

PORCINE THYROID

This drug information sheet is to be used as a guide for patient counseling on the use and possible side effects of this medication. This information is not to be used as a substitute for the pharmacist providing counseling or for information provided by your medical provider or other medical professional. This information is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. If you feel you are having a medical problem, contact your health care provider.

Medication:

The compounded medication contains porcine (pork) thyroid powder which contains both T3 (Liothyronine) and T4 (Levothyroxine) in a close to 1 to 4 ratio. The pharmacist can share exact micrograms of each ingredient upon request.

Use:

It may be used for thyroid replacement for many low thyroid conditions including thyroid gland removal or radiation, functional thyroid deficiency, primary thyroid atrophy as well as secondary hypothyroidism from pituitary dysfunction or any other condition as determined by the medical provider.

Side Effects:

Symptoms/side effects that may subside during treatment include:

Hair loss, heart palpitations, sweating, anxiety, mood swings, fatigue, diarrhea, tremors, headache, increase in blood pressure or sensitivity to heat.

While a serious allergic reaction is rare, contact your prescriber or get medical help right away if you experience chest pain, shortness of breath/throat swelling, irregular/fast/pounding heartbeat, swelling in hands/ankles/feet, rash or itching especially of tongue or throat. If you notice any effects not listed above but of concern, contact your health care provider.

Precautions:

Before taking thyroid replacement, please be sure your doctor is aware of any underlying adrenal gland dysfunction, heart disease, high blood pressure or diabetes. Thyroid medication should not be taken for weight loss. Using larger doses than prescribed can cause serious life-threatening effects.

Many over-the-counter products can interact with thyroid and prevent its absorption. Antacids, calcium, or multivitamins with calcium should be taken 3 hours after thyroid medication; iron or biotin or multivitamins with either should be taken 2 hours after medication. Thyroid medication should be taken on an empty stomach at least 30 minutes before food.

Directions:

Take this medication in the morning on an empty stomach unless otherwise directed by your provider. Some thyroid medications are taken twice a day so follow the directions on your prescription label for correct use. Patients should not exceed the dose prescribed. The medication should be stored as directed. Please contact your pharmacy or provider regarding missed doses. This medication should not be doubled the following day if missed.