

# PROLADONE

Oxycodone

## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Proladone.

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 using Proladone against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

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

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

### What Proladone is used for

Proladone is a suppository containing oxycodone. It belongs to a group of medicines called opioid analgesics and acts to relieve pain.

Proladone is used to relieve pain after surgery or for treating cancer pain.

Your doctor may have prescribed Proladone for another reason.

**Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why Proladone has been prescribed for you.**

Proladone is only available with a doctor's prescription.

Opioid analgesics such as oxycodone have been used to treat pain for many years. In most cases addiction does not occur. However, over time your body becomes used to taking oxycodone, so if you suddenly stop using Proladone you may experience some unwanted symptoms.

### Before you use Proladone

#### *When you must not use it*

**Do not use Proladone if you have an allergy to Proladone or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.**

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction are:

- 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
- discolouration of the skin.

**Do not use Proladone if you currently have, or have had, any of the following:**

- head injury
- brain tumour
- alcoholism
- epilepsy (also known as fits or convulsions)
- are taking, or have taken in the last 14 days, medicine for depression especially Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors (MAOIs)
- heart problems such as irregular and/or rapid heartbeat
- asthma
- any difficulty in breathing.

**Do not use this medicine for children as there have been no studies of its effects in children.**

**Do not use this medicine after the expiry date printed on the packet.**

**Do not use this medicine if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.**

**If you are not sure whether you should be using Proladone contact your doctor.**

#### *Before you start to use Proladone*

**Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.**

**Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.**

Your doctor or pharmacist will discuss the possible risks and benefits of using Proladone during pregnancy.

**Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.**

Like most opioid medicines, Proladone is not recommended while you are breast-feeding.

**Tell your doctor if you have, or have had, any medical conditions, especially the following:**

- myasthenia gravis, a disease of the muscles
- an underactive thyroid gland
- kidney disease
- liver disease
- if male, prostate problems or difficulty passing water
- bowel disorders
- asthma or breathing problems.

**If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you start using Proladone.**

## *Taking other medicines*

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

Some medicines and Proladone may interfere with each other. These include:

- medicines used to produce calmness or to help you sleep
- medicines called anaesthetics which are used to put you to sleep during an operation or procedure
- barbiturates, medicines used to treat epilepsy, to produce calmness or to help you sleep
- other opioid medicines used to treat pain
- medicines used to treat certain mental and emotional conditions e.g. depression
- medicines used to treat high blood pressure or other heart conditions
- medicines used to prevent or relieve the symptoms of allergy (such as hay fever)
- medicines used to prevent blood clots.

These medicines may be affected by Proladone or they may affect how well it works.

**Tell your doctor if you regularly drink alcohol.**

Alcohol may interfere with this medicine. Your doctor may advise you to stop drinking alcohol while using this medicine.

Your doctor or pharmacist has more information on medicines to be careful with or avoid while using Proladone.

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## **How to use Proladone**

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### *How much to use*

**Your doctor will tell you how many suppositories you need to use each day.**

### *How to use it*

**If possible, go to the toilet and empty your bowels before using your suppository.**

Suppositories work best if your bowels are empty.

**Follow these steps to use a suppository:**

1. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
2. Feel the suppository while it is still in the foil.
3. If it feels soft, keep it in the foil and chill it in the fridge or by holding it under cold water for a few minutes. Do not remove the foil wrapper while you are chilling it.
4. Put on a disposable glove, if desired. They are available from pharmacies.
5. Remove all of the foil wrapper from the suppository.
6. Moisten the suppository by dipping it briefly in cool water.
7. Lie on your side and raise your knee to your chest.
8. Push the suppository gently, pointed end first, into your rectum (back passage).
9. Remain lying down for a few minutes while the suppository dissolves.
10. Throw away the disposable glove and any used material and wash your hands thoroughly to reduce the risk of infection.

**Try not to go to the toilet and open your bowels for at least an hour after using the suppository.**

The suppository takes about one hour to be completely absorbed and do its work.

**If you are not sure how to use a suppository, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

### *If you forget to use Proladone*

**If it is almost time for your next suppository (within 2 or 3 hours), skip the suppository you missed and use your next suppository when you are meant to.**

**Otherwise, use it as soon as you remember, and then go back to using the suppositories as you would normally.**

**Do not use two suppositories to make up for the one that you missed.**

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

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

**If you have trouble remembering to use your medicine, ask your pharmacist for some hints.**

### *How long to use it*

The length of treatment will depend on your condition. Your doctor will advise you when to stop using Proladone.

