Patient package insert according to pharmacists' Regulations (Preparations) – 1986
This medicine can be sold with a physician's prescription only

LAMODEX 5, 25, 50, 100, 200 mg dispersible/chewable tablets

Each tablet contains lamotrigine 5, 25, 50, 100 or 200 mg, respectively.
Inactive ingredients and allergens in the medicine – see section 6 "Additional information" and in section 2 "Important information about some of the ingredients of the medicine".

Read this entire leaflet carefully before using the medicine. This leaflet contains concise information about the medicine. If you have any further questions, ask the doctor or pharmacist.
This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if you think that their medical condition is the same as yours.

1. What is the medicine intended for?

Lamodex is intended for the treatment of epilepsy (Lamodex 5, 25, 50, 100, 200 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets)
In adults and adolescents aged 13 years and above:
- **Lamodex** is given as monotherapy or in combination with other medicines to treat partial seizures and generalized seizures, including tonic-clonic seizures.
- Seizures that occur with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome. **Lamodex** is given as combination therapy with other medicines but may be used as the initial anti-epileptic drug to start treatment in Lennox-Gastaut syndrome.

In children and adolescents aged 2 to 12 years:
- **Lamodex** is given as combination therapy with other medicines to treat partial seizures and generalized seizures, including tonic-clonic seizures and seizures occurring with Lennox-Gastaut syndrome.
- **Lamodex** is given as monotherapy in typical absence seizures.

Lamodex is intended for treatment of bipolar disorder (Lamodex 25, 50, 100, 200 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets)
In adults aged 18 years and above:
- **Lamodex** is given to prevent depressive episodes in patients with bipolar disorder I who experience predominantly depressive episodes.

Lamodex is not intended for the acute treatment of manic or depressive episodes.

Therapeutic group: Lamodex belongs to a group of medicines called anticonvulsants.
Lamodex blocks the signals in the brain that trigger epileptic seizures.

2. Before using the medicine

Do not use the medicine if:

- **You are hypersensitive** (allergic) to the active ingredient (lamotrigine) or to any of the other ingredients this medicine contains (see section 6).

If this applies to you:
→ **Tell the doctor** and don't take **Lamodex**.

Special warnings regarding the use of the medicine
Before the treatment with Lamodex, tell the doctor if:
- **you have any kidney problems.**

- **you have ever developed a rash** after taking lamotrigine or other medicines for bipolar disorder or epilepsy.
- **you experience a rash or sunburn after taking lamotrigine and having been exposed to sun or artificial light (e.g. solarium).** The doctor will check your treatment and may advise you to avoid sunlight or protect yourself against the sun (e.g. use of a sunscreen and/or to wear protective clothing).
- **you have ever developed meningitis after taking lamotrigine** (read the description of these symptoms in section 4 of this leaflet: "rare side effects").
- **you are already taking medicine that contains lamotrigine.**
- **you have a condition called Brugada syndrome or other heart problems.** Brugada syndrome is a genetic disease that results in abnormal electrical activity within the heart. **Lamodex** may cause ECG abnormalities, which may lead to arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythm).

If any of these apply to you:
→ **Tell the doctor,** who may decide to lower the dosage or that **Lamodex** is not suitable for you.

Important information about potentially life-threatening reactions
A small number of people taking lamotrigine develop an allergic reaction or potentially life-threatening skin reaction, which may develop into more serious problems if they are not treated. These can include Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS). You need to know the symptoms to look out for while you are taking **Lamodex**. This risk may be associated with a variant in genes in people from Asian origin (mainly Han Chinese and Thai). If you are of such origin and have been tested previously carrying this genetic variant (HLA-B* 1502), discuss this with your doctor before taking **Lamodex**.

→ **Read the description of these symptoms in section 4 of this leaflet** under "Potentially life-threatening reactions: get medical help straight away".

Haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)
There have been reports of a rare but very serious immune system reaction in patients taking **Lamodex**.
→ **Contact the doctor or pharmacist immediately** if you experience any of the following symptoms while taking **Lamodex**: fever, rash, neurological symptoms (e.g., tremor, confusion, disturbances of brain function).

