

Strattera

Generic Name: atomoxetine (AT oh mox e teen)

Brand Names: *Strattera*

What is Strattera?

Strattera affects chemicals in the brain and nerves that contribute to hyperactivity and impulse control.

Strattera is used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

Strattera may also be used for other purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Important information about Strattera

Do not use Strattera if you have used an MAO inhibitor such as isocarboxazid (Marplan), tranylcypromine (Parnate), phenelzine (Nardil), rasagiline (Azilect), or selegiline (Eldepryl, Emsam) within the past 14 days. Serious, life-threatening side effects can occur if you use Strattera before the MAO inhibitor has cleared from your body. Do not use this medication if you are allergic to atomoxetine, or if you have glaucoma.

Some ADHD medicines have caused sudden death in children and adolescents with serious heart problems or congenital heart defects. Tell your doctor if you have any heart problems.

You may have suicidal thoughts or behavior while taking Strattera. Watch for symptoms of depression, unusual behavior, or thoughts of hurting yourself. Your doctor may need to check you at regular visits while you are taking this medication.

In addition to you watching for changes in your mood or behavior, your family or caregivers should be alert to changes in your mood or symptoms.

Do not use an open or broken capsule. If the medicine from inside the capsule gets into your eyes, rinse thoroughly with water and call your doctor.

Strattera can cause side effects that may impair your thinking or reactions. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be awake and alert.

Before taking Strattera

Do not use Strattera if you are allergic to atomoxetine or if you have glaucoma.

Do not take atomoxetine if you have used an MAO inhibitor such as isocarboxazid (Marplan), tranylcypromine (Parnate), phenelzine (Nardil), rasagiline (Azilect), or selegiline (Eldepryl, Emsam) within the past 14 days. Serious, life-threatening side effects can occur if you use Strattera before the MAO inhibitor has cleared from your body. Some ADHD medicines have caused sudden death in children and adolescents with serious heart problems or congenital heart defects.

If you have certain conditions, you may need a dose adjustment or special tests to safely take Strattera. Before taking this medication, tell your doctor if you have:

- a congenital heart defect;
- heart disease, a heart rhythm disorder, or recent heart attack;
- coronary artery disease;
- a history of stroke, blood clots, or heart attack;
- high or low blood pressure;
- liver disease;
- problems with urination;
- a personal or family history of mental illness, psychotic disorder, bipolar illness, depression, or suicide attempt; or
- if anyone in your family has died suddenly from a heart problem.

You may have suicidal thoughts or behavior while taking Strattera. Watch for symptoms of depression, unusual behavior, or thoughts of hurting yourself. Your doctor may need to check you at regular visits while you are taking this medication.

In addition to you watching for changes in your mood or behavior, your family or caregivers should be alert to changes in your mood or symptoms.

FDA pregnancy category C. It is not known whether Strattera is harmful to an unborn baby. Before taking this medication, tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant during treatment. It is not known whether atomoxetine passes into breast milk or if it could harm a nursing baby. Do not use this medication without telling your doctor if you are breast-feeding a baby.

Strattera is not meant for long-term use. Because ADHD may be a long-term condition, especially in children and young adults, your doctor may recommend another ADHD medication after you stop taking Strattera.

Long-term use of Strattera can slow a child's growth. Tell your doctor if the child using this medication is not growing or gaining weight properly.

Do not give Strattera to a child younger than 6 years old without the advice of a doctor.

How should I take Strattera?

Take this medication exactly as it was prescribed for you. Do not take the medication in larger amounts, or take it for longer than recommended by your doctor. Follow the directions on your prescription label.

Take this medicine with a full glass of water.

Strattera is usually taken once daily, but it may be taken in the morning and late afternoon. Follow your doctor's instructions.

It is important to use Strattera regularly to get the most benefit. Get your prescription refilled before you run out of medicine completely.

Do not use a capsule that has been opened or accidentally broken. The medicine from inside the capsule can be dangerous if it gets in your eyes. If you must handle a broken capsule, ask your doctor or pharmacist how to safely handle and dispose of the tablet. Store Strattera at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the medicine at your next regularly scheduled time. Do not take extra medicine to make up the missed dose. Take the medication only one time per day.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention if you think you have used too much of this medicine.

Overdose symptoms may include drowsiness, agitation, hyperactivity, unusual behavior, stomach problems, blurred vision, dry mouth, and fast heartbeat.

What should I avoid while taking Strattera?

Avoid using or handling an open or broken capsule. If the medicine from inside the capsule gets in your eyes, rinse them thoroughly with water and call your doctor. Strattera can cause side effects that may impair your thinking or

reactions. Be careful if you drive or do anything that requires you to be awake and alert.

Strattera side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have any of these signs of an allergic reaction: hives; difficulty breathing; swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Stop taking Strattera and call your doctor at once if you have a serious side effect such as:

- chest pain, shortness of breath, fast or uneven heartbeats;
- feeling light-headed or fainting;
- unusual thoughts or behavior, aggression, hallucinations (seeing things that are not there);
- nausea, stomach pain, low fever, loss of appetite, dark urine, clay-colored stools, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- increased blood pressure (severe headache, blurred vision, trouble concentrating, chest pain, numbness, seizure); or
- urinating less than usual or not at all.

Less serious side effects may include:

- feeling irritable;
- feeling dizzy or drowsy;
- constipation;
- cough, dry mouth;
- skin rash or itching;
- sleep problems (insomnia);
- increased menstrual cramps; or
- impotence, loss of interest in sex, or trouble having an orgasm.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What other drugs will affect Strattera?

Before taking Strattera, tell your doctor if you are using any of the following drugs:

- albuterol (Proventil, Ventolin);
- amiodarone (Cordarone, Pacerone);
- bupropion (Wellbutrin, Zyban);
- celecoxib (Celebrex);

- cimetidine (Tagamet);
- doxorubicin (Adriamycin);
- methadone (Dolophine, Methadose);
- metoclopramide (Reglan);
- quinidine (Cardioquin, Quinaglute, Quinidex);
- ritonavir (Norvir);
- ranitidine (Zantac);
- terbinafine (Lamisil);
- antidepressants such as citalopram (Celexa), clomipramine (Anafranil); escitalopram (Lexapro), fluoxetine (Prozac, Sarafem), fluvoxamine (Luvox), paroxetine (Paxil), or sertraline (Zoloft); or
- antihistamines or sleep medicine such as diphenhydramine (Benadryl, Unisom, and others) or chlorpheniramine (Chlor-Trimeton and others).

This list is not complete and there may be other drugs that can interact with Strattera. Tell your doctor about all the prescription and over-the-counter medications you use. This includes vitamins, minerals, herbal products, and drugs prescribed by other doctors. Do not start using a new medication without telling your doctor.

Where can I get more information?

- Your pharmacist can provide more information about Strattera.

What does my medication look like?

Atomoxetine is available with a prescription under the brand name Strattera. Other brand or generic formulations may also be available. Ask your pharmacist any questions you have about this medication, especially if it is new to you.

- Strattera 10 mg - opaque, white capsules
- Strattera 18 mg - opaque, gold and white capsules
- Strattera 25 mg - opaque, blue and white capsules
- Strattera 40 mg - opaque, blue capsules
- Strattera 60 mg - opaque, blue and gold capsules
- Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.
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