

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ**

**PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION**

Pr **LAMOTRIGINE**

**Lamotrigine Tablets**

**25 mg, 100 mg and 150 mg**

This leaflet is part III of a “Product Monograph” published when LAMOTRIGINE was approved for sale in Canada and is designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about LAMOTRIGINE. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

The information provided below is for patients, or parents of patients, who will be receiving LAMOTRIGINE. Please read the following information carefully before you start to take LAMOTRIGINE, even if you have taken this drug before. Please do not discard this leaflet; you may need to read it again.

**ABOUT THIS MEDICATION**

**What the medication is used for:**

LAMOTRIGINE has been prescribed to you/your child to control your/their epilepsy. Please follow your doctor’s recommendations carefully.

**What it does:**

LAMOTRIGINE affects chemicals in the brain that are involved in sending signals to the nerves. LAMOTRIGINE helps to control epileptic seizures.

**When it should not be used:**

Do NOT take or use LAMOTRIGINE if you are hypersensitive (allergic) to lamotrigine or any of the other ingredients of LAMOTRIGINE tablets (see What the nonmedicinal ingredients are).

**What the medicinal ingredient is:**

lamotrigine

**What the nonmedicinal ingredients are:**

The tablets (25 mg, 100 mg and 150 mg) contain the following non-medicinal ingredients: lactose anhydrous, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone, sodium starch glycolate, and coloring agents:

25 mg (white to off-white tablets)	- None
100 mg (peach tablets)	- Lake Blend Orange (FD & C Yellow #6/Sunset Yellow FCF, Aluminium Lake and FD & C Red #40/Allura Red AC Aluminium Lake
150 mg (light yellow)	- Iron Oxide Yellow

**What dosage forms it comes in:**

25 mg, 100 mg and 150 mg tablets

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

**Serious Warnings and Precautions – Serious Skin Rashes**

**Serious skin rashes requiring hospitalization have occurred with the use of lamotrigine. Symptoms include blistering, peeling of the lips eyes, mouth or genitals, swelling of the face and/or tongue, hives, swollen lymph nodes and fever. If you or your child develops these symptoms seek immediate medical help.**

**In children serious skin rashes can be mistaken for an infection. If your child develops a rash and fever while taking LAMOTRIGINE contact your doctor immediately.**

**Do NOT take more tablets than has been prescribed by your doctor. There is a higher chance of serious skin reactions occurring when more than the recommended number of tablets is taken.**

**There is a higher chance of developing a serious skin rash if you have a history of allergy or rash to other anti-epileptic drugs. If you or your child has had a serious skin reaction or allergy to another anti-epileptic drug you must tell your doctor.**

BEFORE you use LAMOTRIGINE talk to your doctor or pharmacist if you or your child:

- Ever had an unusual or allergic reaction to lamotrigine.
- Are/is allergic to any component of LAMOTRIGINE tablets.
- Have ever had a rash during previous treatment with lamotrigine or with any other antiepileptic drug.
- Have ever developed meningitis after taking lamotrigine.
- Are/is pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. There is a risk of malformations (e.g. cleft lip or cleft palate) associated with the use of LAMOTRIGINE in the first few months of pregnancy. Taking folic acid when planning pregnancy and during early pregnancy may be considered. If you take LAMOTRIGINE while pregnant,

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you may register yourself at the North American Antiepileptic Drug Pregnancy Registry (see contact number at the end of this information).

- Are/is breast-feeding (nursing). LAMOTRIGINE passes into breast milk and may cause side-effects in a breast-fed baby. If the decision by you and your healthcare provider is to breast-feed while taking LAMOTRIGINE, watch your baby closely for symptoms such as trouble breathing, episodes of temporarily stopping breathing, sleepiness or poor sucking. Call your baby's healthcare provider right away if you see any of these problems.
- Are/is taking any other prescription or over-the-counter medicine, including birth control pills or other female hormonal products.
- Have/has liver, kidney disease, heart problems or other medical conditions.
- Consume alcohol on a regular basis.

A small number of people taking LAMOTRIGINE, get an allergic reaction or potentially serious skin reaction, which may develop into more serious problems such as organ failure if not treated. You need to know the symptoms to look out for while you are taking LAMOTRIGINE. Please read the Serious Side Effects, How Often Do They Happen and What to do About Them section of this leaflet for more information.

A very small number of patients taking LAMOTRIGINE may experience a serious condition (haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis or HLH), in which part of the body that fights disease is overactive. If you have any of the side effects, contact your doctor immediately because, if not recognized early, this condition can be life-threatening. Please read the Serious Side Effects, How Often Do They Happen and What to do About Them table in this leaflet for more information and list of side effects.

There have been a small number of reports of suicidal behaviour (including suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts) in patients being treated with anti-epileptic medicines such as LAMOTRIGINE. If at any time you have these thoughts, contact your doctor immediately. **Do not discontinue LAMOTRIGINE on your own.**

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

Do not stop taking/giving LAMOTRIGINE unless directed by

your doctor. Always check that you have an adequate supply of LAMOTRIGINE. Remember that this medicine was prescribed only for you/your child; never give it to anyone else.

Taking the wrong medication can cause serious health problems. When your healthcare provider gives you a prescription for LAMOTRIGINE, make sure you can read it clearly and talk to your pharmacist to check that you are given the correct medicine.

