



Glycopyrronium to reduce saliva production


This leaflet is for parents and carers about how to use this medicine in children. Our information sometimes differs from that provided by the manufacturers, because their information is usually for adults. Please read this leaflet carefully. Keep it somewhere safe so that you can read it again.

Name of medicine

Glycopyrronium

Brand names: Sialanar, Assico

Tablets and liquid medicine are also made by several different manufacturers and are labelled as glycopyrronium bromide, glycopyrronium or glycopyrrolate – these are the same medicine.

 **Brands of this medicine may differ so it is important that your child always has the same one. Keep a record of which brand your child has. If you are given a different one, check how much you should give your child.**

Why is it important for my child to take this medicine?

Children with some conditions that affect the nerves or muscles in the face have difficulty swallowing the saliva produced in their mouth. This can lead to dribbling and drooling. Glycopyrronium bromide helps to reduce the amount of saliva that is produced.

What is glycopyrronium available as?

- **Liquid medicine:** 1 mg per 5ml or 2 mg per 5 mL (Sialanar contains 1.6 mg glycopyrronium per 5 mL)
- **Tablets:** 1 mg, 2 mg

When should I give glycopyrronium?

Glycopyrronium can be given **once, twice or three times** a day. Your doctor will tell you how often to give it.

- If given **once** each day, this can be in the morning or the evening.
- If given **twice** each day, give one dose in the morning and one in the evening. Ideally these times are 10–12 hours apart. For example, this could be between 7 and 8 am and between 7 and 8 pm.
- If given **three times each day**, these should be 6 hours apart, depending on what time your child wakes up and goes to bed. For example, this could be between 7 and 8 am, between 1 and 2 pm, and between 7 and 8 pm.

Give the medicine at about the same time(s) each day so that this becomes part of your child's daily routine, which will help you to remember.

Glycopyrronium should be given at least 1 hour before food or 2 hours after food. If this is difficult, the gap between giving the medicine and food should be similar each time. High-fat food should be avoided.

How much should I give?

Your doctor will work out the amount of medicine (the dose) that is right for your child. The dose will be shown on the medicine label.

- Your doctor will probably suggest that your child starts on a low dose. They may then increase the dose over a period of days or weeks, depending how your child responds to the medicine. If you are not sure how much to give, check with your doctor or pharmacist.



It is important that you follow your doctor's instructions about how much to give.



Different brands may contain different amounts of glycopyrronium. If you are given a different brand, read the label carefully so you know how much to give.

How should I give it?



Liquid medicine: shake the medicine well. Measure out the right amount using an oral syringe or medicine spoon. You can get these from your pharmacist. Do not use a kitchen teaspoon as it will not give the right amount. Make sure your child takes it all straight away.



Tablets: should be swallowed with a glass of water or fruit squash. Your child should not chew the tablets.

Glycopyrronium can be given via feeding tube. Information on giving medicines via a gastrostomy or nasogastric tube can be found here: www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/advice-guides/giving-medicines

When should the medicine start to work?

The medicine starts to work straight away. However, because the dose is usually increased gradually, it may take some weeks before you see the full effect.

What if my child is sick (vomits)?

- If your child is sick less than 30 minutes after having a dose of glycopyrronium, give them the same dose again.
- If your child is sick more than 30 minutes after having a dose of glycopyrronium, you do not need to give them another dose. Wait until the next normal dose.
- If your child is sick again, seek advice from your doctor, pharmacist or hospital. They will decide what to do based on your child's condition and the medicine involved.

What if I forget to give it?

Do not give the missed dose. Give the next dose as usual.



Never give a double dose of glycopyrronium.

What if I give too much?



It may be dangerous to give too much glycopyrronium.

If you think you may have given your child too much glycopyrronium, contact your doctor or local NHS services (details at end of leaflet) or take your child to hospital.

Have the medicine and its packaging with you if you telephone for advice, or take it with you to the hospital, even if it is empty. This will be useful to the doctor.

Are there any possible side-effects?

We use medicines to make our children better but sometimes they cause 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 glycopyrronium. Call an ambulance straight away.



If your child is constipated (has difficulty doing a poo) or cannot pass urine (have a wee) when they need to, contact your doctor for advice. Do not give any more glycopyrronium.



If your child has a high temperature (over 38C), a chest infection or if you notice any changes in behaviour, contact your doctor. Do not give any more glycopyrronium.

Other side-effects you need to know about

Your child may get some of the following side-effects when they first start taking glycopyrronium. These should wear off after a few days and will stop when your child stops taking the medicine. If you are worried, speak to your child's doctor but continue to give glycopyrronium.

- Your child may feel sick or vomit.
- They may feel dizzy, tired or sleepy.
- Your child may have a dry mouth. Eating citrus fruits (e.g. oranges) and taking sips of water may help.
- Your child may get dry eyes. You can use lubricating eye drops to help with this. They may also get blurred vision.
- Children may sweat less when taking glycopyrronium. Make sure they drink extra fluid so that they don't overheat, particularly in hot weather. During long periods of dry weather, contact your doctor for advice about whether to reduce the dose of glycopyrronium. Do not reduce the dose without discussing with your doctor.

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

- You can give your child medicines that contain ibuprofen or paracetamol, unless your doctor has told you not to.

- 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 this medicine?

- Because glycopyrronium reduces the amount of saliva produced, your child's teeth may be at risk of harm. Brush your child's teeth as usual twice a day (morning and evening); there is no need to brush more often than this. Make sure your child's teeth are checked regularly by a dentist.
- You may be given a "patient alert card", which explains about the side-effects of glycopyrronium and what to do about them. The card also provides a table for your doctor to record how much medicine your child should have. Give this card to anyone who treats your child.

General advice about medicines

- Try to give medicines at about the same times each day, to help you remember.
- 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.
- Make sure that you always have enough medicine. Order a new prescription at least 2 weeks before you will run out.
- 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 doctor, pharmacist or nurse will be able to give you more information about glycopyrronium and other medicines used to reduce saliva production. You can also get useful information from:

England: NHS 111

Tel 111 www.nhs.uk

Scotland: NHS 24

Tel 111 www.nhs24.com

Wales: NHS 111 Wales

Tel 111 www.111.wales.nhs.uk

Northern Ireland: NI Direct

www.nidirect.gov.uk

www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk