

PATIENT'S NAME:

MEDICATION: buspirone hydrochloride (Brand name is Buspar.)

WHAT IT'S USED FOR: Buspirone hydrochloride is used to treat anxiety.

HOW TO TAKE IT

- Take drug with fluids, but not with large amounts of grapefruit juice.
- Take drug either with food or without food--but be consistent.

WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS!

- Don't take drug within 10 days of using antidepressant drugs called MAO inhibitors (such as phenelzine, tranylcypromine, or isocarboxazid).
- Don't use drug to manage everyday stress or tension.
- Avoid driving and other hazardous activities until you know how drug affects your concentration and alertness.
- Know that buspirone may take up to 2 weeks to reach maximum effectiveness.
- Keep all follow-up medical appointments to check your progress.
- Tell prescriber if you're pregnant or breastfeeding.

SIDE EFFECTS

This drug may cause dizziness, light-headedness, headache, drowsiness, fatigue, difficulty sleeping, nervousness, agitation, increased anxiety, restlessness, nightmares, numbness and tingling, chest pain, blurred vision, dry mouth, nausea, vomiting, abdominal distress, diarrhea, constipation, frequent or urgent urination, difficulty urinating, chest congestion, rash, itching, easy bruising, hair loss, dry skin, blisters, flushing, and swelling. Notify your prescriber of serious or bothersome symptoms.

INTERACTIONS

- Buspirone may interact with MAO inhibitors, trazodone, haloperidol and other antipsychotic drugs, erythromycin, itraconazole, nefazodone, rifampin, and calcium-channel blockers (such as verapamil and diltiazem). Tell all prescribers you're taking this drug.
- Don't use herbs without consulting prescriber first.
- Avoid alcohol while taking this drug.

STORAGE

- Store drug in a tightly closed, light-resistant container at room temperature, but not above 86° F (30° C) .

ADDITIONAL POINTS:

Your initials: _____

Date: _____

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