Thoughts of harming yourself or suicide
Anti-epileptic medicines are used to treat several conditions, including epilepsy and bipolar disorder. People with bipolar disorder can sometimes have suicidal thoughts or thoughts of harming themselves. If you have bipolar disorder, you may be more likely to think like this:
- when you first start treatment or with a change in dosage
- if you previously had thoughts about harming yourself or about suicide
- if you are under 25 years old

If you have distressing thoughts or experiences, or if you notice that you feel worse or develop new symptoms while you're taking **Lamodex**:
→ **Refer to a doctor as soon as possible or go to the nearest hospital for help. You may find it helpful to tell a family member, caregiver or a close friend that you can become depressed or have significant mood swings and ask them to read this leaflet. You can ask them to tell you if they are concerned about your depression or about other changes in your behavior.**

A small number of people being treated with anti-epileptics such as **Lamodex** have also had thoughts of harming or killing themselves. If at any time you have these thoughts, **immediately contact a doctor**.

If you're taking Lamodex for epilepsy
The seizures in some types of epilepsy may occasionally become worse or happen more often while you're taking **Lamodex**. Some patients may experience severe seizures, which may cause serious health problems. If your seizures happen more often or if you experience a severe seizure while you're taking **Lamodex**:
→ **Refer to a doctor as soon as possible.**

Children and adolescents
Lamodex is not intended for children under 2 years of age.
Lamodex is not intended for people aged under 18 years to treat bipolar disorder. Medicines to treat depression and other mental health problems increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviour in children and adolescents aged under 18 years.

Drug interactions
If you are taking or have recently taken other medicines, including non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements, tell the doctor or pharmacist.
The doctor needs to know if you are taking other medicines to treat epilepsy or mental health problems. This is to make sure you take the correct dosage of **Lamodex**. These medicines include:
- **oxcarbazepine, felbamate, gabapentin, levetiracetam, pregabalin, topiramate** or **zonisamide**, used to treat **epilepsy**.
- **lithium, olanzapine** or **aripiprazole**, used to treat **mental health problems**.
- **bupropion**, used to treat **mental health problems** or to **stop smoking**.
- **Paracetamol**, used to treat **pain** and **fever**.

→ **Tell the doctor** if you are taking any of these.

Some medicines interact with **Lamodex** or may make it more likely that people will have side effects. These include:
- **valproate**, used to treat **epilepsy** and **mental health problems**.
- **carbamazepine**, used to treat **epilepsy** and **mental health problems**.
- **phenytoin, primidone** or **phenobarbitone**, used to treat **epilepsy**.
- **risperidone**, used to treat **mental health problems**.
- **rifampicin**, which is an **antibiotic**.
- **medicines** used to treat **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection** (a combination of lopinavir and ritonavir or atazanavir and ritonavir).
- **hormonal contraceptives**, such as **contraceptive pills** (see below).

→ **Tell the doctor** if you are taking, or if you start or stop taking any of these.

Hormonal contraceptives (such as contraceptive pills) can affect the way Lamodex works.
The doctor may recommend that you use a particular type of hormonal contraceptive or another method of contraception such as condoms, a diaphragm or an intrauterine device. If you are using a hormonal contraceptive like contraceptive pill, the doctor may refer you for blood tests to check the level of lamotrigine. If you are using a hormonal contraceptive or plan to start using one:
→ **Talk to the doctor**, who will discuss suitable methods of contraception with you.

Lamodex can also affect the way hormonal contraceptives work, although it's unlikely to make them less effective. If you are using a hormonal contraceptive and you notice any changes in your menstrual pattern, such as breakthrough bleeding or spotting between periods:
→ **Tell the doctor**. These may be signs that **Lamodex** is affecting the way your contraceptive is working.

Use of this medicine and food
The medicine can be taken with or without food.

