

Prochlorperazine

Names	Prochlorperazine (proe klor per' a zeen) is the generic drug name. Compazine® and Compro® are brand names.
How is it Given?	Prochlorperazine may be given by injection into a muscle or into a vein (intravenous or IV). It is also available as a tablet to take by mouth, and in the form of a rectal suppository.
Why am I Taking This Medication and How Does it Work?	<p>Prochlorperazine is used to control nausea and vomiting.</p> <p>Prochlorperazine is a phenothiazine, a class of antipsychotic drugs. It works against nausea by blocking certain receptors in the brain.</p>
What Should I Tell My Doctor Before I Begin?	<p>Tell your doctor if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• are allergic to prochlorperazine or any other medications including anticoagulants, antidepressants, antihistamines, or medications to treat anxiety, irritable bowel disease, mental illness, motion sickness, insomnia, ulcers, or urinary problems.• have or have ever had glaucoma, balance problems, seizures, brain damage, breast cancer, any condition that affect blood cell production, heart disease, or an abnormal electroencephalogram (EEG)• you are having any of these symptoms: listlessness; drowsiness; confusion; aggression; seizures; headaches; problems with vision, hearing, speech, or balance; stomach pain or cramps; or constipation• have ever had to stop taking a medication for mental illness due to severe side effects• you plan to work with organophosphorus insecticides (a type of chemical used to kill insects)• are pregnant or are breast-feeding

This drug may interact with other medications. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all prescription or over-the-counter medications, vitamins, herbal or diet supplements that you are taking.

What Are Some Possible Side Effects?

- Drowsiness, dizziness, and/or headache
- Dry mouth, difficulty urinating, and/or constipation
- Breast enlargement and/or missed menstrual period
- Decreased sexual ability in men

How Can I Manage These Side Effects?

- To avoid dizziness upon standing: get out of bed slowly and rest your feet on the floor for a few minutes before standing up.
- Do not drive a car or operate machinery until you know how this medication affects you.
- Drink 2-3 quarts of fluids a day, especially water, to help prevent constipation and relieve dry mouth. Check with your doctor to be sure you are not on a restricted fluids diet.

When Should I Call the Doctor?

Call your doctor immediately if you have:

- any sign of an allergic reaction: itching or hives, swelling in your face or hands, swelling or tingling in your mouth or throat, chest tightness, trouble breathing, dizziness, or palpitations
- any sign of infection: fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher, chills, cough, sore throat, pain or burning upon urination; redness or tenderness along a vein, at an IV site, or at any other wound or skin irritation
- involuntary movements of your limbs or eyes or spasms of the neck, face, or jaw muscles; tongue that sticks out of the mouth, worm-like tongue movements; seizures
- vision loss, especially at night; seeing everything with a brown tint
- an erection that lasts for hours

What Else Do I Need to Know About This Medication?

- Alcohol can make the side effects of prochlorperazine worse. Talk to your doctor before having alcohol.
- Prochlorperazine may make it harder for your body to cool down when it gets very hot. Talk to your doctor if you plan to do vigorous exercise or if you will be exposed to extreme heat.
- Tell your doctors, dentists, and lab technicians taking a blood sample that you are taking prochlorperazine.
- Prochlorperazine may interfere with the results of home pregnancy tests. Do not try to test for pregnancy at home.
- Tell all your doctors and dentists you are taking prochlorperazine.
- If you would like more information about prochlorperazine, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.