Polysaccharide-Iron Complex tablets or capsules

MEDICATION GUIDE

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.

What is this medicine?
POLYSACCHARIDE-IRON COMPLEX (pol ee SAK uh rahyd - ahy ern KOM pleks) is an iron supplement. This medicine is used to treat anemia caused by low iron levels.

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 with a glass of water. Follow the directions on the prescription label. It is best to take iron on an empty stomach at least 30 minutes before or 2 hours after food. If this medicine causes stomach upset, you may take it with food. Take your medicine at regular intervals. Do not take your medicine more often than directed.

Talk to your pediatrician regarding the use of this medicine in children. Special care may be needed.

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

NOTE: This medicine is only for you. Do not share this medicine with others.

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:
• Hemolytic anemia
• Iron overload (hemochromatosis, hemosiderosis)
• Liver disease
• Stomach or bowel disease
• An unusual or allergic reaction to iron, 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:
• Deferoxamine
• Dimercaprol
• Iron dextran
• Other iron supplements
• Sodium ferric gluconate complex

This medicine may also interact with the following medications:
• Antacids
• Certain antibiotics
• Levodopa
• Medicines for osteoporosis like alendronate, etidronate, risenedronate and tiludronate
• Medicines for stomach problems like cimetidine, famotidine, omeprazole, lansoprazole
• Methyldopa
• Mycophenolate
• Penicillamine
• Thyroid hormones
• Zinc

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
- Blue lips, nails, or palms
- Drowsiness
- Pale or clammy skin
- Seizures (convulsions)
- Stomach pain
- Vomiting
- Weak, fast, or irregular heartbeat

Side effects that usually do not require medical attention (report to your doctor or health care professional if they continue or are bothersome):

- Constipation
- Indigestion
- Nausea or stomach upset

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?

You should only use this medicine under the supervision of your health care professional. If you are told by your health care provider that you need iron supplements, you should visit your health care professional for regular blood checks. Do not use this medicine longer than prescribed, and do not take a higher dose than recommended. Long-term use may cause excess iron to build-up in the body.

This medicine can cause temporary staining of the teeth. Mix in water and drink through a straw to prevent staining of the teeth. Stains can be reduced or removed by brushing the teeth with baking soda.

Do not take this medicine with dairy products or antacids. If you need to take an antacid, take it 2 hours after a dose of iron.

Where should I keep my medicine?

Keep out of the reach of children.

Store at room temperature between 15 and 30 degrees C (59 and 86 degrees F). Keep container tightly closed. Throw away any unused medicine after the expiration date.

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