Pregnancy, breastfeeding and fertility
If you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to become pregnant, consult a doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine.
- **You should not stop treatment without discussing this with the doctor.** This is particularly important if you have epilepsy.
- Pregnancy may alter the effectiveness of **Lamodex**, so you may need blood tests and your dose of **Lamodex** may be adjusted accordingly.
- There may be a small increased risk of birth defects, including a cleft lip or cleft palate, if **Lamodex** is taken during the first 3 months of pregnancy.
- The doctor may advise you to take more folic acid if you're planning to become pregnant and while you're pregnant.

If you are breastfeeding or are planning to breastfeed, consult a doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine. The active ingredient of **Lamodex** passes into breast milk and may affect your baby. The doctor will discuss the risks and benefits of breastfeeding while you're taking **Lamodex**, and will check your baby from time to time, whether drowsiness, rash or poor weight gain occurs, if you decide to breastfeed. Inform the doctor if you notice any of these symptoms in your baby.

Driving and using machines
Lamodex can cause dizziness and double vision.
→ **Don't drive or use machines unless you are sure you're not affected.** As for children, they should be warned about riding a bicycle or playing near roads etc.
If you have epilepsy, talk to your doctor about driving and using machines.

Important information about some of the ingredients of the medicine
This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per tablet, that is to say, essentially "sodium free".

3. How to use this medicine?
Always use the medicine according to the doctor's instructions. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about the dosage and the manner of treatment with the medicine.
The dosage and manner of treatment will be determined only by the attending doctor on an individual basis according to the severity of the disease.

How much Lamodex to take
It may take a while to find the best dosage of **Lamodex** for you. The dosage you take will depend on:
- your age
- whether you are taking **Lamodex** with other medicines
- whether you have any kidney or liver problems

The doctor will prescribe you a low dosage to start and gradually increase the dosage over a few weeks until you reach a dosage that is right for you (called the "effective dosage"). **Never take more Lamodex than the doctor tells you to.**

Do not exceed the recommended dose.

How to take your dose of Lamodex
Take your dose of **Lamodex** once or twice a day, as the doctor instructed you. It can be taken with or without food.
- **Always take the full dose** that the doctor has prescribed for you.

The doctor may also advise you to start or stop taking other medicines, depending on what medical condition you're being treated for and the way you respond to treatment.
Lamodex tablets can be swallowed whole with a little water or chewed or mixed with water to make a liquid medicine.
Never take only part of the liquid.

To chew the tablet:
You may need to drink a little water while chewing the tablet to help the tablet dissolve in the mouth. Then drink some more water to make sure all the medicine has been swallowed.
To make a liquid medicine:
- Put the tablet in a glass with enough water to cover the entire tablet.
- Stir to dissolve or wait until the tablet is fully dissolved.
- Drink all the liquid.
- Add a little more water to the glass and drink it to make sure no medicine is left in the glass.

Lamodex 5 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: may be halved.
Lamodex 25, 50, 100, 200 mg Dispersible/ChewableTablets: Do not halve as there is no score line.
There is no information about crushing the tablet.

If you have accidentally taken a higher dosage
If you have taken an overdose or if a child has accidentally swallowed the medicine, **proceed immediately to a doctor or a hospital emergency room** and bring the package of the medicine with you.

If you take too much **Lamodex, you are more likely to develop serious side effects, which may be fatal**.
Someone who has taken too much **Lamodex** may have any of these symptoms:
- rapid, uncontrollable eye movements (nystagmus)
- clumsiness and lack of coordination, affecting balance (ataxia)
- heart rhythm changes (detected usually on ECG)
- loss of consciousness, fits (seizures) or coma

If you forgot to take a single dose of Lamodex
→ **Don't take extra tablets to make up for a forgotten dose. Take your next dose at the usual time.**
If you forget to take several doses of Lamodex
→ **Ask the doctor for advice on how to start taking it again.** It is important that you do this.

Continue with the treatment as recommended by the doctor.

Even if there is an improvement in your health, do not stop taking this medicine without consulting the doctor.

Don't stop taking Lamodex without advice
You must take **Lamodex** for as long as the doctor recommends. Don't stop unless the doctor advises you to.

