Domperidone is a drug that belongs to the group of medicines called dopamine antagonists (according to the mechanism of action). According to the therapeutic effect, Domperidone belongs to anti-emetic group of medicines (anti-vomiting effect). Domperidon works by speeding up the movement of food through the gastrointestinal tract and accelerates emptying of the stomach. Thus is used to relieve the unpleasant symptoms that occur after a meal: bloating, belching, nausea, heartburn, uncomfortable feeling of stomach fullness and other symptoms.

Domperidone is also used for the treatment of nausea and vomiting.

**Precautions**

Domperidone should be avoided in patients allergic to Domperidone or other similar drugs. If you are experiencing symptoms of an allergy, such as: rash, itching, redness, swelling, difficulty breathing, contact your physician immediately.

Domperidone should be avoided in patients with prolactinoma (a benign tumor of the pituitary gland). Domperidone stimulates the secretion of the prolactin, and could worsen the condition in these patients.

Domperidone should be also avoided in patients who have stomach disorders: stomach ulcer, bleeding in the stomach or abdominal cramps. Domperidone could worsen the condition in these patients.
Bearing in mind that Domperidone blocks the action of dopamine, and that dopamine affects the heart, Domperidone should not be used in patients who have or have ever had a heart attack, patients suffering from angina pectoris or arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat). Cardiac side effects of Domperidone are more common in elderly (patients above the age of 65) and when taking large doses. If you are experiencing irregular heartbeat (palpitations, rapid heartbeat, slow heartbeat), contact your doctor immediately.

Domperidone should not be used in patients with liver disorders.

Dose of Domperidone should be reduced in patients suffering from renal disorders.

**Use of Domperidone during pregnancy and breastfeeding**

Domperidone should be used during pregnancy only if the benefit to the mother outweighs the risk to the child.

Domperidone passes into breast milk and may harm your baby. Avoid breastfeeding while using Domperidone tablets.

**How to use**

Domperidone tablets should be taken before meals, with a glass of water. Do not crush or chew tablets, because it may reduce Domperidone efficacy.

The usual dose in patients above the age of 16 and adults is 10 mg, up to 3 times a day. The maximum daily dose is 30 mg. The higher doses of Domperidone may increase the potential for side effects (such as irregular heartbeat).

It is necessary to reduce the Domperidone dose in patients with impaired kidney function.

In children below the age of 16, use of Domperidone tablets is not recommended.

**Use with other medicines (Interactions)**

Domperidone should be avoided with the following medications:

- Antiarrhythmics (medicines used to treat arrhythmias), such as: amiodarone, disopyramide, ibutilide, sotalol, quinidine, dronedarone, and others. Concomitant use of Domperidone with these medications increases the risk of QT prolongation and appearance of irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia).

- Antibiotics, medicines used for the treatment of infections (bacterial and fungal), such as: erythromycin, azithromycin (Hemomycin), clarithromycin, levofloxacin, ketoconazole and others. Concomitant use of Domperidone with these medications increases the risk of QT prolongation and appearance of irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia).

- Medications used to treat depression and other mental illnesses, such as: citalopram, escitalopram, haloperidol, pimozide, and others. Concomitant use of Domperidone with these medications increases the risk of QT prolongation and appearance of irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia).

- Other medicines used to treat gastrointestinal disorders, such as: cisapride.

- Antihistamines, medicines used to relieve symptoms of an allergy, such as: mizolastine, mequitazine and others.
Medications used for the treatment of cardiac disorders, such as: diltiazem (*Cortiazem*), verapamil.

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

### Side effects

Domperidone may cause QT interval prolongation (*irregular heart-arrhythmia*), that may be life-threatening. If you are experiencing symptoms, such as: palpitations, rapid heartbeat, slow heartbeat, contact your doctor immediately.

Domperidone can increase prolactin secretion (*prolactin is a hormone produced by anterior pituitary gland*), which causes the following symptoms: galactorrhea (*milk secretion in men and women not due to breastfeeding*), gynecomastia (*enlargement of the male breast*) and amenorrhea (*absence of menstruation*).

Domperidone may also cause the following side effects: anxiety, headache, diarrhea, dry mouth, difficulty urinating, drowsiness, impotence, allergy and others.

Tell your doctor if you are experiencing any side effects.