Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:
- shortness of breath
- wheezing or difficulty breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Do not take this medicine if you have any of the following medical conditions:
- liver disease or liver tumours
- severe chronic depression
- Dubin-Johnson or Rotor syndrome
- Wasting disease (a disease causing muscle loss or loss of strength, with the exception of prostate cancer)
- severe diabetes that has damaged your blood vessels
- sickle-cell anaemia
- existing blood clots
- benign brain tumour (meningioma).

Do not take this medicine if you have had any of the following medical conditions:
- liver tumours
- jaundice (yellowing of the skin and/or eyes), herpes or persistent itching during a previous pregnancy
- history of blood clotting problems (e.g. blood clots in the leg, lungs, stroke or heart attack)
- benign brain tumour (meningioma).

In men with cancer of the prostate with some of the above medical conditions, the benefits of taking this medicine may outweigh the risks. Your doctor will consider the risks and benefits of taking this medicine.

Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant.
It may affect your developing baby if you take it during pregnancy.

Do not breastfeed if you are taking this medicine.
It may affect your developing baby if you take it during pregnancy.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines and Cyprohexal may interfere with each other. These include:
- medicines used to treat fungal infections, such as ketoconazole, itraconazole, clotrimazole
- rifampicin, an antibiotic used to treat infections such as tuberculosis and leprosy
- ritonavir, a medicine used in the treatment of HIV
- St John's Wort, a herbal remedy used to treat mood disorders
- phenytoin, a medicine used to treat epilepsy
- statins (HMGCoA inhibitors), medicines used to lower cholesterol levels
- medicines used to treat diabetes, such as oral anti-diabetic medicines or insulin.

These medicines may be affected by Cyprohexal or may affect how well it works. You may need different amounts of your medicines, or you may need to take different medicines.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

How to take Cyprohexal
Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.
They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How much to take

MEN:
Your doctor will tell you the dose that you should take.

Prostate cancer:
The usual daily dose is 50-300mg (half to three tablets) of Cyprohexal 100mg.
Your doctor may request that you take Cyprohexal with other medicines and/or change your dose during treatment.

**Reduction of drive in sexual deviations:**
The usual starting dose is one tablet of Cyprohexal 50mg twice daily.

Your doctor may change your dose during treatment.

**WOMEN:**
Your doctor will tell you the dose that you should take and when to start taking Cyprohexal.

When you start taking Cyprohexal depends on whether you:
- are of childbearing age
- have amenorrhoea (no menstrual periods)
- have had a hysterectomy (surgical removal of the uterus)
- are post menopausal.

Additionally, your doctor will advise the most appropriate "Pill" for you to take to provide the necessary contraceptive protection and to stabilise your menstrual cycle.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure of the correct dose for you.

They will tell you exactly how much to take.

**Follow the instructions they give you.**
If you take the wrong dose, Cyprohexal may not work as well and your problem may not improve.

**How to take it**
Swallow the tablets whole with a full glass of water after meals.

**When to take Cyprohexal**
Take your medicine at about the same time each day.

Taking it at the same time each day will have the best effect. It will also help you remember when to take it.

**How long to take Cyprohexal**
Continue taking your medicine for as long as your doctor tells you.

This medicine helps to control your condition, but does not cure it. It is important to keep taking your medicine even if you feel well.

**If you forget to take it**
Take your dose as soon as you remember, and 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 due to.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

This may increase the chance of you getting an unwanted side effect.

Missed Cyprohexal tablets in women may reduce the effectiveness of treatment and may lead to intermenstrual bleeding.

If you are also taking the "Pill" and more than 12 hours has elapsed from the time Cyprohexal was due to be taken, note that contraceptive protection may be reduced and thus there is an increased risk of becoming pregnant.

If bleeding fails to occur after a cycle where the "Pill" was missed, you must see your doctor.

Your doctor may need to check whether or not you are pregnant before you can continue treatment.

If you are not sure what to do, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

If you have trouble remembering 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 (telephone 13 11 26) for advice, or go to Accident and Emergency at the nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Cyprohexal. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

You may need urgent medical attention.

**While you are taking Cyprohexal**

*Things you must do* If you are about to be started on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking Cyprohexal.

Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who treat you that you are taking this medicine.

If you become pregnant while taking this medicine, tell your doctor immediately.

