

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 NATULAN?

NATULAN contains the active ingredient procarbazine. NATULAN is used to treat cancer and works by stopping the growth of certain types of cells in the body, including diseased cells.

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

2. What should I know before I use NATULAN?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to NATULAN 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 NATULAN?](#) in the full CMI.

3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with NATULAN 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 NATULAN?

- Your doctor will tell you how to take NATULAN capsules. Your dosage may differ throughout your treatment.
- Capsules should be swallowed whole with a glass of water.

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

5. What should I know while using NATULAN?

Things you should do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using NATULAN.• Avoid eating cheese, yoghurt and bananas while you are using NATULAN.
Things you should not do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not stop taking NATULAN or change the dose without first checking with your doctor.• Do not let yourself run out of medicine over the weekend or on holidays.
Driving or using machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be careful driving or operating dangerous machinery until you know how it affects you, as NATULAN may cause sleepiness and/or dizziness in some people.
Drinking alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You should not drink alcohol while taking NATULAN.
Looking after your medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep NATULAN in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.• Keep out of reach of children.

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

6. Are there any side effects?

Infections, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, and hair loss are common while taking NATULAN, low blood cells are also common, and your doctor will do regular tests to check for these.

Side effects that require urgent medical attention include signs of an allergic reaction, such as chest tightness, difficulty breathing, swelling of face lips and tongue; signs of liver problems such as yellowing of the skin or eyes; fast or irregular heartbeat; seizures; pain, burning, numbness, prickling, or tingling in the hands or feet or on the skin.

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.

NATULAN®

Active ingredient: *procarbazine (as hydrochloride)*

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

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

Where to find information in this leaflet:

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

1. Why am I using NATULAN?

NATULAN contains the active ingredient procarbazine. NATULAN belongs to a group of medicines called anticancer drugs. Anticancer drugs are used to treat cancer and work by stopping the growth of certain types of cells in the body, including diseased cells.

There are many different types of medicines used to treat cancer. NATULAN belongs to a group of medicines known as methylhydrazine compounds.

NATULAN is used to treat certain types of Hodgkins disease (types of cancer that begin in a type of white blood cell that normally fights infection) and other blood cancers.

2. What should I know before I use NATULAN?

Warnings

Do not use NATULAN if:

- you are allergic to procarbazine, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet. Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- You have had any blood disorder with an abnormal number of white blood cells or platelets.
- You have severe kidney or liver disease.
- You are pregnant or you or your partner are planning to become pregnant.
- You are breastfeeding.

Check with your doctor if you:

- Have, or have ever had, any other medical conditions such as liver problems, kidney problems or blood disorders.

- Take 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

Tell your doctor and do not take NATULAN if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Like most medicines used to treat cancer, NATULAN is not recommended for use during pregnancy.

You should use contraception while you are using NATULAN and for at least 6 months after you stop taking NATULAN for men, and 9 months after you stop taking NATULAN for women.

NATULAN may cause birth defects if either the male or female is using it at the time of conception.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed. You must not take NATULAN if you are breastfeeding.

It is not known whether NATULAN passes into breast milk. Therefore, there is a possibility that the breast-fed baby may be affected.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start taking NATULAN.

If you are not sure whether you should have NATULAN, talk to your doctor.

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 NATULAN and cause side effects.

This includes:

- some used to treat anxiety, depression, sleeplessness or other psychological disorders.
- some used to treat symptoms of cough and cold including those bought without a prescription in a pharmacy or supermarket.
- some used to treat epilepsy
- some used to lower blood pressure and treat heart conditions

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

4. How do I use NATULAN?

How much to take

- Your doctor will tell you how to take NATULAN capsules. Your dosage may differ on different days throughout your treatment.
- Your doctor may adjust the dose of NATULAN throughout your treatment based on how your body responds to treatment, and treatment side effects. Please follow your doctor's instructions carefully.
- Follow the instructions provided and use NATULAN until your doctor tells you to stop.

