

**PATIENT'S NAME:**

**MEDICATION:** nortriptyline hydrochloride (Brand names include Aventyl, Norventyl, Pamelor, and PMS-Nortriptyline.)

**WHAT IT'S USED FOR:** Nortriptyline is used to treat depression.

**HOW TO TAKE IT**

- Take drug with meals or a snack to reduce stomach upset.
- Take drug exactly as prescribed, either in divided doses three or four times daily or as a single dose at bedtime.
- Don't exceed recommended dosage.
- Don't share drug with others.

**WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS!**

- Before taking this drug, tell your prescriber if you have a history of heart attack or seizures or if you currently have heart disease, liver disease, thyroid problems, glaucoma, urinary retention, asthma, or severe depression.
- Contact your prescriber immediately if you develop worsening depression or thoughts of suicide.
- Be aware that drug's full effect may not occur for 4 weeks.
- Don't take within 14 days of MAO inhibitor use.
- Know that drug may cause drowsiness or dizziness. These effects should subside within a few weeks.
- Avoid driving and other hazardous activities until you know how this drug affects your concentration and alertness.
- Tell your prescriber immediately if you plan to become pregnant or suspect pregnancy.
- Don't breastfeed while taking this drug.

**SIDE EFFECTS**

This drug may cause dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue, headache, lethargy, insomnia, agitation, confusion, hallucinations, seizures, suicidal behavior or thoughts, extrapyramidal reactions (involuntary movements, tremors, rigidity, body restlessness, muscle contractions and changes in breathing and heart rate), low blood pressure, palpitations, serious blood vessel and heart problems (including irregular heart beats), blurred vision, dry eyes, nausea, constipation, appetite loss, serious bowel and blood disorders, urinary retention, enlarged breasts, yellowing of skin or eyes, liver damage, increased skin sensitivity to sunlight or ultraviolet light, unpleasant taste, or weight gain. Notify your prescriber of serious or bothersome symptoms.

**INTERACTIONS**

- Nortriptyline may interact with many other drugs, including MAO inhibitors. Tell all prescribers that you are taking it.
- Don't take herbs without consulting your prescriber.
- Avoid alcohol use while taking this drug.

**STORAGE**

- Store oral solution at 77° F (25° C) in a tightly closed container, protected from light.
- Store capsules at 86° F (30° C) in a tightly closed container.

**ADDITIONAL POINTS:**

Your initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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