

# FINNACAR

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

### 1. Why am I using FINNACAR?

FINNACAR contains the active ingredient finasteride. FINNACAR is used to treat a medical condition in men called benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I using FINNACAR?](#) in the full CMI.

### 2. What should I know before I use FINNACAR?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to FINNACAR or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

FINNACAR is for use in men only. Do not give FINNACAR to children or women.

**Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines.**

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I use FINNACAR?](#) in the full CMI.

### 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with FINNACAR and affect how it works.

A list of these medicines is in Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

### 4. How do I use FINNACAR?

- The dose is one tablet taken once a day.  
More instructions can be found in Section [4. How do I use FINNACAR?](#) in the full CMI.

### 5. What should I know while using FINNACAR?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using FINNACAR</li></ul>
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Do not give FINNACAR to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.</li></ul>
Driving or using machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>FINNACAR should not affect your ability to drive or operate machinery</li></ul>
Drinking alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>n/a</li></ul>
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Keep FINNACAR in a cool dry place away from light where the temperature stays below 30°C</li></ul>

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know while using FINNACAR?](#) in the full CMI.

### 6. Are there any side effects?

Common side effects include impotence, less desire for sex, and problems with ejaculation that continue after stopping the medication. Serious side effects include allergic reactions, breast swelling, tenderness, lumps or pain, discharge from the nipples, skin rash/hives, testicle pain, blood in semen and depression.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

# FINNACAR

Active ingredient(s): *Finasteride*

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using FINNACAR. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using FINNACAR.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I using FINNACAR?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I use FINNACAR?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How do I use FINNACAR?](#)
- [5. What should I know while using FINNACAR?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

## 1. Why am I using FINNACAR?

**FINNACAR contains the active finasteride.** FINNACAR is for use my men only..

**FINNACAR is used treat a medical condition in men called benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH.**

BPH is a condition where your prostate gland (which is near your bladder) has become bigger making it more difficult for you to pass urine. This can lead to symptoms such as:

- weak or interrupted stream of urine
- feeling that you cannot empty your bladder completely
- delay before you start to pass urine
- needing to pass urine often, especially at night
- feeling that you must pass urine right away

BPH occurs only in men and is common over the age of 50 years. In some men, BPH can lead to serious problems, including urinary tract infections and the sudden inability to pass urine at all. BPH can also lead to the need for surgery such as procedures to improve the flow of urine.

The prostate gland takes years to grow. Therefore, the symptoms of BPH take a long time to develop. FINNACAR works by slowly reducing the size of your prostate gland. This may lead to gradual improvement in your urine flow and other symptoms over several months. FINNACAR also helps reduce the risk of developing a sudden inability to pass urine (acute urinary retention) and the need for surgery. This may happen whether or not you notice any improvement or change in your symptoms.].

## 2. What should I know before I use FINNACAR?

### Warnings

**Do not use FINNACAR if:**

- you are allergic to finasteride, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet. Symptoms of an allergic reaction to FINNACAR may include skin rash, or swelling of the lips or face.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

**Check with your doctor if you:**

- have any other medical conditions
- take any medicines for any other condition
- have any allergies to any other medicines or any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

### Pregnancy and breastfeeding

**Women who are pregnant or may be pregnant must not take FINNACAR or handle crushed or broken tablets.**

If the active ingredient in FINNACAR is absorbed after swallowing the tablet or through the skin by a woman who is pregnant with a male baby, it may cause the male baby to be born with abnormalities of the sex organs.

FINNACAR tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided the tablets are not broken or crushed.

**If a pregnant woman swallows FINNACAR or handles crushed or broken tablets, her doctor must be consulted immediately.**

### Women and children

- Do not give FINNACAR to children or women.
- The condition for which FINNACAR is prescribed occurs only in men.

## 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

#### **Some medicines may interfere with FINNACAR and affect how it works.**

However, FINNACAR has not been shown to interfere with other medicines.

**Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect FINNACAR.**

## **4. How do I use FINNACAR?**

### **How much to take / use**

- Take FINNACAR only when prescribed by your doctor.
- The usual dose in men is one tablet taken once each day.
- FINNACAR shrinks the prostate gland slowly. Therefore, you may need to take FINNACAR for 6 months or longer to see whether it helps you. If it does help your symptoms, you may need to take FINNACAR every day.
- Follow the instructions provided and use FINNACAR until your doctor tells you to stop
- If you stop taking the medicine the prostate gland is likely to grow again.

