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## Pramipexole

**Generic Name:** Pramipexole (PRAM-i-PEX-ole)

**Brand Name:** Mirapex

### Pramipexole is used for:

Treating the signs and symptoms of Parkinson disease. It is also used to treat restless legs syndrome (RLS). It may also be used for other conditions as determined by your doctor.

Pramipexole is a dopamine agonist. It is thought that the shaking (tremors) of Parkinson disease is caused by reduced amounts of the chemical transmitter dopamine in the brain. Exactly how Pramipexole works is unknown, but it may stimulate the dopamine receptors in the brain.

### Do NOT use Pramipexole if:

- you are allergic to any ingredient in Pramipexole

Contact your doctor or health care provider right away if any of these apply to you.

### Before using Pramipexole :

Some medical conditions may interact with Pramipexole . Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have any medical conditions, especially if any of the following apply to you:

- if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding
- if you are taking any prescription or nonprescription medicine, herbal preparation, or dietary supplement
- if you have allergies to medicines, foods, or other substances
- if you have kidney problems, low blood pressure, or daytime sleepiness
- if you drink alcohol or have a history of compulsive behavior (eg, eating, gambling, shopping)

Some MEDICINES MAY INTERACT with Pramipexole . Tell your health care provider if you are taking any other medicines, especially any of the following:

- Cimetidine, diltiazem, quinidine, quinine, ranitidine, triamterene, or verapamil because they may increase the risk of Pramipexole 's side effects
- Levodopa because the risk of its side effects may be increased by Pramipexole
- Butyrophenones (eg, haloperidol), metoclopramide, phenothiazines (eg, chlorpromazine), or thioxanthenes (eg, thiothixene) because they may decrease Pramipexole 's effectiveness

This may not be a complete list of all interactions that may occur. Ask your health care provider if Pramipexole may interact with other medicines that you take. Check with your health care provider before you start, stop, or change the dose of any medicine.

## How to use Pramipexole :

Use Pramipexole as directed by your doctor. Check the label on the medicine for exact dosing instructions.

- An extra patient leaflet is available with Pramipexole . Talk to your pharmacist if you have questions about this information.
- Take Pramipexole by mouth with or without [food](#). If stomach upset occurs, take with food to reduce stomach irritation.
- Your dose will be started low and gradually increased to achieve the best results. Do not change your dose sooner than recommended.
- Do not suddenly stop taking Pramipexole without checking with your doctor. Severe side effects, including fever, mental or mood changes, and stiff muscles, may occur.
- If you miss a dose of Pramipexole , take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not take 2 doses at once. If you miss several doses, contact your doctor before you start to take Pramipexole again.

Ask your health care provider any questions you may have about how to use Pramipexole .

## Important safety information:

- Pramipexole may cause drowsiness or dizziness. These effects may be worse if you take it with alcohol or certain medicines. Use Pramipexole with caution. Do not drive or perform other possibly unsafe tasks until you know how you react to it.
- Do not drink alcohol or use medicines that may cause drowsiness (eg, [sleep aids](#), muscle relaxers) while you are using Pramipexole ; it may add to their effects. Ask your [pharmacist](#) if you have questions about which medicines may cause drowsiness.
- Pramipexole may cause dizziness, lightheadedness, or fainting; alcohol, hot weather, exercise, or fever may increase these effects. To prevent them, sit up or stand slowly, especially in the [morning](#). Sit or lie down at the first sign of any of these effects.
- Some patients who take Pramipexole have reported suddenly [falling asleep](#) while performing daily activities (eg, driving, eating, conversing). Many patients reported drowsiness before falling asleep. However, some patients did not experience drowsiness and felt that they were alert immediately before suddenly falling asleep. Use caution when driving, operating machinery, or performing other activities that could be dangerous. Inform your doctor if you experience unusual drowsiness or sleepiness while using Pramipexole .
- If you are taking Pramipexole for RLS, contact your doctor if you experience new or worsening symptoms, especially in the early morning hours.
- Some people have experienced new, unusual, or increased urges (eg, gambling, sexual urges) while using Pramipexole . Tell your doctor right away if you notice such effects.
- Patients with Parkinson disease may have an increased risk of developing a certain type of [skin](#) cancer (melanoma). It is not known if Pramipexole also increases the risk of melanoma. You may need to have skin exams while you are using Pramipexole . Discuss any questions or concerns with your doctor.
- Lab tests, including blood pressure or skin checks, may be performed while you use Pramipexole . These tests may be used to monitor your [condition](#) or check for side effects. Be sure to keep all doctor and lab appointments.
- Use Pramipexole with caution in the ELDERLY; they may be more sensitive to its effects, especially hallucinations.
- Pramipexole should be used with extreme caution in CHILDREN; safety and effectiveness in children have not been confirmed.
- PREGNANCY and BREAST-FEEDING: If you become pregnant, contact your doctor. You will need to discuss the benefits and risks of using Pramipexole while you are pregnant. It is not known if Pramipexole is found in breast milk. Do not breast-feed while taking Pramipexole .

