















Olanzapine

This is an easy way to read this word...o-lan-za-peen

	<p>What is this leaflet for?</p> <p>This leaflet is to help you understand more about your medicine.</p> <p>Your medicine could look different to the photographs on this leaflet.</p>
	<p>What is the medicine called?</p> <p>Olanzapine is also called Zyprexa or Zyprexa Velotab.</p> <p>You will see 1 of these names on your prescription.</p> <p>Olanzapine will come as tablets.</p>
	<p>What is olanzapine for?</p> <p>Olanzapine could be used for different reasons.</p> <p>Olanzapine is used for schizophrenia and mania.</p> <p>Olanzapine is sometimes used for people who have behaviour problems.</p> <p>For example, it could...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• help if you are anxious• help calm you down• help you feel less angry• help you feel less tense.
	<p>What will olanzapine do?</p> <p>Olanzapine should help you feel calm and relaxed.</p> <p>It could take some time for olanzapine to have its full effect.</p> <p>This effect should reduce your behaviour problem.</p>

	<p>For example, it may...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• help you control your temper• help you stop hurting yourself• help you stop breaking things.
   	<p>What are the side effects of olanzapine?</p> <p>Side effects are effects medicine can have on your body that are not wanted.</p> <p>Not everyone taking a medicine will get side effects.</p> <p>Many side effects will go away with time.</p> <p>Many side effects are rare.</p> <p>You might want to talk to your doctor if you have any side effects.</p> <p>For example, these are some side effects of olanzapine...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• feeling sleepy or sluggish• feeling dizzy when you stand up• putting on weight• a dry mouth• constipation• more sensitive to the sun• swollen ankles• headache.

 	<p>Some side effects are more serious.</p> <p>You should tell someone straight away if...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you feel stiff• you feel shaky• you feel faint• you have a rash on your skin or your skin looks blotchy• your heart beats faster than normal.
  	<h3>How and when do I take olanzapine?</h3> <p>The label on your olanzapine packet should tell you when to take your medicine.</p> <p>The label should tell you how much medicine you should take.</p> <p>You should follow these instructions carefully.</p> <p>You should swallow your tablet with water.</p> <p>Some types of olanzapine tablet can be dissolved on the tongue or in a drink. This type of olanzapine is called Velotab.</p> <p>If you have this type of olanzapine, you should let the tablet dissolve on the tongue and swallow or mix it in water, orange juice, apple juice, milk or coffee, but not cola.</p> <p>You should ask your pharmacist if you are unsure about what type of olanzapine you have.</p> <p>If you forget to take your medicine, tell someone straight away.</p>

	<p>You should carry on taking your medicine even if you feel better unless your doctor asks you to stop.</p> <p>You should talk to your doctor before you stop taking your medicine.</p>
	<p>What do I need to know about olanzapine?</p> <p>Drinking alcohol whilst taking olanzapine could make you feel drowsy.</p> <p>Some medicines do not work well together.</p> <p>You should tell your doctor about any other medicines you are taking.</p>
	<p>Where can I get more information?</p> <p>This leaflet does not tell you everything about olanzapine.</p> <p>If you want more information about olanzapine...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• you can ask your pharmacist, doctor or nurse for more information• you can ask your carer to get more information• you can phone NHS Direct on 0845 4647• you can phone a medicine information helpline on 020 3228 2999.

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It can be downloaded from www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk.

The information in this leaflet came from...

- the British National Formulary (www.bnf.org)
- the United Kingdom Psychiatric Pharmacy Group Patient Advisory Leaflets (www.ukppg.org.uk/ukppg-pals.html)
- Miriam Wilcher's Handbook for Carers of People with Learning Disabilities.

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Some of the pictures are from the CHANGE Health Picture Bank, CHANGE, Units 19/20, Unity Business Centre, 26 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS7 1AB.

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