

Palmetto State Pharmaceuticals

Patient Drug Education

PROPOX-N/APAP 100-650 TAB

USES:

This medication is a combination of a narcotic (propoxyphene) and a non-narcotic (acetaminophen). It is used to treat mild to moderate pain. Propoxyphene works by binding to opioid receptors in the brain and spinal cord while acetaminophen decreases the formation of prostaglandins which relieves pain.

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION:

HOW TO USE: Take this medication by mouth as directed by your doctor. It may be taken with food if stomach upset occurs, however, the drug may not work as well. Consult your doctor or pharmacist about other ways to reduce stomach upset (e.g., antihistamines, lying down for 1-2 hours with minimal head movement). Dosage is based on your medical condition and response to therapy. Pain medications work best if used when the first signs of pain occur. If you wait until the pain worsens, this medication may not work as well. Use this medication exactly as prescribed. Do not exceed the maximum daily dose of propoxyphene napsylate (600mg per day). Do not increase your dose, take it more often or use it longer than prescribed because it can be habit-forming. If this drug is prescribed for an extended period of time, do not suddenly stop using it without your doctor's approval. When used for an extended period, this medication may not work as well and may require different dosing. Talk with your doctor if this medication stops working well. This medication contains acetaminophen. Do not take more of it than recommended (see Side Effects section). Inform your doctor if your pain persists or worsens.

SIDE EFFECTS:

Nausea, vomiting, constipation, lightheadedness, dizziness, drowsiness, headache, or vision changes 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 serious side effects occur: mental/mood changes. Tell your doctor immediately if this highly unlikely but very serious side effect occurs: change in the amount of urine. If you do not have liver problems, the adult maximum dose of acetaminophen is 4 grams per day (4000 milligrams). If you take more than the maximum daily amount, it may cause serious (possibly fatal) liver disease. Propoxyphene may also rarely cause liver disease. Tell your doctor immediately if you have any of the following symptoms of liver damage: severe nausea/vomiting, stomach/abdominal pain, yellowing eyes or skin, dark urine, extreme fatigue. A serious allergic reaction to this drug is unlikely, but seek immediate medical attention if it occurs. Symptoms of a serious allergic reaction include: rash, itching, swelling, severe dizziness, trouble breathing. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

PRECAUTIONS:

Before taking propoxyphene with acetaminophen, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are allergic to it; or if you have any other allergies. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist your medical history, especially of: abdominal/stomach problems (e.g., severe diarrhea), alcohol use, breathing or lung disease (e.g., asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), difficulty urinating (e.g., enlarged prostate, urethral stricture), drug dependency, kidney disease, liver disease, mental/mood problems (e.g., depression, suicidal tendency, toxic psychosis), seizure disorders, serious head injury or brain disease. This drug may make you dizzy or drowsy; use caution engaging in activities requiring alertness such as driving or using machinery. Avoid alcohol because it may increase the risk of side effects. This product contains acetaminophen which may cause liver damage. Daily use of alcohol, especially when combined with acetaminophen, may increase your risk for liver damage. Check with your doctor or pharmacist for more information. To minimize dizziness and lightheadedness, get up slowly when rising from a seated or lying position. Caution is advised when using this drug in the elderly because they may be more sensitive its side effects, especially drowsiness. This medication should be used only when clearly needed during pregnancy. It is not recommended for use for long periods or in high doses near the expected delivery date because of the potential for harm to an unborn baby. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. Propoxyphene with acetaminophen passes into breast milk. While there have been no reports of harm to nursing infants, consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

This drug should not be used with the following medication because very serious interactions may occur: naltrexone. If you are currently using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist before starting propoxyphene/acetaminophen. Before using this medication, tell your doctor or pharmacist of all prescription and nonprescription/herbal products you may use, especially of: "blood thinners" (e.g., warfarin), carbamazepine, cimetidine, MAO inhibitors (e.g., furazolidone, isocarboxazid, linezolid, moclobemide, phenelzine, procarbazine, selegiline, tranylcypromine), other pain medications, tricyclic antidepressants (e.g., doxepin). Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you also take drugs that cause drowsiness such as: anti-anxiety drugs (e.g., diazepam), antidepressants (e.g., amitriptyline), antihistamines that cause drowsiness (e.g., diphenhydramine), anti-seizure drugs (e.g., phenobarbital), medicine for sleep (e.g., sedatives), muscle relaxants, psychiatric medicines (e.g., phenothiazines such as chlorpromazine), tranquilizers. Check the labels on all your medicines (e.g., cough-and-cold products) because they may contain ingredients that cause drowsiness. Ask your pharmacist about the safe use of those products. In addition, check the labels on other pain relievers, fever reducers, or cold products before you take them to see if they contain acetaminophen (see Side Effects section). Consult your pharmacist for more details. Do not start or stop any medicine without doctor or pharmacist approval.

NOTES:

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Do not share this medication with others. It is against the law. This medication has been prescribed for your current condition only. Do not use it later for other conditions unless directed by your doctor. A different medication may be necessary in those cases. To prevent constipation, maintain a diet adequate in fiber, drink plenty of water, and exercise. If you become constipated while using this drug, consult your pharmacist for help in selecting a laxative (e.g., stimulant-type).

MISSED DOSE:

If you miss a dose, use 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 68-77 degrees F (20-25 degrees C) away from light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medicines away from children and pets.