



captured 11/16/15

Cogentin

Generic Name: benztropine (BENZ-troe-peen)

Brand Name: Cogentin

Cogentin is used for:

Treating Parkinson disease in combination with other medicines. It is also used to control tremors and stiffness of the muscles due to certain antipsychotic medicines (eg, phenothiazines).

Cogentin is an anticholinergic. It works by decreasing the effects of acetylcholine, a chemical in the brain. This results in decreased tremors or muscle stiffness.

Do NOT use Cogentin if:

- you are allergic to any ingredient in Cogentin
- you have angle-closure glaucoma, bleeding problems, esophageal achalasia, myasthenia gravis, intestinal or urinary blockage, or ulcerative colitis

Contact your doctor or health care provider right away if any of these apply to you.

Before using Cogentin:

Some medical conditions may interact with Cogentin. Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have any medical conditions, especially if any of the following apply to you:

- if you are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding
- if you are taking any prescription medicine, nonprescription medicine, herbal preparation, or dietary supplement
- if you have allergies to medicines, foods, or other substances
- if you have an enlarged prostate, irregular heartbeat, glaucoma or risk factors for glaucoma, tardive dyskinesia, or urinary retention

Some MEDICINES MAY INTERACT with Cogentin. Tell your health care provider if you are taking any other medicines, especially any of the following:

- Phenothiazines (eg, chlorpromazine) or tricyclic antidepressants (eg, amitriptyline) because serious, sometimes fatal side effects may occur, including paralysis of the intestines, increased body heat, or heatstroke

This may not be a complete list of all interactions that may occur. Ask your health care provider if Cogentin may interact with other medicines that you take. Check with your health care provider before you start, stop, or

change the dose of any medicine.

How to use Cogentin:

Use Cogentin as directed by your doctor. Check the label on the medicine for exact dosing instructions.

- Cogentin is usually given as an injection at your doctors office, hospital, or clinic. If you will be using Cogentin at home, a health care provider will teach you how to use it. Be sure you understand how to use Cogentin. Follow the procedures you are taught when you use a dose. Contact your health care provider if you have any questions.
- Do not use Cogentin if it contains particles, is cloudy or discolored, or if the vial is cracked or damaged.
- Keep this product, as well as syringes and needles, out of the reach of children and pets. Do not reuse needles, syringes, or other materials. Ask your health care provider how to dispose of these materials after use. Follow all local rules for disposal.
- If you miss a dose of Cogentin, use it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not use 2 doses at once.

Ask your health care provider any questions you may have about how to use Cogentin.

Important safety information:

- Cogentin may cause blurred vision. This effect may be worse if you take it with alcohol or certain medicines. Use Cogentin with caution. Do not drive or perform other possibly unsafe tasks until you know how you react to it.
- Cogentin may cause dizziness, lightheadedness, or fainting; alcohol, hot weather, exercise, or fever may increase these effects. To prevent them, sit up or stand slowly, especially in the morning. Sit or lie down at the first sign of any of these effects.
- Cogentin can reduce the ability to sweat and cause the body to overheat. Do not become overheated in hot weather or while you are being active; heatstroke may occur.
- Lab tests, including liver function, kidney function, lung function, blood pressure, fasting blood glucose, and blood cholesterol, may be performed while you use Cogentin. These tests may be used to monitor your condition or check for side effects. Be sure to keep all doctor and lab appointments.
- Cogentin is not recommended for use in CHILDREN younger than 3 years of age. Safety and effectiveness in this age group have not been confirmed.
- Caution is advised when using Cogentin in CHILDREN; they may be more sensitive to its effects.
- PREGNANCY and BREAST-FEEDING: If you become pregnant, contact your doctor. You will need to discuss the benefits and risks of using Cogentin while you are pregnant. It is not known if this medicine is found in breast milk. If you are or will be breast-feeding while you use Cogentin, check with your doctor. Discuss any possible risks to your baby.

Possible side effects of Cogentin:

All medicines may cause side effects, but many people have no, or minor, side effects. Check with your doctor

if any of these most **COMMON** side effects persist or become bothersome:

Blurred vision; constipation; depression; dilated pupils; disorientation; dizziness; drowsiness; dry mouth; fast heartbeat; hallucinations; headache; heat stroke; impaired memory; increased sensitivity of eyes to light; lack of drive; lightheadedness; loss of appetite; nausea; nervousness; numbness of fingers; sleeplessness; stomach upset; trembling of hands; urinary retention; weak or stiff muscles.

Seek medical attention right away if any of these **SEVERE** side effects occur:

Severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue); chest pain; confusion; difficult or painful urination; difficulty swallowing; eye pain; fast or pounding heartbeat; increase in body temperature; mood or mental changes; uncontrolled movements; vomiting.

This is not a complete list of all side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, contact your health care provider. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. To report side effects to the appropriate agency, please read the **Guide to Reporting Problems to FDA**.

If **OVERDOSE** is suspected:

Contact 1-800-222-1222 (the American Association of Poison Control Centers), your local **poison control center**, or emergency room immediately. Symptoms may include convulsions; dilated pupils; fast breathing; fast heartbeat; hot, dry, flushed skin; foul-smelling breath; hyperactivity; seizures.

Proper storage of Cogentin:

Cogentin is usually handled and stored by a health care provider. If you are using Cogentin at home, store Cogentin as directed by your pharmacist or health care provider. Keep Cogentin out of the reach of children and away from pets.

General information:

- If you have any questions about Cogentin, please talk with your doctor, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- Cogentin is to be used only by the patient for whom it is prescribed. Do not share it with other people.
- If your symptoms do not improve or if they become worse, check with your doctor.
- Check with your pharmacist about how to dispose of unused medicine.

This information should not be used to decide whether or not to take Cogentin or any other medicine. Only your health care provider has the knowledge and training to decide which medicines are right for you. This information does not endorse any medicine as safe, effective, or approved for treating any patient or health condition. This is only a brief summary of general information about Cogentin. It does **NOT** include all information about the possible uses, directions, warnings, precautions, interactions, adverse effects, or risks that may apply to Cogentin. This information is not specific medical advice and does not replace information you receive from your health care provider. You must talk with your healthcare provider for complete information about the risks and benefits of using Cogentin.

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