

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist (chemist).
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others - it may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects gets serious, or if you notice any side effect not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

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1 What Imigran is and what it is used for

Each Imigran capsule-shaped tablet contains a **single dose** of sumatriptan, which belongs to a group of medicines called triptans (*also known as 5-HT₁ receptor agonists*).

Imigran is used to treat migraine headache.

Migraine symptoms may be caused by the temporary widening of blood vessels in the head. Imigran is believed to reduce the widening of these blood vessels. This in turn helps to take away the headache and relieve other symptoms of a migraine attack, such as feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting) and sensitivity to light and sound.

2 Before you use Imigran

Don't use Imigran:

- If you're allergic (*hypersensitive*) to sumatriptan, or any of the other ingredients (listed in Section 6)
- If you have a heart problem such as narrowing of the arteries (*ischaemic heart disease*) or chest pains (*angina*), or have already had a heart attack
- If you have circulation problems in your legs that cause cramp-like pains when you walk (*peripheral vascular disease*)
- If you have had a stroke or a mini-stroke (*also called a transient ischaemic attack or TIA*)

- If you have high blood pressure. You may be able to use Imigran if your high blood pressure is mild and is being treated
- If you have serious liver disease
- With other migraine medicines, including those which contain ergotamine, or similar medicines such as methysergide maleate; or any triptan or 5HT₁ agonist (such as naratriptan or zolmitriptan)
- With any of the following anti-depressants:
 - MAOIs (*monoamine oxidase inhibitors*) or if you have taken an MAOI in the last 2 weeks
 - SSRIs (*selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors*) including citalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine and sertaline
 - SNRIs (*serotonin noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors*) including venlafaxine and duloxetine
- For children under 18 years of age.

If any of these apply to you:

- Tell your doctor, and don't use Imigran tablets.

Take special care with Imigran

Your doctor needs to know certain information before you use Imigran:

If you have any extra risk factors

- If you are a heavy smoker
- If you are a man aged over 40, or
- If you are a woman who has been through the menopause.

In very rare cases, people have developed serious heart conditions after using Imigran, even though they had no signs of heart disease before. If any of the points above applies to you it could mean you have a greater risk of developing heart disease – so:

- Tell your doctor so that your heart function can be checked before Imigran is prescribed for you.

If you have a history of fits (seizures)

Or if you have other conditions which might make it more likely that you'll have a fit – for example, a head injury or alcoholism:

If you have liver or kidney disease

If you have an intolerance to some sugars

If any of these apply to you:

- Tell your doctor so that you can be supervised more closely.

If you are allergic to antibiotics called sulphonamides

If so, you may also be allergic to Imigran. If you know you are allergic to an antibiotic but you are not sure whether it is a sulphonamide:

- Tell your doctor or pharmacist before using Imigran.

If you use Imigran frequently

Using Imigran too often may make your headaches worse.

- Tell your doctor if this applies to you. He or she may recommend you stop using Imigran.

If you feel pain or tightness in your chest after you use Imigran

These effects may be intense but they usually pass quickly. If they don't pass quickly, or they become severe:

- Get medical help immediately. Section 4 (overleaf) has more information about these possible side effects.

Other medicines and Imigran

Tell your doctor if you're taking any other medicines or have recently taken any. This includes any herbal products, dietary supplements such as vitamins, iron or calcium or medicines you've bought without a prescription.

Some medicines must not be taken with Imigran and others may cause adverse effects if they're taken with Imigran. You must tell your doctor if you are taking:

- ergotamine also used to treat migraine, or similar medicines such as methysergide maleate; or any triptan or 5HT₁ agonist (such as naratriptan or zolmitriptan). Don't use Imigran at the same time as these medicines. Stop taking these medicines at least 24 hours before using Imigran. Don't take them again for at least 6 hours after using Imigran
- MAOIs used to treat depression. Don't use Imigran if you have taken these in the last 2 weeks
- SSRIs and SNRIs used to treat depression. Don't use Imigran if you are taking these
- St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). Taking herbal remedies containing St John's Wort together with Imigran may make side effects more likely.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

- If you are pregnant or could be pregnant, talk to your doctor before you use Imigran. There is only limited information about the safety of Imigran for pregnant women, though up till now there is no evidence of any increased risk of birth defects. Your doctor will discuss with you whether or not you should use Imigran while you are pregnant
- Don't breast-feed your baby for 12 hours after using Imigran. If you express any breast milk during this time, discard the milk and don't give it to your baby.

Driving and using machines

Either the symptoms of migraine or your medicine may make you drowsy. If you are affected, don't drive or operate machinery.

3 How to use Imigran

Always take Imigran exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

When to take Imigran

- It's best to take Imigran **as soon as you feel a migraine coming on**, although you can take it at any time during an attack
- **Don't use Imigran** to try to prevent an attack – only use it after your migraine symptoms start.

