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MIRTAZAPINE

Brand names: Remeron®, Remeron
Soltab®

What is this medication used for?

Mirtazapine is an antidepressant medication. It may be used to help aid sleep in the older adults.

How should I take this medication?

Mirtazapine is usually taken by mouth at bedtime. It may be taken with or without food.

It is available as a swallowable tablet (Remeron®) or an orally-disintegrating tablet (Remeron Soltab®).

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and wait until your next regularly scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up for the missed dose.

Do not take any new medication (prescription or over-the-counter) without checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.

What are the side effects of this medication?

Mirtazapine may cause some people to become drowsy or less alert than they are normally. *Make sure you know how you react to mirtazapine before you drive, use machines, or do anything else that could be dangerous if you are not alert.*

- Constipation
- Dizziness
- Dry mouth
- Increased appetite; weight gain

Other side effects not listed may also occur. Check with your physician if you notice any other effects.

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience any of the following:

- Mental changes including abnormal thinking, agitation, anxiety, confusion
- Shortness of breath
- Symptoms of an allergic reaction such as: hives, itching, swelling of the face, wheezing, difficulty breathing or swallowing.

Special Instructions:

For some teenagers and young adults, mirtazapine can increase thoughts of suicide. Tell your doctor right away if you start to feel more depressed or have thoughts about hurting yourself or others. Report any unusual thoughts or behaviors that trouble you, especially if they are new or get worse quickly. Make sure the doctor knows if you have trouble sleeping, get upset easily, have a big increase in energy, or start to act reckless. Also tell the doctor if you have sudden or strong feelings, such as feeling nervous, angry, restless, violent, or scared. Let the doctor know if you or anyone in your family has bipolar disorder (manic-depressive disorder) or have tried to commit suicide.

You should avoid alcohol when taking mirtazapine.

Your doctor may perform periodic blood tests to make sure that mirtazapine is not harmful to you. Make sure to keep these appointments and complete the blood tests.

Mirtazapine can interact with other medications, especially other antidepressants or medications that act on the central nervous system.

Talk with your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about drug interactions with mirtazapine.

This information is only a summary. Please contact your healthcare professional for additional information about this medication.

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