PATIENT PACKAGE INSERT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PHARMACISTS' REGULATIONS (PREPARATIONS) – 1986

The medicine is dispensed with a doctor's prescription only

TEGRETOL® CR 200 mg

Slow Release Tablets

Active ingredient:

Each tablet contains:

Carbamazepine 200 mg

TEGRETOL® CR 400 mg

Slow Release Tablets

Active ingredient:

Each tablet contains:

Carbamazepine 400 mg

TEGRETOL® 200 mg

Tablets

Active ingredient:

Each tablet contains:

Carbamazepine 200 mg

TEGRETOL® SYRUP 2%

Syrup

Active ingredient:

Each 5 ml contains:

Carbamazepine 100 mg

Inactive and allergenic ingredients in the preparation:

See section 6 'Further Information' and 'Important information about some of the ingredients of the medicine' in section 2.

Read the leaflet carefully in its entirety before using the medicine. This leaflet contains concise information about the medicine. If you have further questions, refer to the doctor or pharmacist.

This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if it seems to you that their medical condition is similar.

1. WHAT IS THE MEDICINE INTENDED FOR?

Tegretol has a number of uses:

- To treat epilepsy, a condition of recurrent seizures (convulsions). There are many and varied types of seizures, ranging from mild to severe.
- To treat sudden recurrent attacks of pain in the face, known as trigeminal neuralgia.
- To treat diabetes insipidus, a condition of increased thirst and urination.
- To treat mania, a mental condition with episodes of hyperactivity, elation or nervousness.
- For the preventative treatment of bipolar affective disorder (manic depression), in which there are periods of mania alternating with periods of depression.

Therapeutic group:

Antiepileptic, neurotropic, psychotropic.

Tegretol belongs to a class of medicines called anticonvulsants.

These medicines apparently work by modulating the manner in which signals are conveyed in the brain by nerves so that attacks will not occur. Tegretol also regulates other neural functions in the body.

Tegretol can be used alone or in combination with other medicines to treat your condition. There is no evidence that the medicine is addictive. Do not use Tegretol to treat other effects unless explicitly instructed by the doctor.

2. BEFORE USING THE MEDICINE

Do not use the medicine if:

- You are sensitive (allergic) to carbamazepine (the active ingredient in Tegretol) or to any other medicine containing carbamazepine or structurally similar medicines (such as tricyclic antidepressants) or to any of the other ingredients of the medicine listed in section 6 'Further Information'
- You have or have had an irregular heartbeat due to a condition called atrioventricular block
- You suffer or have suffered in the past from a blood disease with a reduced number of red or white blood cells, or platelets
- You have or have had a rare disorder in the production of porphyrin, which is a pigment that is important for liver function and for blood formation (also known as hepatic porphyria)
- You are taking medicines belonging to a certain group of antidepressants called monoamine-oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) or if you have taken them within the last 14 days

Special warnings regarding use of the medicine:

Before treatment with Tegretol:

- Tell the doctor if you are allergic to oxcarbazepine (the active ingredient in Trileptin) or to phenytoin. These two medicines are also used to treat epilepsy. Some people who are allergic to oxcarbazepine or to phenytoin are also allergic to Tegretol.
- Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include shortness of breath, wheezing or breathing difficulties; swelling of the face, lips, tongue, eyelids, throat, mouth or of other parts of the body; skin rash, itching or hives.
- Inform your doctor immediately if you develop severe skin reactions accompanied by fever, for example, red skin; blistering of the lips, eyes or mouth; skin peeling.

  These reactions are more common in certain Asian countries (e.g., Taiwan, Malaysia and the Philippines) (see section 'Tests and follow-up').
- Taking Tegretol with medicines from the monoamine-oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) group, or within 14 days of taking MAOIs, could cause a serious reaction with a sudden elevation of body temperature, extremely high blood pressure and severe convulsions (see section "Do not use the medicine if").
- Do not take Tegretol if you have or have had systemic lupus erythematosus.
- Do not take Tegretol if you have or have had a severe heart or liver disease.