If you're taking Lamodex to treat epilepsy
To stop taking **Lamodex, it is important that the dosage is reduced gradually**, over about 2 weeks. If you suddenly stop taking **Lamodex**, your epilepsy may come back or get worse.

If you're taking Lamodex to treat bipolar disorder
Lamodex may take some time to work, so you are unlikely to feel better straight away. If you stop taking **Lamodex**, your dosage will not need to be reduced gradually, but you should still talk to the doctor first if you want to stop taking **Lamodex**.

Do not take medicines in the dark! Check the label and the dose <u>each time</u> you take a medicine. Wear glasses if you need them.
If you have further questions on the use of this medicine, consult the doctor or pharmacist.

4. <u>Side effects</u>
Like any medicine, the use of **Lamodex** may cause side effects in some users. Do not be alarmed when reading the list of side effects. You may not suffer from any of them.

Potentially life-threatening reactions: seek medical help straight away
A small number of people taking lamotrigine develop an allergic reaction or potentially life-threatening skin reaction, which may develop into more serious problems if they are not treated.
These symptoms are more likely to happen during the first few months of treatment with **Lamodex**, especially if the starting dosage is too high or if the dosage is increased too quickly or if **Lamodex** is taken with another medicine called valproate. Some of the symptoms are more common in children, so parents should be especially aware of them.

Symptoms of these reactions include:
- **skin rashes or redness**, which may develop into serious or sometimes life-threatening skin reactions including rash with target lesions (erythema multiforme), widespread rash with blisters and peeling skin, particularly occurring around the mouth, nose, eyes and genitals (Stevens-Johnson syndrome), extensive peeling of the skin (more than 30% of the body surface – toxic epidermal necrolysis) or extended rashes with liver, blood and other body organ involvement (Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms which is also known as hypersensitivity syndrome DRESS)
- **ulcers in the mouth, throat, nose or genitals**
- **a sore mouth or red or swollen eyes** (conjunctivitis)
- **a high temperature (fever)**, flu-like symptoms or feeling drowsy
- **swelling around the face** or **swollen glands** in the neck, armpit or groin
- **unexpected bruising or bleeding**, or the fingers turning blue
- **a sore throat** or more infections (such as colds) than usual
- increased levels of liver enzymes seen in blood tests

- an increase in a type of white blood cell (eosinophils)
- enlarged lymph nodes
- involvement of the organs of the body, including liver and kidneys.

In many cases, these symptoms will be signs of less serious side effects, **but you must be aware that they are potentially life-threatening and can develop into more serious problems**, such as organ failure, if they are not treated. If you notice any of these symptoms:
→ **Refer to a doctor immediately.** The doctor may decide to test your liver, kidneys or blood and may instruct you to stop taking **Lamodex**. In case you have developed Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis, the doctor will tell you that you must never take **Lamodex** again.

Haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH) (see section 2: "Special warnings regarding the use of the medicine").

Very common side effects (effects that occur in more than 1 in 10 users):
- headache
- skin rash

Common side effects (effects that occur in 1-10 in 100 users):
- aggression or irritability
- feeling sleepy or drowsy
- feeling dizzy
- tremor
- insomnia
- feeling agitated
- diarrhoea
- dry mouth
- nausea or vomiting
- feeling tired
- pain in the back or joints, or elsewhere

Uncommon side effects (effects that occur in 1-10 in 1,000 users):
- clumsiness and lack of coordination (ataxia)
- double vision or blurred vision
- unusual hair loss or thinning (alopecia)
- skin rash or sunburn after exposure to sun or artificial light (photosensitivity)

Rare side effects (effects that occur in 1-10 in 10,000 users):
- skin reaction that causes red spots or lesions on the skin, which may look like a target or "bull’s eye" with a dark red center surrounded by paler red rings (erythema multiforme)
- a life-threatening skin reaction (Stevens-Johnson syndrome) (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- a group of symptoms including: fever, nausea, vomiting, headache, stiff neck and extreme sensitivity to bright light. This may be caused by an inflammation of the membranes that cover the brain and spinal cord (meningitis). These symptoms usually disappear once treatment is stopped; however, if the symptoms continue or get worse, **contact a doctor**
- rapid, uncontrollable eye movements (nystagmus)
- itchy eyes, with discharge and crusty eyelids (conjunctivitis)