For females taking the "Pill" during treatment:
If light bleeding or spotting occurs during the three weeks in which the tablets are being taken, do not stop taking your tablets.

However, if unusual bleeding patterns continue, tell your doctor.

If no bleeding occurs during the tablet-free/placebo interval, tell your doctor.

Your doctor may need to check whether you are pregnant before you can continue treatment.

**For males taking Cyprohexal to reduce abnormal sex drive:**
You should consider undertaking additional measures such as therapy or counselling in order to take advantage of the period of reduced drive.

These measures may assist in achieving personal and social reorientation.

Keep all of your doctor's appointments so that your progress can be checked.

Your doctor may do some tests (such as liver or blood tests) from time to time to make sure the medicine is working and to prevent unwanted side effects.

*Things you must not do*

Do not take Cyprohexal to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not give your medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not stop taking your medicine or lower the dosage without checking with your doctor.

If you stop taking it suddenly, your condition may worsen or you may have unwanted side effects.

*Things to be careful of*

Be careful driving or operating machinery until you know how Cyprohexal affects you.

This medicine may cause tiredness and can impair the ability to concentrate in some people.

If you have any of these symptoms, do not drive, operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous.

Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are taking this medicine.

If you drink alcohol, tiredness and the ability to concentrate may be worse.

If you are taking Cyprohexal to reduce your sex drive, alcohol may stop Cyprohexal from working as well as it should.

**Side effects**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking Cyprohexal.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects. You may not experience any of them.

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

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any of the following and they worry you:**
- tiredness, fatigue
- weight changes (increase or decrease)
- decreased sexual drive
- headache
- depressed mood
- nausea and other stomach complaints
- breast pain, changes in breast size, breast swelling and/or tenderness
- breast enlargement in men
- irregular menstrual cycle, spotting
- hot flushes, sweating
- shortness of breath.

The above list includes the more common side effects of the medicine.

If you were fertile before treatment, Cyprohexal may also result in the inability to produce sperm (males) or ovulate (females). In males, fertility is usually regained within a few months of discontinuing therapy. The long-term effects on female fertility are not known.

In males, Cyprohexal may result in the inability to get or maintain an erection (impotence). This is usually regained within a few months of discontinuing therapy.

**Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you notice any of the following:**
- yellowing of the skin and/or eyes, light coloured bowel motions, dark coloured urine (jaundice)
- severe upper abdominal pain
- vomiting blood or material that looks like coffee grounds, bleeding from the back passage, black sticky bowel motions (stools) or bloody diarrhoea

The above list includes serious side effects that may require medical attention. Serious side effects are rare.

If any of the following happen, tell your doctor immediately or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital:
- swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing
- signs of a stroke, such as sudden severe headache, loss of vision, loss of co-ordination, slurred speech, numbness, heat or swelling in the arms and legs
- signs of a heart attack, such as chest pain or shortness of breath.

The above list includes very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.
After taking Cyprohexal

Storage
Keep your medicine in the original container.
If you take it out of its original container it may not keep well.

Keep your medicine in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.
Do not store Cyprohexal or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it on a window sill or in the car.
Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

Keep it where children cannot reach it.
A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal
If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or the expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.

Product description

What it looks like
Cyprohexal comes in two types of tablets:

- Cyprohexal 50mg - white, round tablets engraved with '50' over a breakline on one side, plain on the other side. Available in bottles of 20 or 50 tablets.
- Cyprohexal 100mg - white, capsule-shaped tablets with '100' engraved on one side and a breakline on the other side. Available in blisters of 50 tablets.

Ingredients
Active ingredients:

- Cyprohexal 50mg - 50mg cyproterone acetate
- Cyprohexal 100mg - 100mg cyproterone acetate

Inactive ingredients:

- lactose
- microcrystalline cellulose
- croscarmellose sodium
- povidone
- magnesium stearate.

This medicine does not contain sucrose, gluten, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Supplier
Cyprohexal is supplied in Australia by:
Sandoz Pty Ltd
ABN 60 075 449 553
19 Harris St
Pyrmont NSW 2009
Tel: 1800 634 500

This leaflet was revised in August 2011.

Australian Register Number(s)
50mg tablets: AUST R 107330 (bottles)
100mg tablets: AUST R 107331(blisters)