

TRAMADOL

▶ PATIENT INFORMATION GUIDE

REMEMBER: this medicine is for you. Never give it to others even if their signs and symptoms are the same as yours.

WHY HAVE WE GIVEN YOU THIS GUIDE?

This information is for you to use when taking tramadol. It is important that you take your medication safely. Tramadol may cause **some serious side effects**. Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.

▶ Tramadol is usually safe

- Tramadol is a useful and effective medicine for pain relief
- Most people who take tramadol have no problems; it has a very low risk of dependence

▶ Tramadol can also be harmful

- Extra care is needed when taking tramadol
- All medicines carry some risks but you might not experience any problems at all
- Always store tramadol out of reach of children
- If tramadol makes you dizzy or drowsy, do not drive or operate machinery

▶ PREGNANCY and tramadol

- Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant or breastfeeding
- Discuss other types of pain relief with your doctor

▶ ALCOHOL and tramadol

- Do not drink alcohol while you are taking tramadol

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO TAKE TRAMADOL SAFELY

▶ Let your doctor know if you have ever experienced a seizure (or fit)

- Tramadol can cause seizures, especially in people who have had them before
- Some other medicines can also cause seizures when taken with tramadol
- Seizures are more likely to happen with high doses
- Discuss with your doctor or pharmacist if you are concerned about any side effects you experience

▶ Let your doctor or pharmacist know immediately if you

- Feel agitated
- Have diarrhoea
- Have a fever or are sweating and shivering

▶ Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of the medicines you are taking

- Tramadol can be harmful when taken with **some** other medicines for pain and depression, including herbal remedies

▶ Do not take any more than your doctor has asked you to

- High doses can be harmful, especially in combination with other medicines for pain relief

This information is a guide only and is not a replacement for the advice and care of your doctor, pharmacist (chemist) or nurse.