

Medication Information Sheet



Carisoprodol

brands: Soma

Medications are only ONE part of a successful treatment plan. They are appropriate when they provide benefit, improve function and have either no or mild, manageable side effects. Importantly, medications (even if natural) are chemical substances not expected in the body, and as such have side effects. Some of the side effects might be unknown. The use of medications/drugs for any purpose requires patient consent. This practice does NOT require a patient to use any medication.

Information & potential benefits

Soma is a skeletal muscle relaxant that works in the spinal cord. It is used to treat muscle pain and cramping associated with several different medical conditions. The exact way that it works is unknown.

Potential risks and side effects

Common and basic side effects include dizziness, drowsiness and headache. Seek medical attention as soon as possible if you experience the following; severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue; hoarseness), fainting, fast heartbeat, fever, chills, loss of coordination; mood or mental changes, seizures severe or persistent dizziness, severe or persistent trouble sleeping; tremors. Do not drink alcohol while using this product. Some people who use this medicine for a long time may develop a need to continue taking it. People who take high doses are also at risk. This is known as **DEPENDENCE**. If you stop taking this medicine suddenly, you may have **WITHDRAWAL** symptoms. These may include stomach cramps, trouble sleeping, headache, nausea, or seizures. **Although this is not a controlled substance, the potential for abuse and addiction still exist.** Providers may be reluctant to prescribe this medication especially if your are taking and opiate pain reliever.

Dosing information

The smallest dose that achieves relief should be used. This medication may be prescribed up to three times daily or just at bedtime depending on symptoms.

Important information

Disclaimer: This is for informational purposes only. This does not replace the instructions you received from your provider, does not constitute initiation of medical treatment or establishment of a patient-physician relationship, does not constitute any form of recommendation, prescription or medical advice, and does not imply that the medication is appropriate or FDA approved for any condition. This information is not a complete listing of instructions, doses, uses or side effects. If this was prescribed to you, you must review this information with your pharmacist and prescriber before starting the medication. Any medication may interfere with the ability to drive, concentrate or operate machinery; patients must be responsible for their own behavior and should not engage in any dangerous activity if there is any question of impairment. All medications have side effects and drug interactions, some serious, some fatal. Let all of your practitioners and pharmacists know about every substance used. Alcohol, herbals or illegal drugs are not considered safe with these medications. Assume no medication is safe during pregnancy or while breast feeding. The medication may interfere with birth control. Almost any medication can cause sleepiness, insomnia, dizziness, confusion, hallucinations, anxiety, panic, constipation or diarrhea, headache, chest pain and nausea or vomiting, among others. Most medications should NOT be stopped suddenly because of the risk of withdrawal.