Methylphenidate extended-release oral suspension
MEDICATION GUIDE

What is this medicine?
METHYLPHENIDATE (meth il FEN i date) is a stimulant medicine. It is used to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

This medicine may be used for other purposes; ask your health care provider or pharmacist if you have questions.

How should I use this medicine?
Take this medicine by mouth. Follow the directions on the prescription label. Shake well before using. Use a specially marked spoon or container to measure each dose. Ask your pharmacist if you do not have one. Household spoons are not accurate. You can take it with or without food. If it upsets your stomach, take it with food. You should take this medicine in the morning. Take your medicine at regular intervals. Do not take your medicine more often than directed. Do not stop taking except on your doctor’s advice.

A special MedGuide will be given to you by the pharmacist with each prescription and refill. Be sure to read this information carefully each time.

Talk to your pediatrician regarding the use of this medicine in children. While this drug may be prescribed for children as young as 6 years of age for selected conditions, precautions do apply.

Overdosage: If you think you’ve taken too much of this medicine contact a poison control center or emergency room at once.

What if I miss a dose?
If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you can. If it is almost time for your next dose, take only that dose. Do not take double or extra doses.

What should I tell my health care provider before I take this medicine?
They need to know if you have any of these conditions:
• Family history of suicide
• Glaucoma
• Heart condition or recent history of a heart attack
• High blood pressure
• History of a drug or alcohol abuse problem
• Liver disease
• Mental illness, including anxiety, bipolar disorder, depression, mania or schizophrenia
• Motor tics, family history or diagnosis of Tourette’s syndrome
• Overactive thyroid
• Seizures
• Taken an MAOI like Carbex, Eldepryl, Marplan, Nardil, or Parnate in last 14 days
• An unusual or allergic reaction to methylphenidate, other medicines, foods, dyes, or preservatives
• Pregnant or trying to get pregnant
• Breast-feeding

What may interact with this medicine?
Do not take this medicine with any of the following medications:
• Atomoxetine
• Lithium
• MAOIs like Carbex, Eldepryl, Marplan, Nardil, and Parnate
• Other stimulant medicines for attention disorders, weight loss, or to stay awake
• Procarbazine

This medicine may also interact with the following medications:
• Caffeine
• Certain medicines for blood pressure
• Certain medicines for depression, anxiety, or psychotic
disturbances
- Certain medicines for seizures like carbamazepine, phenobarbital, phenytoin
- Cold or allergy medicines
- Warfarin

This list may not describe all possible interactions. Give your health care provider a list of all the medicines, herbs, non-prescription drugs, or dietary supplements you use. Also tell them if you smoke, drink alcohol, or use illegal drugs. Some items may interact with your medicine.

What side effects may I notice from receiving this medicine?

Side effects that you should report to your doctor or health care professional as soon as possible:
- Allergic reactions like skin rash, itching or hives, swelling of the face, lips, or tongue
- Anxiety or severe nervousness
- Chest pain or chest tightness
- Eye pain
- Fast, irregular heartbeat
- Fever, or hot, dry skin
- High blood pressure
- Males: prolonged or painful erection
- Uncontrollable head, mouth, neck, arm, or leg movements
- Unusual bleeding or bruising

Side effects that usually do not require medical attention [Report these to your doctor or health care professional if they continue or are bothersome.]:
- Headache
- Stomach upset
- Trouble sleeping
- Weight loss

This list may not describe all possible side effects. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I watch for while using this medicine?

Tell your healthcare professional if your symptoms do not start to get better or if they get worse.

Visit your doctor or health care professional for regular checks on your progress. This prescription requires that you follow special procedures with your doctor and pharmacy. You will need to have a new written prescription from your doctor or health care professional every time you need a refill.

This medicine may affect your concentration, or hide signs of tiredness. Until you know how this drug affects you, do not drive, ride a bicycle, use machinery, or do anything that needs mental alertness. If you are having trouble sleeping, and this continues to be a regular and bothersome side effect, contact your health care provider to discuss your options.

Tell your doctor or health care professional if this medicine loses its effects, or if you feel you need to take more than the prescribed amount. Do not change the dosage without talking to your doctor or health care professional. Do not suddenly stop your medicine.

For males, contact your doctor or health care professional right away if you have an erection that lasts longer than 4 hours or if it becomes painful. This may be a sign of a serious problem and must be treated right away to prevent permanent damage.

Decreased appetite is a common side effect when starting this medicine. Eating small, frequent meals or snacks can help. Talk to your doctor if you continue to have poor eating habits. Height and weight growth of a child taking this medicine will be monitored closely.

If you are scheduled for any surgery, tell your healthcare provider that you are taking this medicine. You may need to stop taking this medicine before the procedure.

Tell your doctor or healthcare professional right away if you notice unexplained wounds on your fingers and toes while taking this medicine. You should also tell your healthcare provider if you experience numbness or pain, changes in the skin color, or sensitivity to temperature in your fingers or toes.

Where should I keep my medicine?

Keep out of the reach of children. This medicine can be abused. Keep your medicine in a safe place to protect it from theft. Do not share this medicine with anyone. Selling or giving away this medicine is dangerous and against the law.

Store between 15 and 30 degrees C [59 to 86 degrees F]. Throw away any unused medicine after the expiration date.

NOTE: This sheet is a summary. It may not cover all possible information. If you have questions about this medicine, talk to your doctor, pharmacist, or health care provider.