems that people can get when they take Venlafaxine.

These problems are called **side effects** but not everyone gets them.

- Feeling sick
- Headache
- Problems sleeping
- Having the runs
- Feel thirsty

You should eat a healthy diet and drink more water or fruit juice.

Usually these side effects go away after a few weeks.

You will need to speak to your doctor if you:

- Have a rash on your skin
- Lose interest in sex
- Not feel like eating
- Feel unwell

What other things do I need to talk to the doctor about?



You should talk to your doctor if

- You are worried about your medication
- You want to know how much alcohol is safe to drink when taking medication
- You are planning to have a baby

The information in this easy read leaflet should always be discussed with the service user and it should not be provided without support.

The full information sheet about Venlafaxine medication should also be given to the service user, carers and staff.

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