## Possible side effects of Pramipexole :

All medicines may cause side effects, but many people have no, or minor, side effects. Check with your doctor if any of these most COMMON side effects persist or become bothersome:

Abnormal dreams; constipation; diarrhea; dizziness; drowsiness; dry mouth; headache; loss of appetite; nausea; stuffy nose; tiredness; [trouble sleeping](#); upset stomach; weakness.

Seek medical attention right away if any of these SEVERE side effects occur:

Severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue); abnormal thinking; change in behavior, mood, or emotions; chest pain; confusion; decreased sexual ability; difficulty walking; fainting; hallucinations; increased urination; memory loss; muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness; new or unusual skin growths; severe or persistent drowsiness or sleepiness; shortness of breath; sudden irresistible urge to [sleep](#) or suddenly falling asleep at unusual times; swelling of the arms or legs; trouble swallowing; unusual or intense urges (eg, gambling, sexual urges); unusual twitching or muscle movements; vision changes; vivid dreams or daydreams.

This is not a complete list of all side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, contact your health care provider. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088. You may also report side effects at <http://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

### If OVERDOSE is suspected:

Contact 1-800-222-1222 (the American Association of Poison Control Centers), your local poison control center (<http://www.aapcc.org>), or emergency room immediately. Symptoms may include agitation; chest pain; confusion; decrease in blood pressure; difficulty moving; drowsiness; nausea; sedation; vomiting.

### Proper storage of Pramipexole :

Store Pramipexole at 77 degrees F (25 degrees C). Brief storage at temperatures between 59 and 86 degrees F (15 and 30 degrees C) is permitted. Store away from heat, [moisture](#), and light. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep Pramipexole out of the reach of children and away from pets.

### General information:

- If you have any questions about Pramipexole , please talk with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Pramipexole is to be used only by the patient for whom it is prescribed. Do not share it with other people.
- If your symptoms do not improve or if they become worse, check with your doctor.

This information is a summary only. It does not contain all information about Pramipexole . If you have questions about the medicine you are taking or would like more information, check with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.

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### More Pramipexole resources

Pramipexole Side Effects in More Detail  
Pramipexole Use in Pregnancy & Breastfeeding  
Pramipexole Drug Interactions  
Support Group Q & A  
29 Reviews for Pramipexole - Add your own review/rating

- Pramipexole Prescribing Information (FDA)
- pramipexole Advanced Consumer (Micromedex) - Includes Dosage Information
- Mirapex Prescribing Information (FDA)
- Mirapex Detailed Consumer Information (PDR)
- Mirapex Consumer Overview

**Compare Pramipexole with other medications for the treatment of:**

Parkinson's Disease  
Periodic Limb Movement Disorder  
Restless Legs Syndrome