

# ANASTROZOLE-WGR

## 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 ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

ANASTROZOLE-WGR contains the active ingredient anastrozole. ANASTROZOLE-WGR is used to treat breast cancer in women who no longer have their menstrual periods either naturally, due to their age or after surgery, radiotherapy or chemotherapy.

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

### 2. What should I know before I use ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

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

**Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

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

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

Some medicines may interfere with ANASTROZOLE-WGR 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 ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

- Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully.
- Your doctor or pharmacist will tell you how many tablets you will need to take each day. This depends on your condition and whether or not you are taking any other medicines.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How do I use ANASTROZOLE-WGR?](#) in the full CMI.

### 5. What should I know while using ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

<b>Things you should do</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using ANASTROZOLE-WGR.</li><li>• Tell your doctor if you become pregnant.</li></ul>
<b>Things you should not do</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do not stop using this medicine suddenly or change the dosage without first checking with your doctor.</li><li>• Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.</li></ul>
<b>Driving or using machines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be careful when driving or operating machinery until you know how anastrozole affects you. Some patients may occasionally feel weak or sleepy.</li></ul>
<b>Looking after your medicine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep ANASTROZOLE-WGR in its pack until it is time to take it.</li><li>• Keep your medicine in a cool dry place where the temperature will stay below 25°C</li></ul>

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

### 6. Are there any side effects?

There are a number of side effects associated with this medicine. Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking ANASTROZOLE-WGR, even if you do not think it is connected with this medicine.

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.

# ANASTROZOLE-WGR

Active ingredient(s): ANASTROZOLE

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using ANASTROZOLE-WGR. **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 ANASTROZOLE-WGR.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

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

## 1. Why am I using ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

**ANASTROZOLE-WGR contains the active ingredient anastrozole.** ANASTROZOLE-WGR is a non-steroidal aromatase inhibitor, which reduces the amount of oestrogen (female sex hormone) made by the body. In some types of breast cancer, oestrogen can help the cancer cells grow. By blocking oestrogen, anastrozole may slow or stop the growth of cancer. **ANASTROZOLE-WGR is used to treat breast cancer in women who no longer have their menstrual periods either naturally, due to their age or after surgery, radiotherapy or chemotherapy.**

This medicine is not addictive.

Anastrozole is not recommended for use in children.

## 2. What should I know before I use ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

### Warnings

**Do not use ANASTROZOLE-WGR if:**

- You are allergic to anastrozole, any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet, or other anti-oestrogen medicines.
- Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- You are still having menstrual periods. Anastrozole should only be taken by women who are no longer having menstrual periods.
- You are a man. Men are not normally treated with anastrozole.

**Check with your doctor if you:**

- have any other medical conditions:
  - liver or kidney problems
  - osteoporosis, a family history of osteoporosis or risk factors for developing osteoporosis (such as smoking, a diet low in calcium, poor mobility, a slight build or treatment with steroid medicines).Aromatase inhibitors may decrease bone mineral density (BMD) in women who have been through menopause, with a possible increased risk of fractures. Your doctor should discuss with you your treatment options for managing this possible increased risk of fractures.
- take any medicines for any other condition

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

Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.

Anastrozole may affect your developing baby if you take it during pregnancy. It may also pass into human breast milk.

## 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 ANASTROZOLE-WGR and affect how it works. These include:**

- tamoxifen, used to treat breast cancer
- any medicine that contains oestrogen (e.g. hormone replacement therapy (HRT) or oral contraceptives)
- any health food products that contain natural oestrogens used for post-menopausal symptoms.
- luteinising hormone releasing hormone (LHRH) agonists (e.g. goserelin or leuprorelin)

If you are taking any of these, you may need a different dose, or you may need to take different medicines.

Other medicines not listed above may also interact with anastrozole.

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

## 4. How do I use ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

Follow the instructions provided and use ANASTROZOLE-WGR until your doctor tells you to stop.

They may differ to the information contained in this leaflet.

Your doctor or pharmacist will tell you how many tablets you will need to take each day. This depends on your condition and whether or not you are taking any other medicines.

### How much to take

The usual dose is one tablet taken once each day.

### How to take it

Swallow anastrozole tablets whole, with a glass of water.

### When to take ANASTROZOLE-WGR

Take this medicine at about the same time each day.

Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

It does not matter if you take anastrozole with or without food.

### How long to take it for

Continue taking your medicine for as long as your doctor tells you.

Anastrozole helps to control your condition, but does not cure it.

Do not stop taking it unless your doctor tells you to, even if you feel better.

Make sure you have enough to last over weekends and holidays.

### If you forget to use ANASTROZOLE-WGR

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Otherwise take it as soon as you remember and go back to taking your medicine normally.

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

This may increase the chance of you experiencing side effects.

### If you use too much ANASTROZOLE-WGR

If you think that you have used too much ANASTROZOLE-WGR, 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. You may need urgent medical attention.

## 5. What should I know while using ANASTROZOLE-WGR?

### Things you should do

- If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine.
- If you become pregnant whilst taking anastrozole, tell your doctor immediately.

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using ANASTROZOLE-WGR.

### Things you should not do

- Do not stop using this medicine suddenly.
- Do not stop taking your medicine, or change the dosage, without first checking with your doctor.
- Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.
- Do not take your medicine to treat any other complaint unless your doctor tells you to.

### Driving or using machines

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how ANASTROZOLE-WGR affects you.

Some people may occasionally feel weak or sleepy.

### Looking after your medicine

- Keep your medicine in its pack until it is time to take it. If you take your medicine out of its pack it may not keep well.
- Keep your medicine in a cool dry place where the temperature will stay below 25°C.

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.

### When to discard your medicine

If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or the expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine left over.

### 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.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects. You may not experience any of them.

### Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hot flushes</li><li>Feeling weak or sleepy, lack of energy</li><li>Joint pain or stiffness, bone pain or arthritis</li><li>Vaginal dryness or bleeding</li><li>Hair thinning or hair loss</li><li>Mild skin rash</li><li>Nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite (anorexia), diarrhoea</li><li>Headache</li><li>Carpal tunnel syndrome (tingling, pain, coldness, weakness in parts of hand)</li><li>Pins and needles</li><li>Toss of taste or changing taste of food or drink</li><li>Feelings of sadness or depression</li></ul>	<b>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.</b>

### Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sudden signs of allergy such as shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty in breathing; swelling of the face, lips, tongue or any other parts of the body; rash, itching or hives on the skin.</li><li>Severe skin reactions with lesions, ulcers or blisters.</li><li>Liver pain or swelling and/or a general feeling of unwell with or without jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes)</li></ul> <p>Anastrozole may be associated with changes in your blood, urine or liver.</p> <p>Your doctor may want to perform tests from time to time to check on your progress and detect any side effects.</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>

Uncommon side effects can include, trigger finger which is a condition in which one of your fingers or your thumb catches in a bent position.

**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 ANASTROZOLE-WGR contains

<b>Active ingredient (main ingredient)</b>	Anastrozole
<b>Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)</b>	Lactose monohydrate Magnesium stearate Sodium starch glycolate type A Opadry II complete coating system 85F18422 white.
<b>Potential allergens</b>	Contains lactose

**This medicine does not contain gluten, sucrose, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.**

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

### What ANASTROZOLE-WGR looks like

ANASTROZOLE-WGR 1mg: AUST R 431250

White, round, biconvex tablet, with '1' on one side.

### Who distributes ANASTROZOLE-WGR

Wagner Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd

6 Albert Street

Preston VIC 3072

Tel: 1800 936 140

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