


Can I drive when I'm taking parecoxib?

You are responsible for ensuring you are fit to drive. Northern Ireland law allows you to drive when taking medicines if your ability is not affected. Do not drive or use machinery if:

- You have recently started taking parecoxib and don't know how it affects you
- The dose or frequency has changed recently
- You have taken alcohol along with parecoxib
- You feel drowsy, dizzy or cannot concentrate.

Advice is available at NI Direct: 

Can I drink alcohol when I'm taking parecoxib?

Limit your alcohol intake. Taking alcohol while on parecoxib can increase the risk of indigestion or stomach ulcers.

How should I store parecoxib?

Store in a dry place, below 25°C and out of reach of children.

How do I get more parecoxib?

Contact your GP to arrange a prescription. Take this to your local community pharmacy. Do not let your supply run out before you order your next prescription. Your community pharmacist usually needs to order it. Ask them when your supply can be collected.

Further information on licensing

Parecoxib is licensed in the UK as a pain reliever after surgery. It has been used to relieve pain in supportive and palliative care for many years and is known to be safe and effective.

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Parecoxib in supportive & palliative care

Information Leaflet for Patients

What is parecoxib used for?

Parecoxib is an anti-inflammatory to treat your pain. It is also known as Dynastat®. It reduces pain caused by inflammation. It is often used to manage bone or joint pain.

Notes



This medicine is ONLY FOR YOU. Never give it to anyone else even if their symptoms appear to be the same as yours.

How do I take my parecoxib?

Parecoxib is only available as an injection which a nurse will administer.

Parecoxib can be given as an injection under the skin, regularly or when needed. It can also be given as an infusion under the skin using a syringe pump to deliver it continuously. A dose of between 20mg and 80mg is usually given over 24 hours. Some specialists may use a higher dose.

Is it safe to take other medicines while on parecoxib?

Tell your healthcare professionals what medicines you take, including any you buy in a pharmacy or shop, herbal remedies or recreational drugs.

Tell your prescriber if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Anti-platelets such as aspirin or clopidogrel
- Other anti-inflammatories such as ibuprofen, naproxen or diclofenac
- Blood thinners including warfarin, apixaban, dabigatran, edoxaban, rivaroxaban and injections such as enoxaparin or heparin
- Steroid medication such as dexamethasone, prednisolone, budesonide
- Fluconazole
- Lithium
- Ciclosporin or tacrolimus
- Opioids such as morphine.

Check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medicine.

What are the common side effects?

All medicines can cause side effects, though not everyone gets them.

They may include:

- Nausea (feeling sick), stomach ache, indigestion, constipation, bloating and wind, changes in blood pressure, and swelling of the ankles, legs, and feet
- You may feel dizzy or drowsy, though this is uncommon. If affected do not drive or operate machinery
- Uncommonly, ulcers in the stomach or intestine can develop. Contact your doctor immediately if you vomit blood or pass black or blood-stained bowel movements
- Allergic reactions may occur but these are very rare. The signs are difficulty breathing, skin rash, itching, blistering or peeling of the skin or a swollen face. Seek medical assistance immediately if you develop any of these.

You should not take parecoxib if you have an allergy to aspirin or other anti-inflammatories. For people with asthma, risk of wheeze and breathlessness may increase.

All anti-inflammatories can cause a small increase in the risk of having a heart attack or stroke. Risk is increased if you already have heart disease or are at risk of a stroke, at higher doses or if treated for longer periods of time.

Parecoxib may affect your kidneys. Your doctor may take blood tests when you first start taking parecoxib and again during your treatment.

It is possible to have other unwanted effects not mentioned in this leaflet. If you have any concerns, contact your doctor, pharmacist or specialist nurse.