

GENOX

10mg and 20mg tablets

Tamoxifen citrate



What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about GENOX. It does not contain all the information available on this medicine. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist. All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of using GENOX against the benefits expected it will have for you. If you have concerns about using this medicine ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

What GENOX is used for and how it works

Each GENOX 10 tablet contains 10mg of tamoxifen and each GENOX 20 tablet contains 20mg of tamoxifen.

Your GENOX tablets contain tamoxifen citrate. It belongs to a group of medicines known as non-steroidal anti-oestrogens.

GENOX is normally used to treat breast cancer and endometrial cancer. It works by blocking the effects of oestrogen, a female hormone. It prevents tumour cell growth.

Your doctor, however, may prescribe GENOX for another purpose. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why GENOX has been prescribed for you.

There is no evidence that GENOX is addictive.

Before you use GENOX

When you must not use it

Do not use GENOX if:

- You are allergic to tamoxifen or any other ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.
- You are pregnant.

Before you use it

Tell your doctor if:

- You have had an allergic reaction to any medicine that you have taken previously to treat your current condition.
- You think you might be pregnant or you are breast feeding.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines.

Some medicines that may interfere with GENOX include:

- Medicines used to prevent blood clots (anticoagulants) such as warfarin
- Other medicines used to treat cancer.

These medicines may be affected by GENOX or may affect how well GENOX works. You may need different amounts of your medicines or you may need to take different medicines.

How to take GENOX properly

How much to take

Your doctor will tell you how much GENOX you need to take each day. It is important that you take GENOX as directed by your doctor. Do not take more than the recommended dose.

The usual daily dose for adults and elderly patients is 20mg to 40mg.

GENOX is not recommended for use in children.

If you forget a dose

If you miss a dose, just take the next dose when it is due. Do not take more than one dose at a time to make up for missed doses.

Taking your medicine at the same time each day may help you to remember to take it regularly. If you have trouble remembering to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

While you are taking GENOX

If you are going to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking GENOX.

Tell your doctor that you are taking GENOX if your doctor is going to prescribe for you another type of medicine to take at the same time as taking GENOX.

Tell your doctor if you develop a skin rash or hives, or you become pregnant while taking GENOX.

Do not take more tablets than your doctor tells you to.

Do not stop taking GENOX or change the dose without first checking with your doctor.

Do not give this medicine to anyone else, even if their symptoms seem similar to yours.

There is no evidence that GENOX impairs your ability to drive or operate machinery.

Side effects

Tell your pharmacist or doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking GENOX.

All medicines can have some unwanted effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects.

Tell your pharmacist or doctor if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- Hot flushes
- Vaginal bleeding
- Vaginal discharge and itching of the vagina
- Stomach or bowel problems (e.g. nausea, diarrhoea, indigestion)
- Lightheadedness

- Skin rash
- Fluid retention
- Unusual hair loss or thinning.

These are the more common side effects of GENOX.

Tell your doctor immediately if you notice any of the following:

- Abnormal vaginal bleeding (e.g. bleeding between periods, heavier than normal bleeding and bleeding after menopause).
- Changes in vaginal discharge.
- Lower stomach pain or discomfort.
- Problems with vision (e.g. blurred vision lasting more than 2 weeks and change in colour vision).
- Frequent infections (e.g. fever, severe chills, sore throat or mouth ulcers).
- Yellowing of the skin and eyes, and dark coloured urine.

These are rare side effects but most of them are serious. You may need urgent medical attention.

Stop taking GENOX and tell your doctor immediately or go to emergency at your nearest hospital if you get a blood clot. Some of the signs which you may experience are:

- An unusual cough
- Severe pain in the chest which may reach the left arm
- Breathlessness
- Any unusual, severe or prolonged headache or migraine attack
- Partial or complete loss of vision, or double vision
- Slurring or speech disability
- Sudden changes to your hearing, sense of smell, or taste
- Dizziness or fainting
- Weakness or numbness in any part of your body
- Severe pain in your stomach
- Severe pain or swelling in either of your legs.

Blood clot is a very serious side effect. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

The list of side effects mentioned above is not complete. If you should suffer from any of these side effects or any other undesired effect please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

In case of overdose

You should only take the number of tablets that you have been told.

Immediately contact your doctor or the National Poisons Information Centre (0800 POISON or 0800 764 766) or go to the Accident and Emergency department at your nearest hospital, if you think that you may have taken too much, or if anyone else has taken any GENOX by mistake. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention. Take the pack of GENOX with you if you can.

Keep telephone numbers for these places handy.

Storage conditions

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date shown on the pack or if the packaging shows signs of tampering.

Keep your GENOX tablets in the blister pack until it is time to take them.

Store below 25°C and out of reach of children. Avoid exposure to heat and moisture.

GENOX tablets should be protected from light.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking GENOX or it has passed the expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with the remaining medicine.

List of other ingredients

Your medicine is in the form of white, round tablets in blister packs each containing 30 tablets or 100 tablets.

Each GENOX tablet contains either 10mg or 20mg of the active ingredient tamoxifen.

The tablets also contain mannitol, maize starch, purified water, croscarmellose sodium and magnesium stearate.

If you want to know more

Should you have any questions regarding this product, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Who supplies this medicine

Distributed in New Zealand by:

Mylan New Zealand Ltd,
PO Box 11183,
Ellerslie,
Auckland.

Telephone: (09) 579 2792

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