




Are there any possible side-effects?

We use medicines to make our children better, but sometimes they have other effects that we don't want (side-effects).

Side-effects you must do something about

 If your child is short of breath or is wheezing, or their face, lips or tongue start to swell, or they develop a rash, they may be allergic to carbimazole. Take your child to hospital or call an ambulance straight away.

 If your child develops a fever (temperature above 38°C), sore throat or mouth ulcers, or unusual bruising or bleeding, or feels unusually tired, contact your doctor straight away.

 If your child has muscle pains or you notice yellowing of their skin or eyes, contact your doctor.

Other side-effects you need to know about

Your child may get some of the following side effects with carbimazole. Any side-effects that do occur are likely to be mild and wear off after a week or so. If they are still a problem after 2 weeks, or you are worried, contact your doctor but continue to give carbimazole.

- Your child may feel sick (nausea) or have symptoms of mild stomach upset. Giving the medicine with some food or milk may help.
- Headache, or painful joints – it is safe to give ibuprofen and/or paracetamol.
- Changes in taste – eating citrus fruits (e.g. oranges), taking sips of water or sucking on sugar-free boiled sweets may help.
- Your child may develop itchiness or a mild skin rash – try applying a moisturising cream or itch relief cream. If this doesn't help, contact your doctor, in case your child is allergic to carbimazole.
- Your child's hair may become thinner and some may fall out. If this happens, discuss it with your doctor at your next visit.

These effects usually occur within the first 8 weeks of treatment and tend to improve with time.

There may, sometimes, be other side-effects that are not listed above. If you notice anything unusual and are concerned, contact your doctor. You can report any suspected side-effects to a UK safety scheme at <http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard>. More information on side-effects can be found in the following leaflet <http://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/side-effects-childrens-medicines>

Can other medicines be given at the same time as carbimazole?

- You can give your child medicines that contain paracetamol or ibuprofen, unless your doctor has told you not to.
- Carbimazole should not be taken with some medicines

that you get on prescription. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any other medicines your child is taking **before** giving carbimazole.

- Check with your doctor or pharmacist **before** giving any other medicines to your child. This includes herbal or complementary medicines.

Is there anything else I need to know about carbimazole?

Your doctor will test your child's blood regularly, to measure the levels of thyroid hormone and make sure that your child is on the right dose of carbimazole.

If your daughter thinks that she may be pregnant, it is important that she sees her doctor as soon as possible. She should keep taking her medicine until she sees her doctor.

General advice about medicines

- Try to give medicines at about the same times each day, to help you remember.
- If you are not sure a medicine is working, contact your doctor but continue to give the medicine as usual in the meantime. Do not give extra doses, as you may do harm.
- Only give this medicine to your child. Never give it to anyone else, even if their condition appears to be the same, as this could do harm.
- If you think someone else may have taken the medicine by accident, contact your doctor for advice.
- Make sure that the medicine you have at home has not reached the 'best before' or 'use by' date on the packaging. Give old medicines to your pharmacist to dispose of.

Where should I keep this medicine?

- Keep the medicine in a cupboard, away from heat and direct sunlight. It does not need to be kept in the fridge.
- Make sure children cannot see or reach the medicine.
- Keep the medicine in the container it came in.

Who to contact for more information

Your child's doctor, pharmacist or nurse will be able to give you more information about carbimazole and about other medicines used to treat hyperthyroidism.

You can also get useful information from:

(JODG16□
7HOKVN _____
6ERWODG16□
7HOKVMFRW _____
:DOHV16UHFV
7HOSSHUPWHRUWHH□
KVGUHFVDOHVKN
1RUWKHUWHODG1UHFV
GUHFVJRYN _____

www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk

WellChild 
the national charity for sick children

Version 1, July 2016. © NPPG, RCPCH and WellChild 2011, all rights reserved. Reviewed by: July 2019.

The primary source for the information in this leaflet is the British National Formulary for Children. For details on any other sources used for this leaflet, please contact us through our website, www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk

We take great care to make sure that the information in this leaflet is correct and up-to-date. However, medicines can be used in different ways for different patients. It is important that you ask the advice of your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about something. This leaflet is about the use of these medicines in the UK, and may not apply to other countries. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), the Neonatal and Paediatric Pharmacists Group (NPPG), WellChild and the contributors and editors cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of information, omissions of information, or any actions that may be taken as a consequence of reading this leaflet.