

METOPIRONE[®]

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 METOPIRONE?

METOPIRONE contains the active ingredient metyrapone. METOPIRONE is used as a test to check if ACTH (adrenocorticotrophic hormone), a natural body hormone acting on corticosteroid secretion), is being produced properly.

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

2. What should I know before I use METOPIRONE?

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

Do not use if you suffer from a condition whereby your adrenal glands do not produce enough steroid hormones (cortisol or aldosterone) known as Addison's disease.

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 METOPIRONE?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with METOPIRONE 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 METOPIRONE?

- Your doctor will tell you how many capsules to take. This depends on the type of test you are having and your bodyweight.
- Swallow the capsules whole after meals or with milk or yoghurt. Do not chew them.

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

5. What should I know while using METOPIRONE?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you have used or are about to use METOPIRONE.
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not take more capsules than you are meant to.
Driving or using machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how METOPIRONE affects you. METOPIRONE may cause dizziness and drowsiness in some people.• Your child should not ride bicycles, climb trees or play on playground equipment while taking METOPIRONE.
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Store the capsules in their original container in a place where the temperature stays below 25°C and protect from moisture.

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

6. Are there any side effects?

Less serious side effects may include tiredness, headache, being short of breath when exercising, dizziness and looking pale which may be symptoms of anaemia; bleeding or bruising more easily than normal; high or low blood pressure; feeling or being sick; pain in the stomach area; weight loss, salt craving, muscle weakness, mood changes, low blood sugar or menstrual irregularities which may be symptoms of low levels of steroid hormones; fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers which may be symptoms of infection; feeling drowsy or light-headed. Serious side effects may include allergic symptoms (such as a rash, itching or hives on the skin, wheezing or other problems breathing, swollen face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body), shortness of breath or fever which may be a symptom of a serious lung infection. 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.

METOPIRONE®

Active ingredient: *metyrapone*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using METOPIRONE. **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 METOPIRONE.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

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

1. Why am I using METOPIRONE?

METOPIRONE contains the active ingredient *metyrapone*. METOPIRONE is a diagnostic agent. It acts by reducing the production of the adrenal gland hormones, cortisol and corticosterone (which are also called corticosteroids).

METOPIRONE is used to check if ACTH (adrenocorticotrophic hormone), a natural body hormone acting on corticosteroid secretion, is being produced properly.

Changes in the production of ACTH may happen for several reasons, for example, due to changes in the function of the adrenal or pituitary gland, or due to treatment with certain medicines.

2. What should I know before I use METOPIRONE?

Warnings

Do not use METOPIRONE if you:

- suffer from a condition whereby your adrenal glands do not produce enough steroid hormones (cortisol and aldosterone) known as Addison's disease
- are allergic to *metyrapone* or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.

Check with your doctor if you:

- take any medicines for any other condition
- have any other medical conditions, such as:

- impaired liver function or cirrhosis of the liver (a chronic liver disorder leading to progressive loss of liver function)
- an underactive thyroid gland (which can cause weight gain, dry brittle hair, cold intolerance, constipation, forgetfulness, or personality changes)
- an underactive pituitary gland (which can cause an imbalance of some hormones)
- high blood pressure
- Cushing's syndrome (a syndrome that can occur if your body has too much cortisol for a long time)

The results of the test may be affected by some of these medical conditions or you may be at greater 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

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

There is not enough information to recommend its use during pregnancy. If there is an urgent need for you to have the METOPIRONE test, your doctor can advise you about the risks and benefits.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

You should not breastfeed while you are having the METOPIRONE test. There is not enough information to recommend breast-feeding while you are having the test.

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 affect the results of the METOPIRONE test. These include:

- corticosteroid medicines (medicines used to reduce inflammation and affect your immune system)
- any hormone treatments (e.g. tetracosactide, growth hormone, treatments for infertility, the birth control pill and hormone replacement therapy (HRT))
- medicines to treat epilepsy (e.g. phenytoin or barbiturates)
- medicines to treat mental health problems such as anxiety and depression (e.g. amitriptyline, alprazolam and chlorpromazine)
- medicines for your thyroid gland (e.g. levothyroxine, carbimazole, propylthiouracil)
- cyproheptadine, a medicine used for treating allergies

The medicine below could be affected by METOPIRONE:

- paracetamol, a medicine used to treat fever and pain

The medicines below could affect METOPIRONE:

- insulin or oral medicines for the treatment of diabetes

You may need to stop taking some of your medicines during the test. Your doctor will advise you.

