

# Tamate

topiramate

## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Tamate tablets.

It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking Tamate against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

### What Tamate is used for

The name of your medicine is Tamate. It contains the active ingredient topiramate.

Tamate belongs to a group of medicines known as antiepileptics. Tamate is used for the treatment of various types of seizures in adults and children, aged 2 years and over.

It can also be used for the prevention of migraines in adults. Tamate is not used to treat severe migraines that come on suddenly (acute).

It prevents seizures and migraines by acting on the nerves and chemicals in the brain.

Your doctor may prescribe Tamate on its own, or in addition to another medicine for controlling your seizures or migraines.

Your doctor may have prescribed Tamate for another reason. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.

### Before you take Tamate

#### *When you must not take it*

**Do not take Tamate if you have an allergy (hypersensitivity) to:**

- topiramate
- any of the ingredients. See Product Description at the end of this leaflet for a list of ingredients.

Symptoms of an allergic or hypersensitivity reaction may include:

- rash, itching or hives on the skin
- shortness of breath, wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body

**Do not take Tamate if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering. Do not take Tamate after the expiry date (month and year) printed on the pack has passed.**

#### *Before you start to take it*

**You must tell your doctor if you:**

- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. Tamate has caused harm to the developing foetus when administered to a pregnant woman. Its safety has not been verified in pregnant humans. Information available indicates that there is an

association between the use of Tamate in humans during pregnancy and birth defects including cleft lip/ palate.

However, it is very important to control your fits while you are pregnant. If it is necessary for you to take Tamate, your doctor can help you decide whether or not to take it during pregnancy.

- are breast feeding or wish to breastfeed. Tamate may appear in breast milk and it is not recommended to breastfeed while taking Tamate.
- have or have ever had a personality disorder or mental illness
- have or have ever had kidney stones, kidney disease or have a family history of kidney stones
- have or have ever had liver disease
- have eye problem or high pressure in the eye
- have a history of metabolic acidosis (too much acid in the blood, which may cause an increased rate of breathing).

**If you have not told your doctor or pharmacist about any of the above, tell them before you start taking Tamate.**

**Your doctor will advise you whether or not to take Tamate or if you need to adjust the dose or adapt your treatment.**

#### *Taking other medicines*

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines you can buy without a prescription from a pharmacy, supermarket or health food store.**

**In particular, tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking:**

- other medicines for epilepsy, such as phenytoin or carbamazepine
- digoxin (used to treat heart disease)
- oral contraceptives (the pill)
- metformin, pioglitazone or glibenclamide (used to treat diabetes)
- lithium or risperidone (used to treat bipolar disorder and schizophrenia)
- haloperidol (used to treat psychoses)
- hydrochlorothiazide (used to treat swelling or high blood pressure)
- propranolol (used in high blood pressure, some heart conditions, tremors, tumor or migraine headaches)
- diltiazem (used to treat hypertension and prevent angina)
- valproic acid (used to treat epilepsy or mood disorders)
- vitamin K-antagonist anticoagulant medications (such as warfarin)
- amitriptyline (used to treat depression)
- flunarizine
- any medicine which slows your reactions (CNS depressants). This may include medicines to help you sleep or relieve pain, antidepressants, tranquillisers or antihistamines which can make you drowsy.

These medicines may be affected by Tamate or may affect how well Tamate works. Your doctor or pharmacist can tell you what to do if you are taking any of these medicines.

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## How to take Tamate

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### *How to take it*

#### **Follow your doctor's instructions about when and how to take Tamate**

You can take the tablets with or without food. Always swallow the tablets whole with plenty of water.

The doses shown below are the usual recommended doses.

However, your doctor may tell you to take higher or lower doses. Your doctor will start with a low dose and slowly increase the dose to the lowest amount needed to control your epilepsy.

At the start of treatment Tamate may be taken once a day, preferably at night. After the dose is increased, it is taken twice a day.

You should continue taking Tamate until your doctor tells you to stop. Before stopping, it is recommended that the dose be reduced gradually.

#### **Adults**

##### **Epilepsy**

Treatment starts at a low dose of 25 mg to 50 mg per day. The dose is then gradually increased by 25 mg to

100 mg over weekly periods or longer, until the most suitable dose is reached.

##### **Migraine**

Treatment starts at a low dose of 25 mg nightly for one week. The dose is then increased over weekly periods or longer by 25 mg/day, until the most suitable dose is reached.

##### **Children (2 years and over) - epilepsy only**

Treatment starts at 25 mg or less per day, depending on the body weight. This dose is then gradually increased over weekly periods or longer, until the most suitable dose is reached.

### *If you forget to take it*

- Take your dose as soon as you remember, and then continue to take it as you would normally.
- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to.
- Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you missed.

#### **If you have missed more than one dose, or are not sure what to do, check with your doctor or pharmacist.**

If you have trouble remembering when to take your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

### *If you take too much (overdose)*

#### **Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre for advice, or go to Accident & Emergency at your nearest hospital.**

**Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention.**

Poisons Information Centre telephone numbers:

- Australia: 13 11 26

#### **Keep these numbers handy in case of an emergency.**

If you take too much Tamate, you may experience headache, dizziness, light-headedness, drowsiness, convulsions, speech disturbances, double or blurred vision, difficulty with thinking, abnormal coordination, stomach pain, depression, agitation, faster breathing or you may lose consciousness.

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## While you are taking Tamate

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### *Things you must do*

- Drink plenty of water. Tamate has been known to cause kidney stones and drinking water may help prevent this.
- Always follow your doctor's instructions carefully.
- If you are about to start taking a new medicine, tell your doctor or pharmacist that you are taking Tamate.
- Tell your doctor if you become pregnant while taking Tamate.

