

Consumer Medicine Information

Pharmacy Choice® Paracetamol and Codeine Phosphate Tablets

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS. It does not contain all the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have benefits and risks. Your doctor or pharmacist has weighed the benefits against the risks of you taking this medicine.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may want to read it again.

What is PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN TABLETS

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS is the brand name of this medicine. PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS contains two analgesic medicines that are used to block pain. These are Paracetamol and Codeine Phosphate and are the active ingredients of PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS.

Paracetamol is used to block pain and it also reduces body temperature if you have fever.

Codeine phosphate is also an analgesic used for blocking pain and belongs to group of medicines known as "opioid analgesics". Its direct action blocks pain and also your perception of pain.

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS are white, capsule shaped uncoated tablets with a centre break line on one side for easy splitting of the tablet in half.

What is PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS used for

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS is used for temporary relief of pain, to reduce fever and temporary relief from the symptoms of cold and flu.

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS is effective in providing temporary relief from the following symptoms:

- headache
- migraine headache
- neuralgia
- backache
- muscular pain
- arthritic pain
- period pain
- toothache
- pain from surgery or trauma

It is suitable for those people who cannot have aspirin.

Your doctor or pharmacist may recommend PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS for another reason. If you want more information ask your doctor or pharmacist.

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS is available only at your Pharmacy.

Before you take PHARMACY CHOICE STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS

When you must not take PHARMACY CHOICE STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS

Do not breastfeed if you are taking PHARMACY CHOICE STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS.

Do not take PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS if you have an allergy to:

- paracetamol or codeine phosphate
- other opioid analgesics such as morphine, pethidine or oxycodone
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction to PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS may include:

- swelling of face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- itchy rashes, or hives on the skin

Do not take PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS if you are:

- experiencing breathing difficulties such as asthma, bronchitis or emphysema
- suffering chronic constipation
- suffering from diarrhoea caused by antibiotic use or other poisoning
- in labour when a premature infant is anticipated as it may affect

- the baby
- a heavy drinker or a drug user
- taking other sedatives

Do not take PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS after the expiry date printed on the pack or the packaging appears to have been damaged or tampered with. If you take this medicine after its expiry date has passed, it may not work as well.

Do not give PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS to children under the age of 7 years.

If you are not sure whether you should be taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Before you start to take PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have allergies to:

- any other medicines
- any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have or have had any medical conditions, especially the following:

- blood pressure problems
- liver disease
- kidney disease
- difficulty in urination or prostate problems
- breathing problems
- constipation
- under active thyroid gland
- depression
- dizziness
- recent gastrointestinal or urinary tract surgery
- recent head injury or brain tumour
- history of drug abuse

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are:

- pregnant or intend to become pregnant

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS should not be used during pregnancy without medical advice. Should there be a need to consider the use of PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS during pregnancy, your doctor will discuss with you the benefits and risks of taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS during pregnancy.

- an elderly person

The risk of side effects increases with age because the elderly persons are more likely to have less effective kidney / liver function. Elderly persons should consult with their doctor or pharmacist to determine how much PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS to take.

- about to have surgery under general anaesthesia

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS can interact with medicines used for anaesthesia for surgery.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have had recent:

- gastrointestinal or urinary tract surgery
- head injury or brain tumour

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines including any that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines which contain paracetamol and/or codeine.

Some medicines can interfere with PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS.

These include:

- medicines used to help you sleep or for anxiety relief
- certain antihistamines
- other pain relieving medicines like opioid analgesics - morphine, pethidine or oxycodone
- medicines for treating depression or anxiety (eg. barbiturates, monoamine oxidase inhibitors)
- medicines for treating high blood pressure
- anticoagulants such as warfarin
- medicines for diarrhoea such as kaolin, pectin and loperamide
- alcohol
- probenecid, a medicine for treating gout
- cholestyramine, a medicine used to lower cholesterol
- chloramphenicol, an antibiotic used to treat infections including ear and eye infections
- anticonvulsant medication
- metoclopramide, a medicine used to control nausea and vomiting

Your doctor and pharmacist will be able to advise you on what medicines to take while taking PHARMACY CHOICE STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS.

How to take PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS

How much to take

The usual dose for adults and children over 12 years of age is one or two tablets every 4 to 6 hours with water as needed for relief of symptoms. Do not exceed 8 tablets in a 24 hour period.

The usual dose for children 7-12 years is half or one tablet every 4 to 6 hours with water as needed up to a maximum of 4 tablets in 24 hours.

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS is not recommended for children under 7 years of age.

Use beyond 48 hours without medical advice is not recommended.

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully. Their directions may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

How to take the medicine

Swallow the prescribed dose of PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS with a glass of water. It can be taken before or after food. However, food intake delays the absorption of paracetamol.

How long to take the medicine

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS is for temporary relief of symptoms and is recommended for use as directed. PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS should not be administered for more than 48 hours without medical advice.

If you take too much (overdose)

If you think you or anyone else may have taken too much PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS, immediately telephone your doctor or pharmacist or the Poisons Information Centre (Australia - telephone 13 11 26, New Zealand 0800 764 766) for advice or go to accident and emergency at nearest hospital. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning because of the risk of delayed, serious liver damage.

The symptoms of overdose of PHARMACY CHOICE STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS are nausea, vomiting, sweating, weakness, lowering of blood pressure, lethargy, dizziness and mental confusion.

While you are using PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS

Things you must do

Before starting any new medicine tell any of the doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you for any condition that you are taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS.

Things you must not do

Do not give PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not take PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS with any other product containing paracetamol and/or codeine, unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not use for any other complaints unless your doctor or pharmacist tells you to.

Things you must be careful of

Be careful driving a motor vehicle or operating machinery until you know how PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS affects you.

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS may cause drowsiness in some people. Make sure you know how you react to PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS before you drive a motor vehicle or operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous if you are drowsy. If drowsiness occurs do not drive a motor vehicle or operate machinery.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are taking this medicine. If you drink alcohol, drowsiness or dizziness may become worse while you are taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS.

Side effects

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS, even if you do not think the "not feeling well" feeling is connected with

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS or is not described in this leaflet.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:

- dry mouth
- allergic reactions including skin reactions
- dizziness
- drowsiness
- constipation
- nausea and vomiting
- stomach pain

These are the more common side effects of PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS. Other side effects not listed above may occur in some patients. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.

After taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS

Storage

Keep your tablets in the original pack until it is time to take them.

If you take the tablets out of the pack they will not keep well.

Keep your tablets in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C. Do not store PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it in the car on hot days or on windowsills. Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Keep it where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least one and half meters above ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

If you stop taking PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS or the tablets have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any that are left over.

Product description

What PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS looks like

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS are white to off white coloured, capsule shaped uncoated tablets with a centre break line on one side.

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS are available in blister packs of 24's, 40's

Ingredients - Active

- Paracetamol 500mg
- Codeine phosphate 10mg

Ingredients - Other

- Starch - Maize
- Sodium starch glycollate
- Povidone
- Colloidal anhydrous silica
- Sodium lauryl sulfate
- Talc - purified
- Magnesium stearate

PHARMACY CHOICE® STRONG PAIN RELIEF TABLETS does not contain lactose, sucrose or dyes.

Supplier

Distributor

Symbion Pharmacy Services Pty Ltd
48-58 Overseas Drive
Noble Park North
VIC 3174

Sponsor

MEDITAB SPECIALITIES Pty Ltd
Suite 4, "The Groves", 3990 Pacific Highway,
LOGANHOLME QLD 4129

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