**Do not suddenly stop using Proladone.**

Your doctor may want you to gradually reduce the amount of Proladone you are using before stopping completely. Stopping gradually will lessen the risk of unwanted side effects.

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

**Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia) for advice, or go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have used too much Proladone, even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.**

You may need urgent medical attention.

If you use too much Proladone you may start feeling sleepy and may experience difficulty in breathing which could lead to unconsciousness and loss of muscle control.

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## While you are using Proladone

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### *Things you must do*

**Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who are treating you that you are using Proladone.**

**If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your doctor, dentist or pharmacist that you are using Proladone.**

**If you plan to have surgery that needs a general anaesthetic, tell your doctor or dentist that you are using Proladone.**

**If you become pregnant while using Proladone, tell your doctor.**

### *Things you must not do*

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

**Do not use Proladone to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.**

**Do not stop using Proladone or lower or increase the dose without checking with your doctor.**

**Do not run out of this medicine over the weekend or on holidays.**

Your doctor may want you to gradually reduce the amount of Proladone you are using before stopping completely. This may help reduce the possibility of withdrawal symptoms such as nausea, diarrhoea, body aches (see Side effects).

### *Things to be careful of*

**Be careful when drinking alcohol while you are using Proladone.**

Drinking alcohol while using this medicine could make you feel more dizzy, sleepy or light-headed than usual. Your doctor may suggest you avoid alcohol while you are using Proladone.

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

Proladone may cause drowsiness, sleepiness or dizziness in some people and affect alertness. Make sure you know how you react to Proladone before you drive or operate machinery or do anything else that could be dangerous if you are sleepy or dizzy. **If this occurs do not drive.**

**Be careful using the suppositories for people over 65 years.**

Families and carers should be aware that these people may become confused while using Proladone. Special care may be needed.

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## Side effects

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**Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are using Proladone.**

Proladone helps most people with pain, but it may have unwanted side effects in a few people. 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 of the side effects.

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

**Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects.**

You may not experience any of them.

**Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following and they worry you:**

- confusion
- drowsiness
- constipation
- vomiting
- nausea.

These are the more common side effects of Proladone.

**Other side effects are:**

- difficulty passing water (urine)

- decreased frequency passing water (urine)
- dry mouth
- sweating
- redness of the face
- loss of appetite
- faintness or feeling weak
- slow heart rate
- abnormal or fast heart rate
- irregular heart beat
- dizziness on standing
- restlessness
- constriction of pupils
- changes of mood
- decrease in body temperature
- muscle stiffness
- itchy rash or other forms of itchiness
- severe headache.

**If any of the following happen, stop using Proladone and tell your doctor immediately or go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital:**

- inability to breathe properly
- severe dizziness, drowsiness and confusion
- symptoms of allergy (eg itchy skin, rash, skin blisters or discolouration of skin upon exposure to sunlight).

These may be very serious side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

All of these side effects are very rare.

High doses of Proladone can cause:

- heart failure
- low blood pressure
- inability to breathe properly.

The following side effects may occur when you stop using Proladone:

- body aches
- diarrhoea
- gooseflesh or goose bumps
- loss of appetite
- nervousness
- restlessness
- runny nose
- sneezing
- shivering

- stomach cramps
- feeling sick, also called nausea
- trouble sleeping
- an increase in sweating and yawning
- weakness
- fast heart beat
- unexplained fever.

These symptoms are usually mild if Proladone is stopped gradually.

**Other side effects not listed above may occur in some patients. Tell your doctor if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.**

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## After using Proladone

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### *Storage*

**Keep your suppositories in the foil pack until it is time to use them.**

If you take the suppositories out of the pack they will not keep well.

**Keep your suppositories in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.**

**Do not store Proladone or any other medicines in the bathroom or near a sink.**

**Do not leave it in the car on hot days or on window sills.**

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 using the suppositories or you find that they have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any that are left over.**

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## Product description

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### *What it looks like*

Proladone is a smooth, off-white, oval/cone-shaped suppository for rectal use which will dissolve in the rectum (back passage). It is covered by a wax coating for easy insertion into the rectum.

### *Ingredients*

Each Proladone suppository contains 30mg of oxycodone.

Proladone suppositories also contain:

- lactose
- maize starch
- pectin
- povidone
- magnesium stearate (470)
- hard fat.

Proladone does not contain sucrose, gluten, tartrazine, alcohol, dyes or preservatives.

### *Supplier*

Proladone is supplied in Australia by:  
**Phebra Pty Ltd,**  
 19 Orion Road,  
 Lane Cove West, NSW 2066,  
 Australia.



Proladone  
 AUST R 14965  
 Phebra Product Code - TAB007

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