

**INFORMATION FOR THE PATIENT**  
**<sup>N</sup>METADOL<sup>TM</sup>**  
**(Methadone Hydrochloride)**

**What is <sup>N</sup>METADOL?**

METADOL is a tablet or solution of methadone to be taken orally.

**What is <sup>N</sup>METADOL used for?**

Methadone treats severe pain and should help you to live more comfortably and independently. The level of pain you experience may increase or decrease from time to time and your doctor may need to adjust the amount of methadone you take (daily dosage).

**WHEN YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE THIS MEDICINE:**

Do not take this medicine if you have ever had an allergic reaction to methadone or to other types of narcotic pain medicine such as codeine.

**HOW TO TAKE AND STORE THIS MEDICINE:**

- Your doctor will tell you how much to take and how often. It is very important to take this medicine as your doctor has prescribed. Follow the directions exactly as indicated on the label.
- The product can be taken as given to you by the pharmacist or as directed by the pharmacist.
- If taking the solution measure the dose carefully using a measuring spoon or medicine cup.
- Keep all medicine out of the reach of children.
- Store in a refrigerator. Do not freeze.
- Contact your doctor immediately if your pain becomes worse or if you experience adverse side effects. The doctor may adjust the amount of methadone you take (daily dosage).

**IF YOU MISS A DOSE:**

- Take the missed dose as soon as possible.
- If it is almost time for your next dose, wait until then to take your medicine and skip the missed dose.

- Do not take two doses at the same time.

### **IF YOU MISS MORE THAN ONE DOSE**

Patients should contact their doctor immediately.

### **OTHER MEDICATIONS AND FOODS TO AVOID:**

- Ask your doctor or pharmacist before taking any other medicine, including over-the-counter products as they may effect your response to methadone.
- Avoid drinking alcohol.
- Make sure your doctor knows if you are taking any other kind of medicine that could make you drowsy, such as sedatives, cold or allergy medicine, sleeping pills, muscle relaxants, or strong pain killers .

### **WARNING:**

- Check with you doctor before taking methadone if you have asthma, seizures, low blood pressure, liver or kidney disease.
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, talk to your doctor before taking this medicine.
- This medicine can be habit-forming. Do not take more than what your doctor has prescribed.
- If you have taken this medicine for several weeks, ask your doctor before stopping, you may need to take smaller and smaller doses before stopping completely.
- This medicine may cause dizziness or confusion. Be careful if driving a car or using machinery.
- Tell your doctor if you have never used an opioid analgesic before.

### **SIDE EFFECTS:**

Call your doctor right away if you have any of these side effects :

- Fast or slow heartbeat.
- Trouble breathing.
- Hives, skin rash, or itching.
- Severe confusion, hallucinations.

If you have these less serious side effects, tell your doctor.

- Drowsiness, dizziness, or weakness
- Headache

- Dry mouth, nausea or vomiting
- Constipation
- Excessive sweating, facial flushing (redness)

IF YOUR PAIN INCREASES OR IF YOU HAVE OTHER SIDE EFFECTS THAT YOU THINK ARE CAUSED BY THIS MEDICINE, CONSULT WITH YOUR DOCTOR.

**PRESCRIPTION RUNNING OUT:**

When you need more METADOL a new written prescription is required from your doctor. It is very important that you do not miss any doses of your medication, contact your doctor to ensure that there is enough time to renew your prescription.