### *Things you must not do*

- Do not suddenly stop taking Tamate without checking with your doctor.
- Do not drink alcohol.
- Do not drive or operate machinery until you know how the medicine affects you.
- Do not use Tamate to treat any other complaint unless your doctor says so.
- Do not give this medicine to anyone else to use.

### *Things to be careful of*

#### **Changes to your medication**

If you are seizure free or your seizures are well controlled, a reduction in your dose, discontinuation or substitution of your current medication should first be assessed by your doctor and pharmacist, and any changes should be implemented gradually.

#### **Effects on thoughts and behaviour**

Medicines used to treat epilepsy can increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviour. If you experience feelings of deep sadness and unworthiness (depression) or a worsening of these feelings, any unusual changes in your mood or the emergence of suicidal thoughts, behaviour or thoughts of self-harm,

you should report this to your doctor immediately.

#### **Decreased sweating and elevation in body temperature**

Tamate may cause decreased sweating and increased body temperature (fever). People, especially children, should be watched for signs of decreased sweating and fever, especially in hot temperatures. Some people may need to be hospitalized for this condition. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have a high fever, a fever that does not go away, or decreased sweating.

#### **Effects on driving and operating machinery**

Tamate may cause drowsiness, dizziness or other symptoms which could affect your ability to drive or operate machinery. It may also cause visual disturbances and/ or blurred vision. Make sure you know how you are affected by this medicine before you drive or use machinery.

Particular care is recommended when you first start taking Tamate or if the amount of Tamate or any other medicine you are taking is increased or decreased.

#### **Effects of food and alcohol**

Tamate can be taken with or without food. Do not drink alcohol while taking Tamate. Alcohol may increase the risk of unwanted side effects, such as drowsiness.

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## Side Effects

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All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some side effects. Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

#### **Tell your doctor if any of the following continue or worry you:**

- dizziness
- decrease in appetite or weight loss
- itchy skin or skin rash
- inability to sleep
- tingling and numbness of hands and feet (pins and needles)
- nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting or constipation
- abdominal pain or discomfort
- ear pain, buzzing or ringing in ears, deafness

#### **Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you have any of the following as you may need medical attention:**

- depression
- nervousness or feeling anxious
- mood alterations such as aggression, agitation or anger
- disturbance in attention
- difficulty with memory or memory impairment
- slowing of thought processes
- abnormal behaviour
- expressive language disorder
- difficulty in speaking
- balance disorder
- co-ordination problems
- unusual hair loss or thinning
- abnormal frequent urination
- decreased feeling or sensitivity, especially in the skin
- fever or high temperature
- decreased or lack of sweating or overheating (mainly in children)
- unusual weakness
- taste disturbance or loss of taste

#### **Tell your doctor immediately if you have:**

- unusual tiredness, drowsiness, irritability or lack of energy
- thoughts of harming yourself or thoughts of suicide
- kidney stones
- pain when passing urine
- sudden changes in your eyesight (e.g. blurred vision, double vision or loss of vision) or rapid

- uncontrollable movements of the eyes
- eye pain or increased pressure in eye
- unexplained bleeding or bleeding more frequently
- severe blisters and bleeding in mucosal sites (such as lips, eyes, mouth, nose, genitals).

These are serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention. Serious side effects are rare.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people. Tell your doctor if you notice any other effects.

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## After taking Tamate

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### Storage

- Keep Tamate tablets in the original pack until it is time to take them.
- Keep Tamate in a cool, dry place where the temperature is below 25°C. Protect from light.
- Do not store Tamate or any medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave medicines in the car or on window sills. Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.
- Keep Tamate where children cannot reach it. A locked cupboard at least one and a half metres (1.5 m) above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

### Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking Tamate, or your medicine has passed its expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any tablets which may be left over.

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## Product description

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### What it looks like

Tamate is available in 4 tablet strengths:

- 25mg tablets are round and white and marked "G" on one side and "TO" over "25" on the other
- 50mg tablets are round and yellow and marked "G" on one side and "TO" over "50" on the other
- 100mg tablets are round and yellow and marked "G" on one side and "TO" over "100" on the other
- 200mg tablets are round and red and marked "G" on one side and "TO" over "200" on the other

Each blister pack contains 60 tablets.

### Ingredients

The active ingredient in Tamate is topiramate.

- Each Tamate 25 tablet contains 25mg of topiramate.
- Each Tamate 50 tablet contains 50mg of topiramate.
- Each Tamate 100 tablet contains 100mg of topiramate.
- Each Tamate 200 tablet contains 200mg of topiramate.

The tablets also contain the following inactive ingredients:

- microcrystalline cellulose
- povidone
- colloidal anhydrous silica
- sodium starch glycollate A
- magnesium stearate
- OPADRY complete film coating system YS-1-7003 White (PI 11956) (25 mg)
- OPADRY complete film coating system 03B92164 Yellow (PI 12654) (50 mg tablets)
- OPADRY complete film coating system 03B92180 Yellow (PI 12655) (100 mg tablets)

- OPADRY complete film coating system 05B16131 Maroon (PI 12656) (200 mg tablets)

Tamate tablets do not contain gluten.

### Supplier

Tamate is supplied by:

**Alphapharm Pty Limited**  
(ABN 93 002 359 739)  
Level 1, 30 The Bond  
30 - 34 Hickson Road  
Millers Point NSW 2000  
www.mylan.com.au

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Tamate 50mg: AUST R 150445  
Tamate 100mg: AUST R 150446  
Tamate 200mg: AUST R 150444

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