

Avandia

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Drug name

Avandia (Rosiglitazone)

Drug Uses

Avandia is used for treating type 2 diabetes in certain patients. It is used along with diet and exercise. It may be used alone or with other antidiabetic medicines.

How Taken

Use Avandia as directed by your doctor. Check the label on the medicine for exact dosing instructions. Avandia comes with an extra patient information sheet called a Medication Guide. Read it carefully. Read it again each time you get Avandia refilled. Take Avandia by mouth with or without food. Continue to take Avandia even if you feel well. Do not miss any doses. Taking Avandia at the same time each day will help you remember to take it.

Drug Class and Mechanism

Avandia is a thiazolidinedione antidiabetic. It lowers blood sugar by making the cells of the body more sensitive to the action of insulin.

Missed Dose

If you miss a dose of Zyvox, 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.

Storage

Store at room temperature at 77 degrees F (25 degrees C) away from light and moisture. Brief storage between 59-86 degrees F (15-30 degrees C) is permitted. Do not store in the bathroom. Keep all medicines away from children and pets.

Warnings Precautions

Do NOT use Avandia if:

- you are allergic to any ingredient in Avandia
- you have moderate to severe heart failure
- you have type 1 diabetes
- you have a history of liver problems, including jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes), during therapy with a similar medicine called troglitazone
- you are taking nitrates (eg, nitroglycerin) or using insulin

Contact your doctor or health care provider right away if any of these apply to you. Some medical conditions may interact with Avandia . 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 diabetic ketoacidosis (a severe problem associated with diabetes)
- if you have a history of liver problems, abnormal liver function tests, heart problems (eg, congestive heart failure), or eye or vision problems
- if you have swelling problems (edema)

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

- Insulin or nitrates (eg, nitroglycerin) because the risk of heart problems may be increased
- Gemfibrozil or oral antidiabetic medicines (eg, glipizide) because the risk of low blood sugar may be increased
- Rifampin because it may decrease Avandia 's effectiveness, resulting in high blood sugar
- Anticoagulants (eg, warfarin) because their effectiveness may be decreased or the risk of their side effects may be increased by Avandia

Possible Side Effects

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:

- Headache; weight gain.

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); blurred vision or other vision changes; chest pain; fainting; numbness of an arm or leg; severe headache, stomach pain, or vomiting; symptoms of heart failure (eg, shortness of breath; sudden unexplained weight gain; swelling of the hands, ankles, or feet); symptoms of liver problems (eg, dark urine; yellowing of the skin or eyes; unexplained nausea, vomiting, or loss of appetite; stomach pain); symptoms of low blood sugar (eg, anxiety, increased sweating, dizziness or drowsiness, headache, chills, tremors, increased hunger); unusual bone pain; unusual tiredness or

weakness.

More Information

If you have any questions about Avandia , please talk with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider. Avandia 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.

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