**Driving and using machines:** Patients with uncontrolled epilepsy should not drive or operate machinery. Before doing tasks which require special attention, wait until you know how you respond to LAMOTRIGINE. Dizziness, poor coordination, drowsiness, double vision and blurred vision have been reported in people taking LAMOTRIGINE.

## INTERACTIONS WITH THIS MEDICATION

Consult your doctor before taking/giving your child any other medication, including over-the-counter medicines, herbal and alternative medicines. Some drugs can produce various side effects when they are used in combination with LAMOTRIGINE.

Do not start or stop using birth control pills or other female hormonal products, without consulting with your doctor.

Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you experience changes in your menstrual pattern (e.g., break-through bleeding) while taking LAMOTRIGINE and birth control pills or other female hormonal products.

LAMOTRIGINE may interfere with some laboratory tests to detect other drugs. If you require a laboratory test, tell your doctor or hospital that you are taking LAMOTRIGINE.

### Drug-Drug Interactions

Drugs that may interact with LAMOTRIGINE include:

- Valproic acid (valproate)
- Carbamazepine
- Phenytoin
- Phenobarbital
- Primidone
- Risperidone
- Rifampin
- Procainamide
- Metformin

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- Combination of lopinavir and ritonavir, or atazanavir and ritonavir
- Birth control pills or other female hormonal products.

**PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION**

**Usual dose:**

It is very important that you/your child take LAMOTRIGINE exactly as your doctor instructed.

Your doctor may increase or decrease your/your child’s medication according to your/their specific needs. Carefully follow the instructions you were given. Do not change the dose yourself.

If you plan to start or stop taking hormonal contraceptives or other female hormonal products, your doctor will give you specific instructions on the dose of LAMOTRIGINE.

Do not stop taking your medication abruptly, because your/your child’s seizures may increase. Speak to your doctor before stopping LAMOTRIGINE.

It is important to keep your/your child’s appointments for medical checkups.

LAMOTRIGINE may be taken with or without food.

LAMOTRIGINE tablets should be swallowed whole and should not be chewed or crushed.

**Overdose:**

If you think you have taken too much LAMOTRIGINE, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

**Missed Dose:**

If you/your child happens to miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If your next dose is less than 4 hours away, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at the normal time. Do not try to make up for it by doubling up on the next dose. Try not to miss any more doses. Ask your doctor for advice on how to start taking it again, even if you only stop for a few days.

**SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM**

Side effects include:

- double vision, blurred vision

- headache
- tremor, poor coordination
- dizziness
- nausea, vomiting, stomach upset
- pain in your neck, abdomen, or joints
- feeling of weakness or tiredness (fatigue)
- sleepiness/drowsiness
- difficulty sleeping (insomnia)
- nasal congestion
- skin rash
- aggression, agitation or irritability

<b>SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM</b>				
Symptom / effect		Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
		Only if severe	In all cases	
Very Common	Skin rashes or redness		✓	
Rare	<b>Severe Skin Reactions:</b> skin rashes or redness, developing into widespread rash with blisters and peeling skin, particularly around the mouth, nose, eyes and genitals, sore mouth or eyes, a high temperature (fever), flu-like symptoms or drowsiness.			✓
	<b>Choreoathetosis:</b> abnormal uncontrollable muscle movements that may involve the face, eyes (nystagmus), neck, trunk, arms or legs	✓		
	<b>Conjunctivitis:</b> itchy eyes with discharge and crusty eyelids		✓	
	<b>Aseptic meningitis:</b> fever, nausea, vomiting, headache, stiff neck and extreme sensitivity to bright light			✓
Very	<b>Hallucinations:</b> seeing		✓	

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Symptom / effect		Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
		Only if severe	In all cases	
Rare	or hearing things that aren't really there			
	Nightmares	✓		
	<b>Liver and blood problems:</b> yellowing of the skin, itching, abdominal pain and/or tenderness, feeling very tired, unexpected bleeding or bruising or the fingers turning blue, a sore throat or more infections (such as colds) than usual		✓	
	<b>Lymphadenopathy:</b> swelling of the face or swollen glands in the neck, armpits or groin		✓	
	<b>Serious blood clotting disorder:</b> unexpected or prolonged bleeding, including from your gums or nose; blood in your urine; and unexpected bruising, including in the form of small dots on the skin.			✓
Very Rare	<b>Serious immune system condition:</b> (haemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis or HLH): a high temperature (fever), skin rashes, trouble walking or seeing, and fits (seizures) for the first time or happening more often, enlarged liver and/or spleen with pain and/or tenderness in the region towards the top of the stomach, yellowing of the skin and/or eyes, swollen glands in the neck, armpit and/or groin, bleeding and/or bruising more easily;			✓

<b>SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM</b>				
Symptom / effect		Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
		Only if severe	In all cases	
	looking pale, feeling unusually tired			
Not known	Thoughts of suicide or hurting yourself		✓	
	Seizures happening more often in people who already have epilepsy			✓

*This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking LAMOTRIGINE contact your doctor or pharmacist.*

**HOW TO STORE IT**

Store your LAMOTRIGINE tablets at room temperature (15°C to 30°C) in a dry place and protected from light. Cap the bottle tightly immediately after use. **Keep out of sight and reach of children.**

### **Reporting Side Effects**

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on [Adverse Reaction Reporting](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html) (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

### **MORE INFORMATION**

This document can be found at: [www.sanis.com](http://www.sanis.com).

The full Product Monograph prepared for health professionals can be obtained by contacting the sponsor, Sanis Health Inc. at: 1-866-236-4076

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