Very rare side effects (effects that occur in less than 1 in 10,000 users):
- a life-threatening skin reaction (toxic epidermal necrolysis) (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- a high temperature (fever) (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- swelling around the face (oedema) or swollen glands in the neck, armpit or groin (enlarged lymph nodes) (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- changes in liver function, which will show up in blood tests or liver failure and yellowing of the skin (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- a serious disorder of blood clotting, which can cause unexpected bleeding or bruising (disseminated intravascular coagulation) (see also the information at the beginning of section 4)
- Haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH) (see section 2: "Special warnings regarding the use of the medicine")
- changes which may show up in blood tests – including reduced numbers of red blood cells (anaemia), reduced numbers of white blood cells (leucopenia, neutropenia, agranulocytosis), reduced numbers of platelets (thrombocytopenia), reduced numbers of all these types of cell (pancytopenia) and a disorder of the bone marrow called aplastic anaemia
- hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that aren't really there)
- confusion
- feeling "wobbly" or unsteady when you move about
- uncontrollable repeated body movements and/or sounds or words (tics), uncontrollable muscle spasms affecting the eyes, head and upper body (choreoathetosis) or other unusual body movements such as jerking, shaking or stiffness
- in people who have epilepsy, seizures happening more often
- in people who have Parkinson's disease, worsening of the symptoms
- lupus like reaction (symptoms may include: back or joint pain which sometimes may be accompanied by fever and/or general ill health)

Other side effects
Other side effects have occurred in a small number of users, but their exact frequency is unknown:
- There have been reports of bone disorders, including osteopenia and osteoporosis (thinning of the bone) and fractures. Check with the doctor or pharmacist if you are on long-term anti-epileptic medication, have a history of osteoporosis or take steroids
- Inflammation of the kidney (tubulointerstitial nephritis), or inflammation of both the kidney and the eye (tubulointerstitial nephritis and uveitis syndrome)
- Nightmares
- Decreased effectiveness of the immune system due to low levels of antibodies called immunoglobulins in the blood, which help protect against infections
- Red nodules or lesions on the skin (pseudolymphoma)

If a side effect occurs, if one of the side effects worsens or if you suffer from a side effect not mentioned in this leaflet, consult the doctor.

Side effects can be reported to the Ministry of Health by clicking the link "דיווח על תופעות לוואי עקב טיפול תרופתי" found on the homepage of the Ministry of Health website (www.health.gov.il) directing to the online form for reporting side effects or via the following link: https://sideeffects.health.gov.il

5. How to store the medicine?

- Avoid poisoning! This medicine and any other medicine must be stored in a closed place out of the reach and sight of children and/or infants 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 (תאריך תפוגה) stated on the package. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- **Storage conditions:** Do not store above 25°C.
- Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask the pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. Additional information

In addition to the active ingredient, the medicine also contains:
Mannitol, crospovidone, acesulfame potassium, sodium stearyl fumarate, orange flavour, silica colloidal anhydrous.

What the medicine looks like and what the package contains:
Lamodex 5 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: White to off-white, round, biconvex tablets, with a score line on one side.
Lamodex 25, 50, 100, 200 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: White to off-white, round, flat tablets with the dose debossed on one side.
Approved package sizes: 2, 7, 10, 14, 20, 28, 30, 56, 60, 100 Dispersible/Chewable Tablets.
Not all package sizes may be marketed.

Revised in June 2024 according to MOH guidelines.

Drug registration number at the national drug registry of the Ministry of Health:
Lamodex 5 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: 129-85-30811-00
Lamodex 25 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: 129-86-30812-00
Lamodex 50 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: 129-87-30813-00
Lamodex 100 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: 129-88-30814-00
Lamodex 200 mg Dispersible/Chewable Tablets: 129-89-30815-00

Manufacturer and registration holder: Dexcel Ltd., 1 Dexcel St., Or Akiva 3060000, Israel