

Catapres (Clonidine)

Parent Information Sheet

Why it is prescribed

Catapres is most commonly prescribed for the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), sleep disturbances, and Tourette's Syndrome.

How to give Catapres

- Catapres is prescribed only for use by the patient whose name appears on the prescription.
- Catapres requires adult supervision at home and at school. Your child should not be expected to remember to take the medication on his/her own. Your school will require a form for school medication administration signed by the doctor.
- Take Catapres exactly as your doctor has prescribed. Do not give the medication more often or in larger doses than what the doctor has ordered. If you have any questions or concerns about Catapres, call your doctor's office.
- If you miss a dose, give the remaining doses for that day at the next scheduled time. Do not take a double dose.
- It may take 2 – 8 weeks to see a full response to this medicine. **Do not suddenly stop administering this medicine to your child.** The tablets must be tapered slowly over several days to avoid a rapid increase in blood pressure, nervousness, agitation, or headache.
- Always tell the dentist and other doctors that your child is on this medication. Dentists and doctors sometimes sedate patients for procedures, and they must know you are receiving a medicine that causes sedation.
- Always check with your doctor or pharmacist before you give any new medicine. Ask if there are any interactions with your child's medicine.
- Never stop taking this medicine without consulting your child's doctor.

Side Effects

The most common: drowsiness, sleepiness, dizziness, and headaches.

Procedure for getting prescription

- If you require a prescription refill before your next scheduled appointment, please call the clinical services office at (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.
- The prescription can be called into the pharmacy. Please have the pharmacy phone number available.
- The Detroit Institute for Children is not open on weekends or holidays. The clinical services office is open from 8 a.m. till 5 pm Monday through Thursday and 8 am till 12 noon on Fridays.
- If you are overdue for a return appointment or have not kept a scheduled appointment, your child's doctor reserves the right not to prescribe the medication.

The phone number to the office is (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.

***Poison Control Center:
1-800-764-7661 (1-800-POISON-1)***