Ask your doctor in case you are unsure whether one of these conditions applies to you.

If you are unsure whether you may take Tegretol, refer to the doctor or pharmacist.

Tell you doctor if you are allergic to any medicines, food, colors or preservatives.

The doctor will want to know if you have a tendency to develop allergies.

Tell you doctor if you have or have had any medical conditions, especially the following:

- Heart, liver or kidney problems
- Increased pressure in the eye (glaucoma)
- Problems with the prostate gland or if you cannot retain your urine
- Past blood problems that were caused by medicines that you took
- Mental disorder such as depression or schizophrenia

Tell your doctor if at any time you have thoughts of harming or killing yourself. A small number of people treated with antiepileptics have had such thoughts and behavior

If you have not told your doctor about one of these conditions, tell him before you take Tegretol.

Tests and follow-up

The doctor may wish to perform some tests before commencing treatment with Tegretol and from time to time also during treatment, in order to help prevent unwanted side effects.

You must make sure to attend visits to your doctor so that it will be possible to follow your progress.

The risk of severe skin reactions connected to carbamazepine or to similar chemical compounds in patients of Chinese or Thai origin may be predicted by testing a blood sample of these patients. Your doctor will advice you whether a blood test is necessary before taking Tegretol.

Drug interactions

If you are taking, or if you have recently taken, other medicines, including non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements, tell the doctor or pharmacist. In particular if you are taking:

Medicines from the monoamine-oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) group: do not take Tegretol with MAOIs or within 14 days of having taken MAOIs.

Other medicines to treat depression, such as: fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, nefazodone and tricyclic antidepressants.

Other medicines to treat seizures, including levetiracetam, phenytoin, valproic acid, brivaracetam, lamotrigine, topiramate and oxcarbazepine.

Certain medicines to treat mental disorders, such as: clozapine, haloperidol, thioridazine, lithium, olanzapine, quetiapine, loxapine, risperidone and ziprasidone.

Certain medicines to treat heart problems or high cholesterol.

Certain medicines that help you sleep or calm you down.

Painkillers such as: paracetamol, ibuprofen, dextropropoxyphene, tramadol.

Warfarin, for the prevention of blood clots.

Ticagrelor, a medicine used to prevent blood cells from aggregating.

Diuretics, medicines used to reduce retention of fluids and high blood pressure.

Antibiotics and anti-fungal medicines to treat infections such as: erythromycin, clarithromycin, ciprofloxacin, doxycycline, itraconazole, voriconazole, ketoconazole, fluconazole.

Medicines to treat tuberculosis such as: isoniazid, rifampicin, rifabutin.

Corticosteroids such as: prednisolone, dexamethasone.

St. John's wort, an ingredient of herbal medicines.

Antihistamines such as: terfenadine, medicines used to prevent or relieve symptoms of allergy such as hay fever.

Acetazolamide, a medicine to reduce fluid retention and treat glaucoma and several types of seizures.

Cimetidine, to treat stomach ulcers or duodenal ulcers.

Theophylline, to treat asthma.

Ciclosporin and other medicines to prevent transplant rejection or to treat severe rheumatoid arthritis and several skin diseases.

Certain medicines to treat cancer such as: cisplatin, doxorubicin.

Methadone, to control acute pain and treat heroin addiction.

Metoclopramide, to treat nausea and vomiting.

Isotretinoin, to treat acne.

Danazol, to treat endometriosis.

A vitamin called nicotinamide.
Muscle relaxants such as: oxybutynin, or those used during surgery.
Medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) such as: indinavir, ritonavir, saquinavir.
Levothyroxine, to treat an underactive thyroid gland.
Albendazole, praziquantel, to treat worm infestations.
Medicines containing estrogen and progesterone, including hormone replacement therapy and contraception.
Tadalafil, to treat difficulty in achieving or keeping an erection.
Felodipine, to treat high blood pressure.
The above medicines could be affected by Tegretol or could affect the action of Tegretol. It may be necessary to change the dosage of the medicines or to take other medicines.
Tell your doctor if you are using hormonal contraceptives (e.g., contraceptive pills or injections). If you are of childbearing age, you must use an effective form of contraception throughout your treatment and for two weeks after taking the last dose.
If you are beginning to take Tegretol while using hormonal contraceptives, they may be less effective, and unplanned pregnancies are possible.
Your doctor can suggest additional (non-hormonal) forms of contraception while using Tegretol.
Your doctor and pharmacist have additional information about medicines that need to be used cautiously or avoided while using Tegretol.

