

Palmetto State Pharmaceuticals

Patient Drug Education

BENZONATATE 100MG CAPSULE

USES:

This medication is used to treat coughs caused by the common cold and other breathing problems (e.g., pneumonia, bronchitis, emphysema, asthma). It works by reducing the reflex in the lungs that causes the urge to cough.

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION:

HOW TO USE: Take this medication by mouth with or without food, usually 3 times daily as needed or as directed by your doctor. Swallow this medication whole. Do not chew, suck, or dissolve this medication in your mouth. Doing so will cause a loss of feeling in your mouth/throat and may cause choking or a severe allergic reaction. (See also Side Effects section.) Dosage is based on your medical condition and response to therapy. Inform your doctor if your condition persists or worsens.

SIDE EFFECTS:

Drowsiness, dizziness, headache, stomach upset, constipation, and stuffy nose may occur. If any of these effects persist or worsen, notify your doctor or pharmacist promptly. Remember that your doctor has prescribed this medication because the benefit to you is greater than the risk of side effects. Many people using this medication do not have serious side effects. Tell your doctor immediately if any of these unlikely but serious side effects occur: mental/mood changes, loss of feeling in the chest, burning in the eyes. A very serious allergic reaction to this drug is unlikely, but seek immediate medical attention if it occurs. The possibility of an allergic reaction may increase if you chew, suck, or dissolve this medication in your mouth. Symptoms of a serious allergic reaction may include: rash, itching, swelling, severe dizziness, trouble breathing, fainting. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

PRECAUTIONS:

Before taking benzonatate, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or to certain anesthetic agents (e.g., procaine, tetracaine); or if you have any other allergies. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history. This drug may make you dizzy or drowsy; use caution while engaging in activities requiring alertness such as driving or using machinery. Limit alcoholic beverages. During pregnancy, this medication should be used only when clearly needed. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. It is not known if this medication passes into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

Your healthcare professionals (e.g., doctor or pharmacist) may already be aware of any possible drug interactions and may be monitoring you for it. Do not start, stop or change the dosage of any medicine before checking with them first. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist of all prescription and nonprescription/herbal products you may use. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you take drugs that cause drowsiness such as: certain antihistamines (e.g., diphenhydramine), anti-seizure drugs (e.g., carbamazepine), medicine for sleep or anxiety (e.g., alprazolam, diazepam, zolpidem), muscle relaxants, narcotic pain relievers (e.g., codeine), psychiatric medicines (e.g., chlorpromazine, risperidone, amitriptyline, trazodone). Check the labels on all your medicines (e.g., cough-and-cold products) because they may contain drowsiness-causing ingredients. Ask your pharmacist about the safe use of those products.

NOTES:

Do not share this medication with others.

MISSED DOSE:

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not double the dose to catch up.

STORAGE:

Store at room temperature between 59-86 degrees F (15-30 degrees C) away from light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medicines away from children and pets.