

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

In this leaflet:

1. What Dutamax® is and what it is used for
2. Before you take Dutamax®
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1. What Dutamax® is and what it is used for

Pharmacotherapeutic group:

Dutamax® belongs to a group of testosterone-5-alpha reductase inhibitors. ATC: G04CB.

Dutamax® (Dutasteride) reduces circulating levels of dihydrotestosterone (DHT) by inhibiting the 5-alpha-reductase type 1 and type 2 isoenzymes responsible for the conversion of testosterone into 5-alpha-DHT.

Therapeutic indications:

- Treatment of moderate to severe symptoms of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).
- Reduction of the risk of acute urinary retention (AUR) and surgery in patients with moderate to severe symptoms of BPH.

2. Before you take Dutamax®

- **a. Do not take Dutamax® in:**
 - Women, children and adolescents.
 - Hypersensitivity to Dutasteride or to any of the other excipients.
 - Angioedema and hypersensitivity reactions have occurred in patients receiving Dutasteride therapy.

b. Take special care with Dutamax®

- Combination therapy should be prescribed after careful benefit risk assessment due to the potential increased risk of adverse events and after consideration of alternative treatment options including monotherapies.
- Dutasteride is absorbed through the skin, therefore women and children must avoid contact with leaking capsules. If contact is made with leaking capsules the contact area should be washed immediately with soap and water.
- The effect of hepatic impairment on dutasteride pharmacokinetics has not been studied. Because dutasteride is extensively metabolized and has a half-life of 3 to 5 weeks, caution should be used in the administration of dutasteride to patients with liver disease.

Effects on prostate specific antigen (PSA) and prostate cancer detection
Digital rectal examination, as well as other evaluations for prostate cancer should be performed on patients with BPH prior to initiating therapy with dutasteride and periodically thereafter. Serum prostate-specific antigen (PSA) concentration is an important component of the screening process to detect prostate cancer. Generally, a serum PSA concentration greater than 4 ng/mL (Hybritech) requires further evaluation and consideration of prostate biopsy.

Physicians should be aware that a baseline PSA less than 4 ng/mL in patients taking dutasteride does not exclude a diagnosis of prostate cancer. Dutasteride causes a decrease in serum PSA levels by approximately 50% after 6 months in patients with BPH, even in the presence of prostate cancer. Although there may be individual variation, the reduction in PSA by approximately 50% is predictable as it was observed over the entire range of baseline PSA values (1.5 to 10 ng/mL). Therefore to interpret an isolated PSA value in a man treated with Dutamax® for 6 months or longer, PSA values should be doubled for comparison with normal ranges in untreated men. This adjustment preserves the sensitivity and specificity of the PSA assay and maintains its ability to detect prostate cancer. Any sustained increases in PSA levels while on Dutamax® should be carefully evaluated, including consideration of non-compliance to therapy with Dutamax®. Total serum PSA levels return to baseline within 6 months of discontinuing treatment. The ratio of free to total PSA remains constant even under the influence of Dutamax®. If clinicians elect to use

percent-free PSA as an aid in the detection of prostate cancer in men undergoing dutasteride therapy, no adjustment to its value is necessary.

c. Taking other medicines, herbal or dietary supplements

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Effects of other drugs on the pharmacokinetics of dutasteride

Use with inhibitors of CYP3A4 and/or P-glycoprotein

Dutasteride is mainly eliminated by metabolism. In vitro studies indicate that this metabolism is catalysed by CYP3A4 and CYP3A5. No interaction study has been conducted with potent CYP3A4 inhibitors. But in a population pharmacokinetic study, mean serum concentrations of dutasteride were respectively 1.6 to 1.8 times greater in a small number of patients receiving concomitant treatment with verapamil or diltiazem (moderate inhibitors of CYP3A4 and inhibitors of P-glycoprotein) than in the other patients.

Long-term combination of dutasteride with potent inhibitors of the enzyme CYP3A4 (such as ritonavir, indinavir, nefazodone, itraconazole, or ketoconazole administered by the oral route) may increase serum concentrations of dutasteride. Further inhibition of 5-alpha-reductase as a result of increased exposure to dutasteride is unlikely. However, a reduction in the frequency of administration of dutasteride may be considered should an undesirable effect arise. It should be noted that in the case of enzymatic inhibition, the long half-life may be further increased and more than 6 months of concomitant treatment may be needed to attain a new steady state.

Administration of 12 g of cholestyramine 1 hour before a single 5 mg dose of dutasteride had no influence on the pharmacokinetics of dutasteride.

Effects of dutasteride on the pharmacokinetics of other drugs

Dutasteride has no effect on the pharmacokinetics of warfarin or digoxin. This indicates that dutasteride neither inhibits nor induces CYP2C9 or P-glycoprotein. In vitro interaction studies have shown that dutasteride does not inhibit the enzymes CYP1A2, CYP2D6, CYP2C9, CYP2C19 or CYP3A4.

There was no evidence of pharmacokinetic interaction when dutasteride was co-administered with tamsulosin or terazosin in a clinical study with 24 healthy men treated for 2 weeks.

There was also no indication of a pharmacodynamic interaction in this study. If you have any further questions about this you should speak to your doctor.

d. Taking Dutamax® with food and drink

The capsules should be swallowed whole and not chewed or opened, as contact with the capsule contents may result in irritation of the oropharyngeal mucosa.

Dutamax® capsules may be taken with or without food.

e. Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Pregnancy
Dutasteride is contraindicated for use by women.

Lactation
It is not known whether dutasteride is excreted in breast milk.

f. Driving and using machines

You are advised not to drive a car or operate machinery until you know how Dutasteride affects you.