How much to take

Adults aged 18 to 65

- **The usual dose for adults aged 18 to 65** is one Imigran 50 mg tablet, swallowed whole with water. Some patients may need a 100 mg dose – you should follow your doctor's advice.

Children under 18

- Imigran is not recommended for children under 18 years old.

Older people (aged over 65)

- Imigran is not recommended for people aged over 65.

If your symptoms start to come back

- You can take a second Imigran tablet if at least 2 hours have passed since the first tablet. **Don't take more than 300 mg in total in 24 hours.**

If the first tablet has no effect

- **Don't take a second tablet** or any other Imigran preparation for the same attack. Imigran can still be used for your next attack.

If Imigran doesn't give you any relief:

→ **Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice.**

If you take more Imigran than you should

- **Don't take more than six 50 mg tablets or three 100 mg tablets** (that's 300mg in total) in 24 hours.

Taking too much Imigran could make you ill. If you have taken more than 300 mg in 24 hours:

→ **Contact your doctor for advice.**

If you have any further questions about the use of this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4 Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Imigran tablets can cause side effects, but not everybody gets them.

Allergic reaction: get doctor's help straight away

(affects up to 1 in 10,000 people)

- **The signs of allergy include rash; wheezing; swollen eyelids, face or lips; complete collapse.**

If you get any of these symptoms soon after using Imigran:

→ **Don't use any more. Contact a doctor straight away.**

Common side effects

(affect up to 1 in 10 people)

- Pain, heaviness, pressure or tightness in the chest, throat or other parts of the body, or unusual sensations, including numbness, tingling and warmth or cold. These effects may be intense but generally pass quickly.

If these effects continue or become severe (especially the chest pain):

→ **Get medical help urgently.** In a very small number of people these symptoms can be caused by a heart attack.

Other common side effects include:

- Feeling sick (*nausea*) or being sick (*vomiting*), although this may be due to the migraine itself
- Tiredness or drowsiness
- Dizziness, feeling weak, or getting hot flushes
- Temporary increase in blood pressure.
- Shortness of breath.

Very rare side effects

(affects up to 1 in 10,000 people)

- Chest pain (*angina*) or other heart problems, where your heart beat may go faster, slower or change rhythm

If these effects continue or become severe (especially the chest pain):

→ **Get medical help urgently.** In a very small number of people these symptoms can be caused by a heart attack.

Other very rare effects include:

- Pain in the lower left side of the stomach and bloody diarrhoea (*ischaemic colitis*)
- Pale, blue-tinged skin and/or pain in your fingers, toes, ears, nose or jaw in response to cold or stress (*Raynaud's phenomenon*)
- Seizures/fits, tremors, muscle spasm, neck stiffness
- Feeling faint (blood pressure may go down)
- Visual disturbances such as flickering, reduced vision, double vision, loss of vision, and in some cases even permanent defects (although these may be due to the migraine attack itself)
- Liver function changes. If you have a blood test to check your liver function, tell your doctor or nurse that you are taking Imigran.

If you get side effects

If you notice any unwanted effects, even ones not listed in this leaflet, or if any of the side effects becomes troublesome:

→ **Tell your doctor or pharmacist.**

5 How to store Imigran

Keep out of the reach and sight of children.

Do not use Imigran after the expiry date shown on the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store above 30°C

Medicines should not be disposed of via waste water or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6 Further Information

What Imigran contains

- The active substance is sumatriptan (50 mg or 100 mg)
- The other ingredients in the tablets are lactose, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, methylhydroxypropylcellulose (E464) and titanium dioxide (E171). The 50 mg tablet also contains triacetin and iron oxide (E172).

What Imigran looks like and contents of the pack

Imigran 50 mg tablets are pink and capsule-shaped. They are available in blister packs containing 6 or 12 tablets.

Imigran 100 mg tablets are white and capsule-shaped. They are available in blister packs containing 6 or 12 tablets.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

Product Licence held by Glaxo Wellcome UK Limited trading as GlaxoSmithKline UK, Stockley Park West, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB11 1BT. Manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals S.A., ul. Grunwaldzka 189, 60-322 Poznań, Poland.

The information provided applies only to Imigran tablets.

There are two national organisations that offer both help and advice on migraine:

Migraine Action Association

Unit 6
Oakley Hay Lodge Business Park
Great Folds Road
Great Oakley
Northants
NN18 9AS

Telephone: 01536 461333

The Migraine Trust

55-56 Russell Square
London WC1B 4HP

Telephone: 0207 436 1336

You may be able to find out more about prescribed medicines from books in public libraries.

Other formats:

To listen to or request a copy of this leaflet in Braille, large print or audio please call, free of charge:

0800 198 5000 (UK Only)

Please be ready to give the following information:

Product name	Imigran 50 mg tablet
Product name	Imigran 100 mg tablet
Reference number	10949/0222

This is a service provided by the Royal National Institute of Blind People.

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