

Mellaril (thioridazine)

Parent Information Sheet

Why it is prescribed

Mellaril is used to treat nervous, mental and emotional conditions, such as disordered thinking, phobias or fears, anxiety and depression. Also used for severe behavioral problems in children.

How to give Mellaril

- Mellaril is prescribed only for use by the patient whose name appears on the prescription.
- Mellaril 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.
- Give Mellaril exactly as your doctor has prescribed
- Do not give Mellaril more often or in larger doses than what your doctor has ordered. If you have any questions or concerns about the current medication, call your doctor's office.
- If you miss a dose take the missed dose as soon as possible; then take the remaining doses for that day at regularly spaced times. Do not give a double dose.
- Never discontinue your child's medication without first consulting a doctor.

Your child's doctor is:

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

Side Effects

The most common but infrequent: dizziness, low blood pressure, dry mouth, visual disturbances, sudden muscle spasms and stomach upset.

Serious: severe muscle stiffness, altered mental ability, irregular pulse, increased body heat and sweating. Uncontrolled movement of tongue, mouth, jaws, arms or legs.

Call your doctor immediately about serious side effects.
(313) 832-1100 ext. 220

Special Considerations

- Mellaril increases sensitivity to the sun. Wear protective clothing and use a sunscreen (SPF 15 or above) during sun exposure.
- Combining Mellaril with other medications may alter their actions or produce unwanted side effects. Always tell your doctor about any other drugs (prescription or over-the-counter) you are taking.

Procedure for getting a prescription

- If you require a prescription refill before your next scheduled appointment, please call the clinical services office at (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.
- Please have your pharmacy phone number available before calling for prescription refills.
- The Detroit Institute for Children is not open on weekends or holidays. The clinical services office is open from 8 am-5 pm Monday through Thursday and 8 am – 12 noon on Friday.
- 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.

Poison Control Center:

1-800-764-7661 (1-800-POISON-1)