How to take NATULAN

- Capsules should be swallowed whole with a glass of water.
- Do not take any damaged capsules.

If you forget to use NATULAN

NATULAN should be used regularly at the same time each day. If you miss your dose at the usual time, inform your doctor immediately.

If you are unable to contact your doctor and 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, then go back to taking it as soon as you would normally.

Do not double a dose to make up for one you have missed.

If you use too much NATULAN

If you think that you have used too much NATULAN, 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 NATULAN?

Things you should do

Be sure to keep all your doctor's appointment and follow-up appointments so your progress can be checked.

Regular blood tests will be taken during treatment to check your blood cell counts and how your body is responding to treatment.

Remind any doctor or pharmacist you visit that you are using NATULAN. Do not take any other medicines whether they require a prescription or not without first telling your doctor.

Food and drink

Natulan may react with alcohol and certain foods.

Avoid cheese, yoghurt, bananas, and other foods high in sympathomimetic amines during treatment.

Your doctor or pharmacist can provide more information on foods to avoid while taking NATULAN.

Call your doctor straight away if you:

- Are about to start any new medicine.
- Plan to have surgery that needs a general anaesthetic

Things you should not do

- Do not stop taking NATULAN or change the dose without first checking with your doctor. Do not let yourself run out of medicine over the weekend or on holidays.
- Do not give NATULAN to anyone else even if they have the same condition as you.
- Do not use NATULAN to treat other complaints unless your doctor says to.

Driving or using machines

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

NATULAN may cause dizziness, sleepiness, confusion and/or vision changes in some people. Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how NATULAN affects you.

Drinking alcohol

Tell your doctor if you drink alcohol.

You may find that you develop an intolerance to alcohol, therefore you should not drink alcohol while taking NATULAN.

Looking after your medicine

Store Natulan below 25°C.

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

Keep NATULAN 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 windowsills.

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 group	What to do
<p>Gut and digestion-related</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of appetite • nausea • vomiting • constipation • diarrhoea • stomach pain <p>Skin and hair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hair loss, this is reversible in most cases • skin rashes and/or itching <p>Psychological related</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • difficulty fall asleep or staying asleep • depression or mood changes • confusion <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dizziness • headache • bone, joint, or muscle pain • unsteady walking, coordination issues • fatigue 	<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>Signs of an allergic reaction such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shortness of breath • wheezing or difficulty breathing • swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body • rash, itching or hives on the skin (severe allergic reaction) • yellowing of the skin/eyes <p>Signs of infection such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fever • chills, • sore throat • mouth ulcers • pain or burning on urination <p>Signs of unusual bleeding such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bleeding or bruising more easily than normal • nose bleeds • rash of small reddish-purple spots on your skin • blood in your stool or urine 	<p>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.</p>

<p>Signs of liver problems such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nausea • vomiting • diarrhoea • abdominal pain • loss of appetite with yellowing of the skin and eyes • bleeding • fatigue • weakness • confusion • passing little or no urine <p>Signs of heart problems such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shortness of breath • swelling of the feet or legs due to fluid build-up • sensation of a fast or irregular heartbeat • chest pain <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • muscle pain • seizures • vision changes • pain, burning, numbness, prickling, or tingling in the hands or feet or on the skin • uncontrollable shaking of a part of your body 	<p>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.</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. 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 NATULAN contains

Active ingredient (main ingredient)	Procarbazine (as hydrochloride)
Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)	Mannitol Maize starch Purified talc

	Gelatin Magnesium stearate Iron oxide yellow (172) Titanium dioxide (171)
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Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.

What NATULAN looks like

NATULAN capsules come in packs of 50 capsules in a carton of foil blisters and are pale yellow in colour.

NATULAN capsules are gluten free.

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Who distributes NATULAN

Link Medical Products Pty Ltd

5 Apollo Street,

Warriewood NSW 2102

Australia

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