



Patient package insert according to Pharmacists' Regulations (Preparations) – 1986

This medicine can be sold with a physician's prescription only

Lorivan[®], tablets, 1 mg

Each tablet contains lorazepam at a dosage of 1 mg.

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 this 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.

Introduction to patient leaflet for benzodiazepines

- This medicine belongs to the benzodiazepine group, which possess special properties necessitating great caution with their use.
- It is very important to ensure that patients taking **Lorivan** be under close medical supervision.
- When taking this medicine be sure to refer to the doctor after 2-4 weeks, as the treatment is intended to be for short-terms only.
- Prolonged use of the medicine may decrease its effectiveness, and lead to strong dependency effects (manifested by a strong desire or need to continue taking the medicine, a need to increase the dosage in order to achieve the desired effect of the medicine, withdrawal symptoms- see in section 3 "If you stop taking the medicine"), which will make it difficult for the patient to stop taking the medicine.
- Cessation of treatment must be done gradually.
- Unsupervised cessation of the treatment is accompanied by severe withdrawal symptoms such as: loss of sense of reality, inability to feel emotion, numbness or tingling of the arms or legs, vomiting, ringing in the ears (tinnitus), spasms, hallucinations, seizures, hypersensitivity to light, sound and touch. If you suffer from one or more of these symptoms, consult the doctor immediately.
- Occasionally, prolonged use of the medicine may cause changes in behavior and troubling thoughts.
- Take special care while walking, particularly in the case of the elderly, as the medicine impairs alertness and sometimes coordination of body movements, and may cause dizziness, and therefore there is a risk of tripping or falling.

Taking this medicine with opioid medicines, other central nervous system depressants (including street drugs) or alcohol may cause severe drowsiness, breathing problems (respiratory depression), coma and death.

1. What is the medicine intended for?

Lorivan is intended for the treatment of anxiety and tension.

Therapeutic group: benzodiazepines.

2. Before using the medicine

Do not use the medicine if:

- you are hypersensitive (allergic) to the active ingredient (lorazepam), to other medicines in the benzodiazepine group or to any of the other ingredients this medicine contains (see section 6).
 - you have severe breathing or chest problems
 - you have myasthenia gravis (very weak or tired muscles)
 - you have serious liver problems
 - you suffer from sleep apnea (breathing problems when you are asleep)
- Do not take **Lorivan** if one or more of the above conditions applies to you.

Special warnings regarding the use of the medicine

Before the treatment with Lorivan, tell the doctor if:

- you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant
- you abuse or have in the past abused drugs or alcohol
- you have a personality disorder. If so, you are at higher risk of becoming dependent on **Lorivan**
- you have kidney or liver problems
- you are elderly or debilitated (weak)
- you have suffered from depression in the past since it could re-occur during treatment with **Lorivan**
- you are suffering from depression, since **Lorivan** may increase suicidal thoughts you might have
- you have a history of psychotic illness
- you have a history of convulsions/seizures
- you suffer from breathing problems
- you suffer from an eye problem called glaucoma
- you are taking other medicines including nonprescription medicines, since they may affect the way **Lorivan** works. **Lorivan** may also affect the way other medicines work

Drug interactions

If you are taking, have recently taken or might take other medicines, including non-prescription medicines and nutritional supplements, tell the doctor or pharmacist.

Especially if you are taking:

- barbiturates - sedatives, anti-anxiety medicines
- antidepressants
- strong pain killers (e.g. opioids - keep to the lowest dosage and shortest duration of treatment as recommended by the doctor). Taking **Lorivan** with these pain killers may cause excessive sleepiness and in rare cases breathing difficulties and death
- medicines for the treatment of epilepsy (e.g. sodium valproate)
- antihistamines
- anti-psychotic medicines for mood or mental disorders (e.g. loxapine or clozapine)
- anesthetics - reversible loss of sensation
- medicines for the treatment of asthma (theophylline, aminophylline)
- probenecid (for the treatment of gout)

The dosage of these medicines may need to be reduced before you can take **Lorivan**.

Use of this medicine and alcohol consumption

Alcohol will increase the sedative effect of **Lorivan** and therefore alcohol should be avoided.

Before taking Lorivan

Tell the doctor or pharmacist that you are taking **Lorivan** before taking any other medicine or upon entering the hospital for treatment.

Some elderly patients may feel dizzy after taking **Lorivan** and be in danger of falling.