Pregnancy
Inform the doctor if you are pregnant or planning a pregnancy. You may need to change your medicine. Your doctor will discuss with you the possible risk of taking Tegretol during pregnancy, as it could cause damage or defects to the baby during pregnancy or immediately after birth. Risk of neurodevelopmental disorders (how the brain functions leading to difficulties in social, emotional and mental function) cannot be excluded among children born to women with epilepsy treated with carbamazepine alone or in combination with other antiepileptic drugs during pregnancy.
At the same time, it is very important to control your seizures during pregnancy if you have epilepsy. Your doctor will help you decide whether or not to take Tegretol in this case.

If you get pregnant during treatment with Tegretol, refer to the doctor immediately.
The doctor can discuss with you the risks involved with taking Tegretol during pregnancy. It is recommended to take folic acid supplements (5 mg) 4 weeks before becoming pregnant and for the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

Breastfeeding
Inform the doctor if you are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed.
Tegretol passes into breast milk, but is not likely to affect your baby. You may breastfeed, provided that you are alert to any signs of unwanted side effects in your baby. If your baby develops a skin rash, if he is very sleepy or has other unusual symptoms, stop breastfeeding and refer to the doctor.

Use of Tegretol and food
Do not drink grapefruit juice or eat grapefruits, as this could increase the effect of Tegretol. Other juices, such as orange juice or apple juice, do not have this effect. Avoid drinking grapefruit juice during treatment with Tegretol. Grapefruit juice could clash with Tegretol and affect the way your body uses this medicine.

Driving and operating machinery
Exercise caution while driving, operating machinery or performing work that requires you to be alert until you know how Tegretol affects you.

As regards children, they should be cautioned against riding a bicycle, playing near the road, climbing trees and the like.
Tegretol may cause dizziness, sleepiness, blurred or double vision or lack of muscular coordination, mainly when starting treatment or when increasing the dosage.

Use of Tegretol and alcohol consumption
Be cautious with drinking alcohol during treatment with Tegretol. This combination could cause you to be more sleepy or dizzy than usual. Your doctor may suggest that you abstain from alcohol while being treated with Tegretol.

Exposure to the sun
When outdoors, wear protective clothing and use a sunscreen with a protection factor higher than 15. Do not use tanning lamps, tanning beds or tanning booths. This medicine causes the skin to be sensitive to sunlight, much more so than usual. Exposure to sunlight could cause skin rash, itchiness, redness or severe sunburn. Tell your doctor if your skin does appear burnt.

Important information about some of the ingredients of the medicine
Tegretol Syrup:
- 1 ml of Tegretol syrup contains 175 mg of sorbitol. Do not use the preparation if you have rare hereditary problems of fructose intolerance.
- Tegretol Syrup contains parahydroxybenzoates, which may cause allergic reactions (possibly delayed).
- Diabetic patients may take Tegretol Syrup. The syrup contains sorbitol solution (875 mg in 5 ml) which slowly transforms into glucose.
- Tegretol syrup contains propylene glycol. High doses in the newborns can cause nausea, vomiting, weakness, sleepiness, headache, vision problems, laboured breathing, seizures.

3. HOW SHOULD YOU USE THE MEDICINE?
Always use the preparation according to the doctor's instructions. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are uncertain about the dosage and treatment regimen for the preparation.

Dosage
The dosage and treatment regimen will be determined by the doctor only.
The doctor will tell you what dose to take every day. This depends on your age, your medical condition, and on whether you are taking additional medicines. The doctor will usually start your treatment on a low dose, and increase it gradually to the lowest amount required to control your condition. Some patients will need higher doses.

