

Medication Guide
Questions and Answers About

ELMIRON[®]
(Generic name = pentosan polysulfate sodium)
Capsules

**What is the most important information
I should know about ELMIRON[®]?**

ELMIRON[®] (pronounced EL ma ron) is used to treat the pain or discomfort of interstitial cystitis (IC).

You must take ELMIRON[®] as prescribed by your doctor in the dosage prescribed but no more frequently than prescribed.

ELMIRON[®] is a weak anticoagulant (blood thinner) which may increase bleeding.

Call your doctor if you will be undergoing surgery or will begin taking anticoagulant therapy such as warfarin sodium, heparin, high doses of aspirin, or anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen.

What is ELMIRON[®]?

ELMIRON[®] is used to treat the pain or discomfort of interstitial cystitis (IC). It is not known exactly how ELMIRON[®] works, but it is not a pain medication like aspirin or acetaminophen and therefore must be taken continuously for relief as prescribed.

Who should not take ELMIRON[®]?

- Patients undergoing surgery should speak with their doctor about when to discontinue ELMIRON[®] prior to surgery.
- ELMIRON[®] should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

What does your doctor need to know?

- If you are taking anticoagulant therapy such as warfarin sodium, heparin, high doses of aspirin, or anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen.
- If you are pregnant.
- If you have any liver problems.

How should I take ELMIRON[®]?

You should take 1 capsule of ELMIRON[®] by mouth three times a day, with water at least 1 hour before meals or 2 hours after meals. Each capsule contains 100 mg of ELMIRON[®].

What should I avoid while taking ELMIRON®?

Anticoagulant therapy such as warfarin sodium, heparin, high doses of aspirin or anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen until you speak with your doctor.

What are the most common side effects of ELMIRON®?

The most common side effects are hair loss, diarrhea, nausea, blood in the stool, headache, rash, upset stomach, abnormal liver function tests, dizziness and bruising. Call your doctor if these side effects persist or are bothersome or if there is blood in your stool.

If you suspect that someone may have taken more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately. This medication was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for another condition or give the drug to others.

This leaflet provides a summary of information about ELMIRON®. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for uses other than those listed in a Medication Guide. If you have any questions or concerns, or want more information about ELMIRON®, contact your doctor or pharmacist. Your pharmacist also has a longer leaflet about ELMIRON® that is written for health professionals that you can ask to read.

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The Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

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