

Telfast®

(tell-fast)

60 mg, 120 mg, 180mg film coated tablets

Fexofenadine hydrochloride

Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Telfast. Please read the information carefully before taking Telfast.

This leaflet provides a summary of the information available. It does not contain all the available information.

It does not take the place of talking to your pharmacist or doctor, who have more detailed information.

If you have any questions about taking this medicine, or if you experience any problems while taking Telfast, speak to your pharmacist or doctor

All medicines have benefits and risks, so please discuss these with your pharmacist or doctor to make sure that the benefits of taking Telfast outweigh any possible risks.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine as you may want to read it again.

What Telfast is used for

Telfast contains an active ingredient called fexofenadine hydrochloride. It is one of a group of medicines called antihistamines.

Antihistamines help reduce allergic symptoms by preventing the effects of a substance called histamine, which your body produces when exposed to certain substances.

Telfast is a non-sedating antihistamine which means it has been shown not to cause drowsiness.

Telfast 60 mg tablets are used to relieve the symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis (including hayfever) in adults and children aged 12 years or older.

Telfast 120 mg tablets are used to relieve the symptoms of hayfever (seasonal allergic rhinitis) such as sneezing, itchy, watery or red eyes and itchy, blocked or runny nose in adults and children aged 12 years or older.

Telfast 180 mg tablets are used to relieve the symptoms of hayfever (seasonal allergic rhinitis) such as sneezing, itchy, watery or red eyes and itchy, blocked or runny nose as well as the symptoms of urticaria otherwise known as hives or itchy rash in adults and children aged 12 years or older.

Your pharmacist or doctor may have recommended this medicine for another reason.

Ask your pharmacist or doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been recommended for you.

Before you take it

When you must not take it

Do not take Telfast if you are pregnant, intend to become pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding, unless

advised to do so by a Doctor or Pharmacist.

Do not take Telfast if you have had an allergic reaction allergy to fexofenadine, terfenadine or any of the other ingredients in Telfast. These are listed at the end of this leaflet.

Do not give Telfast 60 mg, 120 mg or 180 mg tablets to children under 12 years of age.

Do not take Telfast after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack or if the packaging is damaged or shows signs of tampering.

If you take it after the expiry date has passed, it may not work as well. If it has expired or is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

Before you start to take it

You should inform your pharmacist or doctor if you have any allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Your pharmacist or doctor will consider these points when recommending Telfast.

Taking other medicines

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

Some medicines and Telfast may interfere with each other.

Your pharmacist or doctor has more information on medicines to be

careful with or to avoid while you are taking this medicine.

How to take it

How much to take

For the relief of the symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis (including hayfever), the usual dosage for adults and children over 12 years old is one Telfast 60 mg tablet twice daily, when required.

For the relief of the symptoms of hayfever, the usual dosage for adults and children over 12 years of age is one Telfast 120 mg tablet daily when required, or one Telfast 180 mg tablet daily, when required.

For relief of symptoms of hives or itchy rash, the usual dosage for adults and children over 12 years of age is one Telfast 180 mg tablet daily when required.

Talk to your pharmacist or doctor if you are unsure what dose to take.

The dosage directed by your pharmacist or doctor may be different to the recommended dose.

Do not take more than the dose your pharmacist or doctor has directed.

How to take it

Take Telfast with a glass of water or as directed by your pharmacist or doctor.

Telfast may be taken with or without food.

How long to take it

The duration of treatment depends on the type and duration of your complaint.

Talk to your pharmacist or doctor about how long to take Telfast.

If Telfast does not relieve your symptoms, do not take extra tablets.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist.

If you take too much (overdose)

If you think that you or someone else may have taken too much Telfast immediately telephone your doctor or pharmacist or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone Australia 13 11 26 or New Zealand 0800 POISON or 0800 764766), or go to Accident and Emergency at your nearest hospital. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

While you are taking it

Things you must do

Tell all the doctors, dentists and pharmacists who are treating you that you are taking Telfast.

If you are about to be started on any new medicine, tell your Doctor or Pharmacist that you are taking Telfast.

If you are to have surgery that needs a general anaesthetic, tell the doctor or dentist that you are taking this medicine.

If you become pregnant while taking Telfast, consult your Doctor or Pharmacist.

Things you must not do

Do not take more than the recommended dose unless your pharmacist or doctor tells you to.

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

Do not use this medicine to treat any other complaints unless your pharmacist tells you to.

Side effects

Tell your pharmacist or doctor as soon as possible if you do not feel well while taking Telfast, even if you do not think the problem is connected

with the medicine or is not listed in this leaflet.

All medicines can cause side effects. Sometimes they are serious, but most of the time they are not. You may need medical treatment if you get some of the side effects. Although most people will not experience any, some of the side effects that may occur with Telfast are:

- headache
- tiredness
- nausea
- indigestion
- dizziness
- drowsiness

These same effects were seen in patients taking 'dummy' or placebo capsules during clinical studies.

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

After taking it

Storage

Keep your tablets in the blister pack until it is time to take them.

If you take the tablets out of the box or the blister pack they may not keep well.

Keep the medicine in a cool, dry place where the temperature stays below 30°C.

Do not store it or any other medicine in the bathroom, near a sink.

Do not leave it in the car, or on a windowsill.

Heat and damp 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 pharmacist or doctor tells you to stop taking Telfast, or if the product has passed its expiry date,

ask your pharmacist what to do with any left over product.

Product description

What it looks like

Telfast 60 mg tablets are peach coloured, oval shaped tablets.

Telfast 120 mg and 180 mg tablets are peach coloured and have a modified capsule shape.

Telfast 60 mg is available in blister packs of 20 tablets.

Telfast 120 mg is available in blister packs of 10 or 30 tablets.

Telfast 180 mg is available in 10, 30, 50, 60 and 70 pack sizes.

Ingredients

Active Ingredient:

Telfast 60 mg – 60 mg fexofenadine hydrochloride per tablet

Telfast 120 mg – 120 mg fexofenadine hydrochloride per tablet

Telfast 180 mg – 180 mg fexofenadine hydrochloride per tablet

Inactive Ingredients:

The 60 mg, 120 mg and 180 mg tablets also contain:

- microcrystalline cellulose
- pregelatinised maize starch
- croscarmellose sodium
- magnesium stearate
- povidone
- titanium dioxide
- colloidal anhydrous silica
- macrogol 400
- Pigment Blend Pink PB1254
- Pigment Blend Yellow PB1255
- hypromellose.

Telfast 60 mg, 120 mg and 180 mg tablets do not contain any gluten, lactose or preservatives.

Sponsor

Telfast is supplied in Australia by:

sanofi-aventis australia pty ltd

12-24 Talavera Road

Macquarie Park NSW 2113

Australia

Telfast is supplied in New Zealand by:

sanofi-aventis new zealand limited

Level 8, 56 Cawley St

Ellerslie, Auckland,

New Zealand

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Australian Register Number(s)

Telfast 60 mg tablets AUST R 70949

Telfast 120 mg tablets AUST R 63339

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Telfast 180 mg tablets AUST R 63338

For more information on this medicine, you can call

1800 818 806 (Australia) or 0800 283 684 (New Zealand)