Do not exceed the recommended dose.

Method of administration
Tegretol is available as tablets, slow release tablets (CR) and syrup. The syrup is usually intended for children or for adults who have difficulty swallowing tablets.

Tablets: Do not chew! Swallow the tablets with a full glass of water.

If needed, the tablets can be halved along the score line. If the dose is half a tablet, a tablet-cutting device may be used to ensure an exact dose.

Slow release tablets (CR): Do not crush or chew the tablets. This could destroy the tablets' special coating. If needed, the tablets can be halved along the score line. If the dose is half a tablet, a tablet-cutting device may be used to ensure an exact dose.

Syrup: Shake the bottle well every time before measuring a dose. Shaking the bottle and using the measuring device will ensure that the correct dose is taken.

When should Tegretol be taken
Take the medicine during or after a meal. This will help prevent abdominal discomfort. Tegretol is usually taken in 2 or 3 doses during the day, but you doctor may tell you to take more or less, depending on your condition.

If you forget to take Tegretol
If the time until your next dose is more than two or three hours, take the forgotten dose as soon as you remember. Take the next dose at the regular time, and continue with the regular schedule.
If the time until your next dose is less than two or three hours, skip the forgotten dose. Take the next dose at the regular time, and continue with the regular schedule.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the forgotten dose. This could increase the chance for an unwanted side effect. If you are not sure what to do, refer to the doctor or pharmacist. If you have difficulty remembering when to take the medicine, ask the pharmacist for help.

For how long should Tegretol be taken

Adhere to the treatment regimen as recommended by the doctor.
Tegretol helps control your condition, but does not cure it. You must take Tegretol every day, even if you are feeling well.

Stopping treatment
Do not stop treatment with Tegretol and do not reduce the dose without consulting the doctor. Ensure in advance that you have a sufficient amount so that you are not left without medicine on weekends or holidays.
Stopping treatment suddenly or reducing the dose could cause unwanted side effects or make your condition worse. If you are taking this medicine to treat epilepsy, you could develop seizures (attacks). Your doctor will usually reduce the dose gradually until you can stop taking the medicine altogether.

If you took more Tegretol than needed (an overdose)
If you took an overdose, or if a child has accidentally swallowed the medicine, refer immediately to a doctor or proceed to a hospital emergency room, and bring the package of the medicine with you. Do this even if there are no signs of toxicity or discomfort.
Some of the symptoms of an overdose may include: agitation, instability, disorientation, fainting, vomiting, breathing difficulty, rapid and irregular pulse, blurred vision and slurred speech. If you are taking the slow release tablets (CR), it will take you longer to notice these effects.

While using Tegretol
Tell your doctor if, for any reason, you did not take the medicine exactly as prescribed. Otherwise, the doctor may think that the medicine is not effective and will unnecessarily change the treatment.
Before any operation or emergency treatment, tell the attending doctor or dentist that you are taking Tegretol. This medicine could clash with some medicines used during surgery.
If you are about to begin treatment with a new medicine, mention to your doctor and pharmacist that you are being treated with Tegretol.
Tell every doctor, dentist or pharmacist who treats you that you are being treated with Tegretol.

Do not take medicines in the dark! Check the label and the dose each time you take a medicine. Wear glasses if you need them.

If you have further questions regarding use of the medicine, consult the doctor or pharmacist.

4. SIDE EFFECTS
As with any medicine, use of Tegretol may cause side effects in some users.

If you feel unwell during treatment with Tegretol, tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible.
All medicines may have side effects. They are sometimes severe, but most of the time are not. For some of the side effects, you may need medical treatment.
The risk of side effects is greater if you are over the age of 65.
Do not be alarmed when reading the list of side effects. You may not suffer from any of them. Most of the side effects are mild to moderate and usually disappear after a few days of treatment.