### **When to take / use FINNACAR**

- FINNACAR should be taken once a day at about the same time each day.
- This will help you to remember to take the tablets.
- It does not matter if you take FINNACAR before or after food.

### **How to take FINNACAR**

- Swallow FINNACAR with a glass of water

### **If you forget to use FINNACAR**

FINNACAR should be used regularly at the same time each day. If you miss your dose at the usual time, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking your tablet as you would normally.

**If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.**

**Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you missed.**

- If you have trouble remembering to take your tablets, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

### **If you use too much FINNACAR**

If you think that you have used too much FINNACAR, you may need urgent medical attention.

**You should immediately:**

- phone the Poisons Information Centre (by calling 13 11 26), or
- contact your doctor, or

- go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.

**You should do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

## **5. What should I know while using FINNACAR?**

### **Things you should do**

**Go to your doctor for regular checkups, including a physical check for prostate cancer once a year if you are over 50.**

While BPH is not cancer and does not lead to cancer, the two conditions can exist at the same time. FINNACAR is used for BPH not prostate cancer.

**If you are having a blood test to measure your PSA (prostate-specific antigen) levels, tell your doctor you are taking FINNACAR.**

FINNACAR can affect the results of this test.

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using FINNACAR.

### **Things you should not do**

- Do not give FINNACAR to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

### **Driving or using machines**

FINNACAR should not affect your ability to drive or operate machinery

### **Looking after your medicine**

- Keep FINNACAR in a cool dry place away from light where the temperature stays below x °C
- Keep your tablets in the blister pack until it is time to take them.
- Never put the tablets in another box or container, as they might get mixed up.

Follow the instructions in the carton on how to take care of your medicine properly.

Store it in a cool dry place away from moisture, heat or sunlight; for example, do not store it:

- in the bathroom or near a sink, or
- in the car or on window sills.

**Keep it where young children cannot reach it.**

### **Getting rid of any unwanted medicine**

If you no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

## 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

### Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• impotence (inability to have an erection) that continues after stopping FINNACAR</li> <li>• less desire for sex that continues after stopping FINNACAR</li> <li>• problems with ejaculation that continued after stopping the medication</li> </ul> <p>Changes or problems with ejaculation, such as decreased amount of semen released during sex (this decrease does not appear to interfere with normal sexual function).</p> <p>Male infertility and/or poor quality of semen have been reported infrequently. Improvement in the quality of semen has been reported after stopping FINNACAR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In some cases, these side effects disappeared while the patient continued to take FINNACAR. If symptoms persisted, they usually resolved on stopping the tablets</li> </ul>	<p><b>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.</b></p>

### Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• swelling of the lips, tongue, throat or face</li> <li>• These may be symptoms of a serious allergic reaction to FINNACAR, which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Call your doctor straight away, or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital if you notice any of these serious side effects.</b></p> <p><b>You may need urgent medical attention.</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• breast swelling and/or tenderness</li> <li>• In rare cases, male breast cancer has been reported.</li> <li>• breast lumps, pain or discharge from the nipples.</li> <li>• skin rash, itchiness</li> <li>• hives or nettlerash (pinkish, itchy swellings on the skin)</li> <li>• testicle pain</li> <li>• blood in semen</li> <li>• depressions (feelings of severe sadness and unworthiness) including suicidal thoughts</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of these serious side effects.</b></p>
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**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.**

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

### Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at [www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems](http://www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems). By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.**

## 7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

### What FINNACAR contains

<b>Active ingredient (main ingredient)</b>	Finasteride 5 mg
<b>Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lactose monohydrate</li> <li>• microcrystalline cellulose</li> <li>• pregelatinised maize starch</li> <li>• sodium starch glycollate</li> <li>• purified talc</li> <li>• magnesium stearate</li> <li>• hypromellose</li> <li>• hypromellose</li> <li>• macrogol 6000</li> <li>• titanium dioxide.</li> </ul>
<b>Potential allergens</b>	Sugars as lactose

**Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.**

## **What FINNACAR looks like**

FINNACAR is a rounded triangle white tablet marked  $R_6$  on one side.

(Aust R 143402).

Each pack contains 30 tablets

## **Who distributes FINNACAR**

Arrotex Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd  
15-17 Chapel Street  
Cremorne VIC 3121  
Australia

This leaflet was prepared in November 2024.