
CARIPRAZINE (Vraylar) Fact Sheet for Patients

Generic Name: Cariprazine (kar-IP-ra-zeen)

Brand Name: Vraylar

What Does It Treat?

Cariprazine is used to treat schizophrenia and bipolar disorder in adults. It helps to improve symptoms such as hallucinations, delusions, mood changes, and disorganized thinking. It can also be used in combination with other medications to treat depression.

How Does It Work?

Cariprazine is a second-generation antipsychotic medication. It works by acting on certain receptors in the brain, specifically dopamine and serotonin receptors, to help restore the balance of these neurotransmitters and regulate brain activity.

How Do I Take It?

Cariprazine is available in capsule form. It is typically taken once daily, with or without food.

What is the Dose?

The typical dosage for cariprazine, used for schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression, ranges from 1.5-6 mg per day. Follow your health care provider's instructions on dosing and schedule.

How Long Will I Take It?

The duration of cariprazine treatment can vary. Your health care provider will assess your progress and determine the appropriate length of treatment, which may be long-term depending on the condition being treated.

What If I Miss a Dose?

If you forget to take a dose of cariprazine, take it as soon as you remember. However, if it is close to the time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and continue with your regular dosing schedule. Do not take extra doses to make up for the missed one.

What Are Possible Side Effects?

- Most common: Restlessness, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea.
- Serious but rare: Neuroleptic malignant syndrome (fever, muscle stiffness, confusion), tardive dyskinesia (uncontrolled movements), high blood sugar, high cholesterol/triglyceride levels.

What Else Should I Know?

- Cariprazine may interact with other medications, so inform your health care provider of all the medications you are taking.
- Before starting cariprazine, tell your health care provider if you have a history of heart problems, seizures, liver or kidney problems, or any other medical conditions.
- It may take several weeks for cariprazine to start working fully. Continue taking it as prescribed, even if you start feeling better.
- Do not stop taking cariprazine abruptly without consulting your health care provider. Follow their guidance for gradually reducing the dosage.

Remember, this fact sheet provides general information about this medication. For more specific guidance and instructions, consult your health care provider.