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TORSEMIDE

Brand names: Demadex®

What is this medication used for?

Torsemide is in a class of medications called diuretics, often referred to as a “water pill.” It is used to treat swelling and edema (fluid retention) associated with heart, kidney or liver disease. It is also used to lower blood pressure.

How should I take this medication?

Torsemide is usually taken by mouth. It is also available as an injection.

Torsemide should be taken during the daytime and should be taken with a full glass of water. You may take it with or without food.

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and wait until your next regularly scheduled dose. Do not take extra medicine to make up for the missed dose.

Do not take any new medication (prescription or over-the-counter) without checking with your doctor or pharmacist first.

What are the side effects of this medication?

- Torsemide may make you urinate more often and may make you thirsty. It is important to take potassium supplements (if prescribed) and get enough salt and potassium in your diet.
- Torsemide may cause nausea, headache and dizziness.
- It may cause low blood pressure that will lead to light-headedness and dizziness, especially upon sitting up or standing. Make sure that you monitor your blood pressure while taking torsemide and talk to your doctor if these effects occur.

Other side effects not listed may also occur. Check with your physician if you notice any other effects.

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience any of the following:

trouble urinating, excessive dizziness and/or lightheadedness, severe muscle weakness or cramps, swelling of the lips, face, tongue or throat.

Special Instructions:

Your blood will be tested on a periodic basis to make sure that torsemide is not causing any harmful effects. Make sure these tests are completed.

You should continue to take torsemide even if you feel well and your blood pressure is normal.

You should avoid exposure to sunlight or tanning beds while taking torsemide because it can make you more likely to get a sunburn, which could be serious. If sun exposure cannot be avoided, you should wear a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

Tell your doctor if you are allergic to sulfa as this may mean that you are allergic to torsemide as well.

Tell your doctor if you have kidney or liver disease.

This information is only a summary. Please contact your healthcare professional for additional information about this medication.

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