Increases in the dosage of lorazepam should be made gradually to help avoid adverse effects. The evening dose should be increased before the daytime doses.

If you have received **Lorivan** for more than 4 weeks, the doctor may send you for regular blood tests to check your blood and liver, since medicines like **Lorivan** have occasionally affected liver function.

Development of tolerance and dependence, withdrawal reactions and drug abuse

You may experience a reduction in the efficacy of this medicine (tolerance) after continued use. This medicine is recommended for short term treatment.

Treatment with this medicine also increases the sensitivity of the effects of alcohol and other medicines that affect brain function. Therefore, talk to your doctor if you are using alcohol or this type of medicines.

The use of benzodiazepines, including **Lorivan**, may lead to dependence. The risk of dependence is increased with higher doses and continuous use. It is also increased if you have a history of alcohol or drug abuse and in patients with significant personality disorders.

You must tell your doctor if:

- you have used or currently use any illegal drugs
- you regularly consume alcohol, or have in the past frequently consumed large quantities of alcohol
- you have had in the past or currently have a craving to take large amounts of medicines
- you have a personality disorder, e.g. difficulties interacting with other people or in various situations in life, even if you were not always aware of these problems.

In principle, benzodiazepines should only be used for short periods and discontinued gradually. You and your doctor should agree for how long you will take the medicine before starting the treatment.

If you stop taking the drug abruptly or reduce the dosage rapidly, withdrawal reactions can occur. Do not stop taking this medicine suddenly. Ask your doctor for advice on how to discontinue the treatment.

Some withdrawal symptoms can be life-threatening.

Withdrawal symptoms can range from mild depressed mood and sleeplessness to a major syndrome with cramps in the muscles and abdomen, vomiting, sweating, trembling and convulsions. More severe withdrawal signs and symptoms, including life threatening reactions, can include delirium tremens, depression, hallucinations, mania, psychosis, seizures, and suicidality. Convulsions/seizures may occur more often if you have preexisting seizure disorders or take other drugs that lower the convulsive threshold, such as antidepressants.

Other withdrawal reactions can include: headache, anxiety, restlessness, tension, confusion and irritability, depressed mood, feeling dizzy, feeling of detachment or alienation from oneself and the outside world, excessive perception of noise, tinnitus, tingling and numbness in the limbs, increased sensitivity to light, noise and physical contact / changes in perception, involuntary movements, feel sick to the stomach, lack of appetite, diarrhea, panic attacks, muscle pain, states of excitation, increased perception of heartbeat (palpitations), faster

heartbeat (tachycardia), feeling of losing balance, exaggerated reflexes, loss of ability to remember recent events and increase in body temperature.

Your symptoms for which this medicine was prescribed may also return for a short time (rebound phenomena).

You must not give **Lorivan** tablets to family or friends. Store this medicine in a safe place so it does not cause harm to others.

Pregnancy, breastfeeding and fertility

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask a doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Benzodiazepines, including lorazepam, may cause damage to the fetus if taken during the early stages of pregnancy. If you take this medicine during the late stages of pregnancy or during labor, your baby, when born, may be less active than other babies, have a low body temperature, with hypotonia, breathing or feeding difficulties for a while. In addition, your baby's response to cold might be temporarily impaired. If this medicine is taken regularly during the late stages of pregnancy, your baby may develop withdrawal symptoms after birth.

Lorivan should not be given to breastfeeding mothers unless the expected benefit to the mother outweighs the potential risk to the infant, as the medicine may pass into breast milk.

Driving and using machines

Lorivan may make you sleepy or affect your concentration. This may affect your ability to perform skilled tasks such as driving and operating machinery, particularly if you have not had enough sleep.

Important information about some of the ingredients of this medicine

Lorivan contains lactose. If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance for certain sugars, consult the doctor before taking this medicine.

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per tablet, that is to say essentially "sodium-free".

3. How to use the medicine?

Always use this 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 by the doctor only.

Increasing the dosage must be done gradually to minimize the risk of side effects.

Do not exceed the recommended dose.

A lower dose may be given to the elderly and debilitated people, people with kidney or liver function disorder.

The medicine is not intended for children under 13 years of age.

Swallow the medicine with a little water. There is no information about chewing/crushing.

The tablet cannot be halved. The score line on the tablet is not intended for halving.

