

Paxil (paroxetine)

Parent Information Sheet

Why it is prescribed

Paxil is given for the treatment of depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and panic attacks.

How to give Paxil

- Paxil is prescribed only for use by the patient whose name appears on the prescription.
- Paxil 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 Paxil exactly as your doctor has prescribed.
- Do not give Paxil 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.

Your child's doctor is:

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

Side Effects

The most **common**: headache, dry mouth, constipation, diarrhea, nausea, dizziness, drowsiness.

Serious: seizures, thoughts of suicide, worsening of depression, an allergic reaction such as hives, itching, rash, trouble breathing. If you experience a serious side effect, contact your doctor or go to the nearest emergency room immediately.

Special Considerations

- Combining Paxil with other medications may alter their actions or produce unwanted effects. Always tell your doctor about any other drugs 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)