If you notice any of the following side effects, tell your doctor immediately or proceed to the nearest emergency room:
• Signs of allergy, such as swelling of the face, lips, tongue, eyelids, throat, mouth or other parts of the body; wheezing or difficulty breathing; skin rash,

itching, hives, unconsciousness • Blisters or peeling of the skin • Sudden increase in body temperature accompanied by sweating, rapid pulse, altered consciousness, increased secretion of saliva and muscle rigidity • Persistent "flu-like" symptoms (chills, fever, sore throat, mouth ulcers, swollen glands, joint pain, lack of energy, frequent infections), bleeding or injury more easily than usual, nose-bleeds • Fever, skin rash, joint pain, and abnormalities in blood and liver function tests (these may be the signs of a multiorgan sensitivity disorder) • Shortness of breath and dizziness during physical activity • Prolonged nausea or vomiting, loss of appetite and generally feeling unwell, which may be accompanied by abdominal pain, fever, itching, yellow skin or eyes, dark urine or light feces • Severe pain in the upper abdomen, often with nausea, vomiting and loss of appetite • More frequent or more severe seizures (attacks) • Sudden onset of uncontrollable muscle spasms affecting the eyes, head, neck and body • Depression, aggressive behavior, recurrence of previous mental illness, hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that do not exist) • Swelling of the feet and legs or weight gain due to accumulation of fluids • Change in pulse (rapid, slow, irregular), sometimes with chest pain • Urinating less than usual, which may be accompanied by lack of energy, vomiting, headache, muscle spasms and confusion • Blood in the urine • Symptoms of sunburn such as redness, itching, swelling or being covered with blisters that occur more rapidly than usual • Swelling and redness along the length of a vein or nerve, which are very sensitive to touch • Signs of the formation of blood clots, such as: sudden severe headache, sudden loss of coordination or vision, pain in the lower part of the leg, knees or chest • Severe headache accompanied by a stiff neck, muscle spasms and extreme sensitivity to bright light • Diarrhea, abdominal pain and fever (signs of a possible disorder of the large intestine) • Red blotchy rash, mainly on the face, which may be accompanied by fatigue, fever, nausea, loss of appetite • Pressure or pain in the eye • Falling due to dizziness, sleepiness, decreased blood pressure or confusion

If you notice any of the following side effects and they bother you, tell your doctor:

Very common side effects – effects that occur in more than one user in ten:

leucopenia (a reduced number of the cells which fight infection making it easier to catch infections); instability while walking or finding it difficult to control movements; dizziness; tiredness or drowsiness; nausea or vomiting; changes in liver enzyme levels (usually without any symptoms)

Common side effects – effects that occur in 1-10 in 100 users:

headache; blurred or double vision, difficulty seeing; dry mouth; weight gain

Uncommon side effects – effects that occur in 1-10 in 1,000 users:

diarrhea; constipation

Rare side effects – effects that occur in 1-10 in 10,000 users:

folic acid deficiency; restlessness, agitation or confusion; difficulty speaking or slurred speech; numbness or a tingling sensation in the hands or feet; abdominal pain or discomfort; loss of appetite; weakness; high blood pressure (which may make you feel dizzy, with a flushed face, headache, fatigue and nervousness)

Very rare side effects – effects that occur in less than one user in 10,000:

altered sense of taste; swollen, teary eyes; ringing or buzzing in the ears or other changes in hearing; muscle pain or spasms; changes in skin color; acne; sweating; hair loss; excessive hair, especially in women; frequent need to urinate; sexual disorders such as impotence; breast enlargement in men; unusual secretion of milk from the breast; mouth ulcers or cold sores; swollen, red or painful tongue; excessive salivation

Side effects of unknown frequency (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data):

complete loss of nails; fracture, decrease in the measure of the bone density; memory loss; purple or reddish-purple bumps that may be itchy; reactivation of herpes virus infection (can be serious when the immune system is depressed)

Tell your doctor if you notice anything else that makes you feel unwell.