When you take this medicine, be sure to refer to the doctor after 2-4 weeks, as the treatment is intended only for short periods lasting a few days to 4 weeks including a dose reduction towards the end of the treatment period. This reduces the risk of developing dependency on **Lorivan** tablets, or of unpleasant side effects upon their cessation.

The beneficial effect of **Lorivan** may be less noticeable after a few weeks of use.

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 forgot to take the medicine

If you forgot to take this medicine at the designated time, take a dose as soon as you remember if it is less than 3 hours after the usual time to take it. If more than 3 hours have passed, skip this dose and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

Continue with the treatment as recommended by the doctor.

If you stop taking the medicine

After finishing the prescribed treatment period with **Lorivan**, your doctor will decide whether or not you need further treatment.

Slowly reduce the number of **Lorivan** tablets and the frequency of taking them before you stop taking them. This way, your body will get used to being without the tablets and this will reduce the risk of suffering unpleasant effects when you stop taking. Your doctor will tell you how to do this.

If you stop taking **Lorivan** tablets or suddenly reduce the dose, you may develop temporary withdrawal or rebound symptoms (see section 2).

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 on the use of this medicine, consult the doctor or pharmacist.

4. Side effects

Like any medicine, the use of **Lorivan** 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.

Benzodiazepines, including lorazepam, may lead to potentially fatal breathing difficulties.

Severe allergic reactions can occur with benzodiazepine use, even after the first dose. Symptoms include swelling of the tongue or throat, shortness of breath, throat closing, nausea or vomiting. In such cases seek medical treatment immediately.

Additional side effects:

Very common side effects (effects that occur in more than 1 in 10 users):

- Sedation
- Fatigue
- Drowsiness

Common side effects (effects that occur in 1-10 out of 100 users):

- Muscle weakness
- Asthenia (loss of strength)
- Ataxia (poor muscle control)
- Confusion
- Depression
- Unmasking of hidden depression
- Dizziness

Uncommon side effects (effects that occur in 1-10 out of 1,000 users):

- Nausea
- Change in libido
- Impotence
- Decreased ability to reach orgasm

Side effects with unknown frequency (effects for which a frequency has not yet been determined):

- Hypersensitivity to light, sound and touch
- Convulsions/fits
- Constipation, yellowing of the skin and eyes
- Shaking
- Problems with vision (double vision and blurred vision)
- Slurred speech
- Headache
- Memory loss
- Heightened emotions
- Coma
- Impaired attention/concentration
- Loss of inhibitions
- Suicidal thoughts or attempts of suicide
- Increase in specific liver enzymes (bilirubin, liver transaminases and alkaline phosphatase)
- Anxiety, excitation, hostility, aggression, sexual arousal
- Balance problems
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty breathing when you are asleep
- Worsening of lung disease
- Allergic skin reactions (e.g. rash, swelling)
- Loss of hair from the head or body
- Hypersensitivity reactions
- Angioedema (swelling of the face, hands and feet)
- Syndrome of inappropriate secretion of the ADH hormone (antidiuretic hormone), in which the body produces too much hormone ADH. This may cause excess fluid in the body.
- Hyponatremia (low sodium level in the blood that can cause tiredness and confusion, muscle spasms, seizures and coma)
- Low temperature (hypothermia)
- Lowering of blood pressure
- Thrombocytopenia (decreased platelets that presents as bruising, nosebleeds and/or unexplained bleeding gums), agranulocytosis (serious white blood cell deficiency that presents as severe infection), pancytopenia (simultaneous decrease in red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets that presents as bleeding, a tendency to bruising, tiredness, shortness of breath and weakness).
- Vertigo
- Problems sleeping
- Drug abuse
- Drug dependence
- Drug withdrawal syndrome

The following side effects are more likely to occur in children and elderly patients:

- Restlessness
- Agitation

- Irritability
- Aggression
- Outbursts of anger
- Nightmares
- Hallucinations
- Personality changes
- Abnormal behavior
- False beliefs

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

Reporting of side effects

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 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, this medicine also contains:

Lactose monohydrate, sodium starch glycolate, cellulose microcrystalline, magnesium stearate, carmellose sodium.

What the medicine looks like and what the package contains

A white, round, biconvex tablet with a score mark on one side.
Approved package size: 20 tablets.

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Drug registration number at the national drug registry of the Ministry of Health:

043-71-23353-00

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