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

4. How do I use METOPIRONE?

How much to use

Your doctor will decide how many METOPIRONE capsules you need depending on the type of test you are having and your body weight.

How to take METOPIRONE

- Swallow the capsules whole after meals or with milk or yoghurt.
- Do not chew the capsules.

How the test is done

There are two types of METOPIRONE tests. Your doctor will advise you which one you will have.

1. Short single dose test:

- This test can either be done at home or overnight in hospital.
- At around midnight you will be given the number of METOPIRONE capsules your doctor tells you to. This may be up to maximum 3 grams (12 capsules).
- Eight hours later, a blood sample will be taken.
- After the test you may also have to take a dose of 50 mg cortisone to prevent any unwanted effects on your adrenal glands.

2. Multiple dose test:

- This test is always done in hospital.
- First, your urine is collected for 24 hours.
- Then you will take 500 to 750 mg (2 to 3 capsules) of METOPIRONE every 4 hours for the next 24 hours.
- Your urine will be collected again for the following 24 hours and the results of the urine tests will be compared.

If you use too much METOPIRONE

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

You should immediately:

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

Things you should do

- take any supplementary hormone medicine that your doctor prescribes. METOPIRONE may temporarily lower the amount of hormones produced by your adrenal gland and the medicine will help correct this.
- Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you have had or are about to have METOPIRONE.

Call your doctor straight away if you:

- Develop shortness of breath and fever over hours or days. You may be developing a serious lung infection.
- Have skin rashes and breathing difficulties that may be an allergic reaction.

Things you should not do

- Do not take more capsules than you are meant to.

Driving or using machines

Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how METOPIRONE affects you.

METOPIRONE may cause dizziness and drowsiness in some people.

Your child should not ride bicycles, climb trees or play on playground equipment while taking METOPIRONE.

Looking after your medicine

- Store the capsules in their original container in a place where the temperature stays below 25°C.
- Protect from moisture.

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 it is damaged or the expiry date has passed.

Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

Take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

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
<p>Blood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tiredness, headaches, being short of breath when exercising, dizziness and looking pale which may be symptoms of anaemia bleeding or bruising more easily than normal <p>Circulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> high or low blood pressure <p>Digestive system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> feeling or being sick pain in the stomach area <p>Hormones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tiredness, weight loss, salt craving, muscle weakness, mood changes, low blood sugar or menstrual irregularities which may be symptoms of low levels of steroid hormones <p>Immune system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers which may be symptoms of infection <p>Nervous system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> headache feeling dizzy, drowsy or light-headed 	<p>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.</p>

Serious side effects

Serious side effects	What to do
<p>Lungs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shortness of breath and fever over hours or days which may be the signs of a serious lung infection <p>Hypersensitivity (allergic) reaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> may include rash, itching or hives on the skin, wheezing or other problems breathing, swollen face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body 	<p>Call your doctor straight away or go straight to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital.</p>

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. 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 METOPIRONE contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	metyrapone
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> acetanisole ethyl vanillin gelatin glycerol macrogol 400 macrogol 4000 sodium propyl hydroxybenzoate sodium ethyl hydroxybenzoate titanium dioxide purified water Edible ink Red (PI 3115)
Potential allergens	This medicine contains hydroxybenzoates

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

What METOPIRONE looks like

METOPIRONE capsules are white to yellowish white oblong soft gelatin capsules marked "HRA" on one side in red ink.

Each capsule contains 250 mg metyrapone.

Each HDPE bottle contains 50 capsules.

ARTG number: AUST R 11043

Who distributes METOPIRONE

Chiesi Australia Pty Ltd
Level 7, Suite 1, 500 Bourke Street,
Melbourne, VIC 3000

Email: medinfo.au@chiesi.com

Website: www.chiesi.com.au

This leaflet was prepared in December 2025

®= Registered Trademark