

XADAGO (safinamide)

A patient's guide



If you have been prescribed Xadago, this booklet contains useful information about your medicine. Please make sure to also refer to the patient information leaflet which can be found inside the packaging of your medicine.

What is Xadago?

Xadago is a monoamine oxidase type B (MAO-B) inhibitor.

MAO-B is an enzyme which breaks down several chemicals in the brain, including dopamine.

The reduction of dopamine in the brain is what causes the symptoms of Parkinson's.

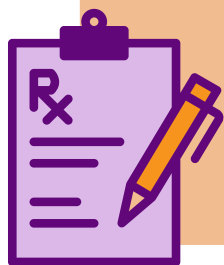
Xadago inhibits the breakdown of dopamine.



Why have I been prescribed Xadago?

Over time, people with Parkinson's often need more than one drug to control their symptoms, especially when the symptoms are fluctuating.

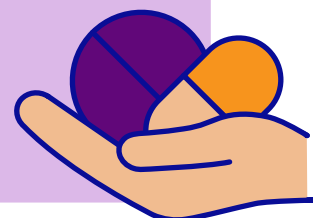
Your doctor will have prescribed Xadago to take with levodopa or in combination with other medications for Parkinson's to try to improve your fluctuating symptoms.



Why do I need to take different drugs to control my Parkinson's?

Some of the drugs prescribed for Parkinson's work by replacing some of the lost dopamine in the brain and others work to prevent the breakdown of dopamine.

Several medications are often prescribed in combination to try to gain control of some of the motor symptoms (such as movement disorder) and non-motor symptoms (such as sleep disturbance) and maximise the amount of time in a day that the symptoms are minimal.



What are the benefits of taking Xadago?



Xadago can help to improve the amount of time throughout the day that you experience minimal symptoms.

It tends not to increase troublesome dyskinesia (jerky movements) that may occur after taking levodopa medication for some time.

How often do I need to take Xadago?

You need to take Xadago once a day.

If you forget to take a dose, just take your next dose when it is time to do so. You shouldn't try to squeeze your missed dose in.



Can I drive when taking Xadago?

Xadago can make some people feel sleepy or dizzy.

You should be cautious about driving or operating machinery whilst under Xadago treatment, until you are reasonably certain that Xadago does not affect you in this way.



Are there any restrictions about what I can eat or drink while I am taking this medication?

There are no known food or drink interactions with Xadago. You can take it with or without food.



What if I feel unwell after taking Xadago?



If you feel unwell after taking any medication you should report it to your doctor or Parkinson's nurse specialist as soon as possible.

What are the side effects of taking Xadago?

As with all medicines, Xadago can cause side effects, although not every patient experiences them. Some of the more commonly reported side effects after taking Xadago are:

- Difficulty sleeping
- Jerky involuntary movements (dyskinesia)
- Feeling sleepy
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Worsening of Parkinson's symptoms
- A clouding of the lens of the eye (cataract)
- A fall in blood pressure when standing up
- Nausea
- Falling



You should always make sure that you read the leaflet that comes with your medication. If you have questions about your medication or are experiencing any side effects that you think may be related to Xadago, please discuss these with your healthcare provider.

Further information is available from:

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Hemel Hempstead
HP2 4TZ
United Kingdom

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Telephone: +44 (0) 1243 859000

Parkinson's UK

Parkinson's UK is the main Parkinson's support and research charity in the UK.

They provide guidance for people living with Parkinson's, including information about help available, local and online support groups and research updates.

Website: www.parkinsons.org.uk

Email: hello@parkinsons.org.uk

Telephone: 0808 800 0303