WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF PIOGLITAZONE?

Side effects may or may not occur. Possible side effects include **upper respiratory tract infections, sensory disturbances, higher risk of fracture bones** and **weight gain** (due to swelling).

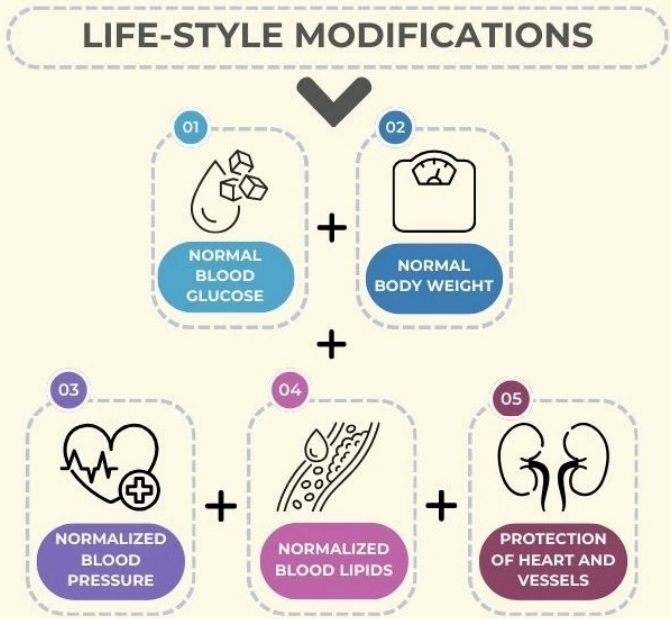
In some patients **liver and vision problems** may appear. This is why your doctor may order a blood tests for liver enzymes and controls at the ophthalmologist.



This information is based on the Summary of Product Characteristics of medicinal products containing pioglitazone and:

- https://ptdiab.pl/zalecenia- ptd/zalecania-aktywni-czlonkowie-2024
- Czupryniak L., Płaczkiewicz-Jankowska E., Strojek K.: Leczenie cukrzycy typu 2 -farmakoterapeutyczna rewolucja dokonana. Omówienie stanowiska American Diabetes Association i European Association for the Study of Diabetes 2022. Med. Prakt., 2022; 12: 32-48

HOW TO REDUCE DIABETES COMPLICATIONS?



WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MY NEW MEDICINE?

For more information see the patient information leaflet (PIL). If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Pharmacist's comments and recommendations

NEW MEDICINE SERVICE

PHARMACEUTICAL CARE

EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL FOR PATIENTS

New Medicine in the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes

PIOGLITAZONE

Drug name	
Drug dose	
Dosage/time of the day	

DIABETES TYPE 2 HOW PHARMACIST CAN HELP

Talk to your pharmacist about diabetes.

The pharmacist will:

- give you advice about medicines. This includes how to use your medicine, worries about side effects or any other questions you have
- show you how to measure your blood glucose using a glucometer
- tell you about lifestyle changes that will make it easier to control diabetes.



You can find more information about a healthy lifestyle in the leaflet, ask your pharmacist for it.

HOW WILL PIOGLITAZONE HELP ME WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES?

Pioglitazone helps your body make better use of insulin – the hormone that controls blood glucose level. It directs more glucose to the cells, reducing blood glucose level. This prevents further complications of diabetes, such as damage of the kidneys, blood vessels or nervous system.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM ALSO TAKING OTHER MEDICATIONS?

Pioglitazone may interact with other medicines you are taking, which could impact how they work or increase side effects. It is crucial to inform your doctor or pharmacist about:

- any medications you are currently taking including over-the-counter medicines, herbal products, and supplements
- any new medicines you plan to start

If you use this medicine alongside insulin or other diabetes treatments, it may lead to low blood sugar (**hypoglycemia**). Your doctor may ask you to measure your blood glucose levels regularly, and this can help to adjust medication doses.

Learn more about how to manage with hypoglycemia in the leaflet given to you by the pharmacist.



CAN I TAKE THIS MEDICINE WHILE PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING?

If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, you should not use the new medication. If you suspect you may be pregnant, take a pregnancy test. If the result is positive, contact your doctor immediately.

Attention! In patients with polycystic ovarian syndrome, pioglitazone may result in resumption of ovulation. These patients may therefore be at risk of pregnancy.

WHEN SHOULD I CONTACT A PHYSICIAN IMMEDIATELY?

Call for medical help if you experience some of the symptoms of:

- **severe allergic reaction** (swelling of the face, tongue or throat, difficulties in swallowing and breathing)
- **hepatitis** (e.g. fatigue, loss of appetite and weight, yellowing of the skin and the whites of the eyes, or your test result of liver function is abnormal)
- **heart failure** (e.g. shortness of breath, local swelling, rapid growth of body weight)
- **urinary tract problems** (e.g. hematuria, painful urination, difficulty urinating, feeling urge to urinate or urinary incontinence)



HOW SHOULD I TAKE PIOGLITAZONE?

This medicine is intended for long-term use and may be combined with another medicine lowering blood glucose levels. Be careful and rememeber the following rules:

1. Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you (check at the first page of this leaflet), preferably at the same time each day.

2. Piglitazone tablet can be taken with or between meals.

3. Do not divide, crush or chew tablets unless indicated in the leaflet. If you have any doubts, consult with pharmacist.

4. Take the medicine only with water.

5. If you forget to take a dose, just carry on with the next dose as normal. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

6. If your blood glucose level is normal, this means the medicine works well. Continue taking medication, and do not change the dose.

7. This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not share it with others. It may harm them, even if their illness is the same as yours.

