

## Medication Information

### Buspar (Buspirone)

Buspirone is used to treat anxiety, depressive symptoms, aggressiveness, irritability, and agitation. It may also be used to augment the effectiveness of an antidepressant.

#### Proper use

This medication is not addictive, and does not cause a high feeling. It must be taken on a regular basis to be of benefit and may require 2-6 weeks before the full effects are noticed.

"As needed" doses may not relieve anxiety. Take this medication exactly as directed. Do not take more of it and do not take it more often than prescribed. Do not miss any doses.

Do not drink alcohol while taking this medication, as alcohol may interfere with its effectiveness.

Buspirone should be taken with food, for better absorption. If there is a possibility you may become pregnant or breast-feed while on this medication, first consult with your physician. This medication should not be discontinued without first consulting with your physician. Store this medication in a cool, safe place away from the reach of children.

#### Possible side effects include

Drowsiness: Occurs rarely. Make sure you know how you react to this medicine before driving or using dangerous machinery. Dizziness: This is uncommon, but may occur especially 30-60 minutes after taking a dose, with walking or standing. This usually does not last longer than 20 minutes, and may disappear with continued use. Nausea: This is uncommon and may disappear with continued use. Headache: This is uncommon and tends to disappear with continued use.

Headache responds to over-the-counter analgesics, such as Tylenol, Aspirin, Motrin, Aleve, etc. Insomnia: This is uncommon and tends to disappear with continued use. Nervousness: This is uncommon and tends to disappear with continued use or lower dose.

#### Other medications may require dosage adjustment while taking Buspirone

Benzodiazepines (Valium, Ativan, Xanax, Klonopin, Librium, Tranxene, Paxipam, Dalmane, Serax, Centrax, ProSom, Doral, Restoril, Halcion), Haldol, Digoxin, Cyclosporin, A/Sandimmune, Diltiazem, Verapamil. Monoamine oxidase inhibitors (Marplan, Parnate, Nardil, St. Johns Wort), Antidepressants that may raise serotonin (Celexa, Prozac, Luvox, Paxil, Zoloft, Effexor) Barbiturates, Dexamethasone, Rifampin, Carbamazepine, Phenytoin, Fosphenytoin, Nefazodone, Ritonavir, Antabuse, Erythromycin, Biaxin), itraconazole. Ginkgo biloba may interfere with effectiveness.

Grapefruit juice may increase levels of buspirone.