Additional side effects not detailed above may occur in some patients. Some of them (e.g., changes in sodium levels, thyroid gland function, bone structure, cholesterol level or blood pressure) will be found only in tests that the doctor will perform for you periodically in order to check your progress. If a side effect occurs, if one of the side effects worsens or if you suffer from a side effect not mentioned in the leaflet, consult with the doctor.

Side effects can be reported to the Ministry of Health by clicking on the link "Report Side Effects of Drug Treatment" found on the Ministry of Health homepage (www.health.gov.il) that directs you to the online form for reporting side effects, or by entering the link:

https://sideeffects.health.gov.il

5. HOW SHOULD THE MEDICINE BE STORED?

Avoid poisoning! This medicine, and any other medicine, should be kept in a safe place out of the reach and sight of children and/or infants in order to avoid poisoning. Do not induce vomiting unless explicitly instructed to do so by the doctor.

Do not use the medicine after the expiry date (Exp. Date) that appears on the package. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not use if the package is torn or if there are signs of damage. In such a case, return it to the pharmacist.

Tablets: Store below 25°C, in the original package in order to protect from moisture.

CR Tablets: Store below 25°C and protect from moisture.

Syrup: Store below 30°C, protect from light.

After first opening the bottle, store below 25°C and use within 3 months but no later than the expiry date of the preparation.

If the doctor tells you to stop using Tegretol or if the medicine is expired, ask the pharmacist what to do with the remaining medicine.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

In addition to the active ingredient, the medicine also contains:

Tegretol CR 200 mg, Tegretol CR 400 mg:

The tablet:

Cellulose, microcrystalline; croscarmellose sodium; polyacrylate dispersion 30%; ethylcellulose aqueous dispersion; talc; silica, colloidal anhydrous; magnesium stearate.

The tablet coating:

Hypromellose; talc; titanium dioxide; castor oil – polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated; iron oxide yellow; iron oxide red.

Tegretol CR 200 mg: Each tablet contains approximately 2.3 mg sodium.

Tegretol CR 400 mg: Each tablet contains approximately 4.6 mg sodium.

Tegretol 200 mg:

Cellulose microcrystalline; carmellose sodium; magnesium stearate; silica, colloidal anhydrous.

Each tablet contains approximately 0.46 mg sodium.

Tegretol Syrup 2%:

Sorbitol liquid (sorbitol 70% non crystallising), propylene glycol, dispersible cellulose (microcrystalline cellulose and sodium carboxymethylcellulose), hydroxyethylcellulose, methyl parahydroxybenzoate, polyethylene glycol 400 stearate (macrogol stearate), sorbic acid, saccharin sodium, propyl parahydroxybenzoate, caramel aroma 52929 A, purified water.

5 ml syrup contains: 2 mg saccharin sodium, 875 mg liquid sorbitol, approximately 0.6 mg sodium and preservatives: Methylparaben 6 mg, propylparaben 1.5 mg, sorbic acid 5 mg.

What the medicine looks like and contents of the package

Tegretol CR 200 mg:

Beige-orange, oval, slightly biconvex tablet. H/C imprinted on one side and C/G on the other side, with a score line on both sides.

Marketed in a package of 50 tablets.

Tegretol CR 400 mg:

Brownish-orange, oval, slightly biconvex tablet. ENE/ENE imprinted on one side and CG/CG on the other side, with a score line on both sides.

Marketed in a package of 30 tablets.

Tegretol 200 mg:

White, round, flat tablet with beveled edges. The imprint CG is on one side. On the other side is the imprint G/K and a score line.

Marketed in a package of 50 tablets.

Tegretol Syrup 2%:

White, viscous suspension.

Marketed in a bottle that contains 250 ml.

Registration Holder and Importer and its Address: Novartis Israel Ltd., P.O.B 7126, Tel Aviv.

Revised in August 2023 according to MOH guidelines.

Registration number of the medicine in the National Drug Registry of the Ministry of Health:

Tegretol CR 200 mg Tablets:	041 24 25416
Tegretol CR 400 mg Tablets:	041 23 25417
Tegretol 200 mg Tablets:	015 41 24602
Tegretol Syrup 2%:	022 90 24971