3. How to take Dutamax®

Always take Dutamax® exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Dutamax® can be administered alone or in combination with the alpha-blocker Tamsulosin 0.4 mg (Prostac®).

Adults (including the elderly)
The recommended dosage of Dutamax® is one capsule (0.5 mg) per day by the oral route. Even if a rapid improvement is observed, a course of treatment of at least 6 months may be needed to obtain optimal response. There is no need for dosage adjustment in the elderly.

Renal impairment
The pharmacokinetics of dutasteride have not been investigated in patients with impaired renal function. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that dosage adjustment will be necessary in patients with renal impairment.

Hepatic impairment
As the pharmacokinetics of dutasteride have not been investigated in patients with impaired hepatic function, precautions should be taken in patients with mild to moderate hepatic

impairment. Dutasteride is contraindicated in patients with severe hepatic impairment.

If you take more Dutamax® than you should

In studies of Dutamax® conducted with healthy volunteers, single daily doses of dutasteride up to 40 mg/day (80 times the therapeutic dose) were administered for 7 days without any significant tolerability problem. In the clinical studies, daily doses of 5 mg were administered to subjects for 6 months without undesirable effects other than those seen with therapeutic doses of 0.5 mg.

There is no specific antidote for Dutamax® and, consequently, symptomatic treatment and appropriate supportive measures are to be administered in cases of suspected overdose.

If you forget to take Dutamax®

Do not take a double dose to make up for forgotten doses. If you do forget to take a dose, and you remember before you go to bed, take it straight away. Carry on as usual the next day. If you only remember during the night, or the next day, leave out the missed dose and carry on as usual.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Dutasteride Monotherapy

The following investigator-judged drug-related adverse events (with incidence more than or equal to 1%) have been reported more commonly in the three phase III placebo controlled studies on dutasteride treatment compared to placebo:

Adverse event	Incidence during year 1 of treatment	
	Placebo (n=2158)	Dutasteride (n=2167)
Impotence	3%	6%
Altered (decreased) libido	2%	4%
Ejaculation disorders	<1%	2%
Breast disorders*	<1%	1%

Adverse event	Incidence during year 2 of treatment	
	Placebo (n=1736)	Dutasteride (n=1744)
Impotence	1%	2%
Altered (decreased) libido	<1%	<1%
Ejaculation disorders	<1%	<1%
Breast disorders*	<1%	1%

*: includes breast tenderness and breast enlargement

No change to the adverse event profile was apparent over a further 2 years in open-label extension studies.

Dutasteride and Tamsulosin Combination Therapy

The following investigator-judged drug-related adverse events (with an incidence of greater than or equal to 1%) have been reported in the 2 year analysis of the CombAT (Combination of Dutamax® and Tamsulosin) Study, a comparison of dutasteride 0.5 mg and Tamsulosin 0.4 mg once daily for four years in combination or as monotherapy.

Adverse event	Incidence during year 1 of treatment		
	Dutasteride +Tamsulosin (n=1610)	Dutasteride (n=1623)	Tamsulosin (n=1611)
Impotence	7%	5%	3%
Altered (decreased) libido	5%	4%	3%
Ejaculation disorders	9%	2%	3%
Breast disorders*	2%	2%	<1%
Dizziness	1%	<1%	1%

Adverse event	Incidence during year 2 of treatment		
	Dutasteride +Tamsulosin (n=1424)	Dutasteride (n=1457)	Tamsulosin (n=1468)
Impotence	1%	1%	<1%
Altered (decreased) libido	<1%	<1%	<1%
Ejaculation disorders	<1%	<1%	<1%
Breast disorders*	<1%	1%	<1%
Dizziness	<1%	<1%	<1%

*: includes breast tenderness and breast enlargement

Postmarketing Data

Frequency categories are defined as: very common (≥1/10), common (≥1/100 and <1/10), uncommon (≥1/1000 and <1/100), rare (≥1/10,000 and <1/1000) and very rare (<1/10,000) including isolated reports. Frequency categories determined from post-marketing data refer to reporting rate rather than true frequency.

Immune system disorders

Very rare: Allergic reactions, including rash, pruritus, urticaria, localized edema, and angioedema.

If any of the side effects gets serious or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5. How to store Dutamax®

- Keep out of the reach and sight of children.
- Do not store above 30°C.
- Do not use Dutamax® after the expiry date which is stated on the carton after Exp. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.
- Dutamax® does not require any special storage conditions.
- Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Further information

a. What Dutamax® contains

The active substance is: Dutasteride.
Dutamax® 0.5: Each soft gelatin capsule contains 0.5 mg Dutasteride.

The other ingredients are:

Capmul MCM, Butylated Hydroxy Toluene, Gelatin 160 Bloom, Glycerin, Purified water, Titanium Oxide, Ferric Oxide Yellow.

b. What Dutamax® looks like and contents of the pack

Pharmaceutical form: Soft Gelatin Capsule

Physical Description:

Dull yellow Opaque color, oblong shape soft gelatin capsule containing clear transparent liquid imprinted with "DUTA05" using black color ink.

- Is available in the pack size of 30 Capsules.

- Hospital packs are also available (500, 1000); Not all pack sizes are available in all countries.

Dutamax® 0.5: are packed in white opaque PVC/PVDC Aluminium blister, in carton box with a folded leaflet.

c. Marketing Authorisation Holder

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This is a medicament

- A medicament is a product which affects your health, and its consumption contrary to instructions is dangerous to you.
- Follow strictly the doctor's prescription, the method of use and the instructions of the pharmacist who sold the medicament.
- The doctor and the pharmacist are experts in medicine, its benefits and risks.
- Do not by yourself interrupt the period of treatment prescribed for you.
- Do not repeat the same prescription without consulting your doctor.
- Keep medicament out of the reach of children.

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