Androcur - Use | Dose | Side Effects

Androcur is a drug that contains an active substance known as Cyproterone. It is used for hormonal disorders treatment in men and women. It belongs to a group of medicines called anti-androgens.

It is used:
- To reduce drive in sexual deviation in males
- To treat prostate cancer
- To treat hirsuitism (increased hair growth in women on the face, chin and breast)
- To treat hormone-related alopecia (hair loss)

Precautions

Androcur should not be used in patients who are allergic to the active substance Cyproterone and other similar medicines. If you are experiencing symptoms such as:

1. skin rash,
2. itching,
3. redness,
4. swelling,
5. difficulty breathing, contact your doctor immediately.

It should not be used in patients who have or have ever had liver disorders (e.g. liver tumor, liver cirrhosis, jaundice). This medicine may damage the liver and worsen the condition in these
Patients. Symptoms of liver damage include:

1. jaundice (yellowing of the eyes or skin),
2. dark urine,
3. loss of appetite.

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, contact your doctor immediately. It may cause very serious damage to the liver (sometimes have a fatal outcome)! Risk of liver damage is increased at high doses of Androcur. Therefore, your doctor will recommend you to start with lower doses of this drug.

It should be avoided in patients with Dubin-Johnson syndrome (bilirubin metabolism disorder), in patients with sickle-cell anemia, in diabetics, in women who have had herpes during pregnancy as well as in patients suffering from depression.

Androcur should be avoided during pregnancy and lactation, because it may harm your baby.

It may cause brain tumor (meningioma). If so, you should immediately stop taking Androcur.

It may reduce sperm count, which causes temporary infertility. Four or five months after you stop taking Androcur, sperm count returns to normal.

### Use during pregnancy and breastfeeding

Androcur should not be used during pregnancy and breastfeeding because it may harm your baby!

### How to use

**Men:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Dose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of the drive in sexual deviations</td>
<td>50 mg twice a day (every 12 hours), over a longer period of time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prostate cancer</td>
<td>100 mg, 2-3 times a day (every 8 or 12 hours)</td>
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Dose may be increased gradually, as necessary, until the desired effect is achieved. Androcur tablet should be taken after meal, with a glass of water. Do not crush the tablet, but swallow it whole. Tablets must be taken at the same time of day. Be careful not to forget to take the Androcur tablet.

**Women:**

In women, Androcur should be used on the first day of the menstrual cycle at a dose of 50 mg twice a day (every 12 hours), until the 10th day of the cycle. Concomitant with Androcur tablets, other estrogen preparations (e.g. Diane 35) should be used in the period from the first to the 21st day of the menstrual cycle in order to normalize the menstrual cycle and prevent unwanted pregnancy.

After 21 days, do not use these medicines for the next 7 days. Bleeding occurs during this pause.
If there is no bleeding, you need to do a pregnancy test. After 7 days pause, repeat the use, regardless of whether you still have bleeding or not.

In postmenopausal women Cyproterone need to be used at a dose of 50 mg once a day, for 21 days.

Androcur tablets should be avoided in patients under the age of 18.

**Use with other medicines (Interactions)**

Androcur should be avoided in combination with the following medicines:

- **Metformin** (*Gluformin*), glimepiride, gliclazide, glibenclamide, insulin and others, used to treat diabetes. Androcur may reduce the efficacy of medicines used to treat diabetes.
- **Simvastatin** (*Cholipam*), fluvastatin, lovastatin, rosuvastatin, pravastatin, atorvastatin. These medicines are known as statins and are used to reduce high cholesterol. It may increase the effect of these medicines and therefore increases the risk of rhabdomyolysis (*breakdown of muscle tissue*).
- Red rice. Red rice contains a substance that is similar to lovastatin, and for the same reason as with statins, red rice should be avoided in combination with Androcur.
- Antibiotics, such as:
  - erythromycin,
  - clarithromycin,
  - rifampicin.
- Medicines used to treat fungal infections such as:
  - clotrimazole,
  - itraconazole,
  - ketoconazole and others.

Tell your doctor about all medications and herbal preparations you are taking.

**Side effects**

Androcur may cause the following side effects:

1. shortness of breath,
2. reduction in sperm count,
3. decreased libido,
4. mood disorders (*depression, anxiety*),
5. liver damage (*jaundice, dark urine, loss of appetite*),
6. gynecomastia (*breast enlargement in men*),
7. changes in body weight,
8. osteoporosis (*bone damage*),
9. allergy and other.

Tell your doctor if you are experiencing any of abovementioned side effects.