

Your medication

Clonazepam (Klonopin)



IH-V-98
R.D.3/03
Pg. 1 of 2

Why do I take this medicine?

- Clonazepam helps control seizures.
- It also helps even out your mood and lessen feelings of irritation or jumpiness.

How do I take this medicine?

1. Take this medicine just like your doctor told you. **Do not stop taking your clonazepam unless the doctor tells you how to stop.**
2. Take this medicine with food or milk. This might keep you from getting an upset stomach.
3. **Do not miss any doses of your medicine.** If you do miss a dose take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. **Do not take two doses at the same time.**

What common side effects may I have?

You may feel sleepy when you first start taking clonazepam. This effect should go away as you get used to the medicine.

This medicine may cause you to become dizzy or sleepy.

Call your doctor if:

- you get a rash
- you feel unusually sleepy
- have mood changes
- have more saliva
- feel different than usual

(over)

What special things do I need to know?

- **Never suddenly stop taking clonazepam** unless your doctor tells you to. Stopping the clonazepam suddenly may cause you to have seizures.
- Clonazepam is a controlled substance. This means that your prescription is good only for 6 months. Before that you will have to see your doctor or come in to the clinic for a new prescription.
- **Before** taking any other medicines (prescription or those you can buy without a prescription) talk to your doctor.
- Tell your doctor if you are **allergic to any medicine**.
- **Do not** drink alcohol while you are taking this medicine. Beer, wine, or hard liquor may make you more dizzy or sleepy.
- Make sure to **keep your appointments** for doctor visits and blood tests.
- If you are sleepy or dizzy stand up slowly after you have been sitting or lying down. If you are dizzy or sleepy, **do not** drive or do other jobs where you need to be alert.
- **Do not** share this medicine with anyone.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children. Even a small amount of this medicine may make a child very sick or cause death. Keep all medicines in a safe place where children cannot get them.
- If you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breast-feeding, tell your doctor **before** you take this medicine. **This medicine may have harmful effects on unborn babies**. If you are not using birth control, be sure and tell your doctor.
- All medicines can cause side effects. Usually, these side effects will get better after a few days. If they do not, you should tell your doctor. The doctor can make some changes in the medicine. **Do not** stop taking the medicine unless the doctor tells you to. Side effects **do not** mean that you are allergic to the medicine.