





ADULT

# VENLAFAXINE

This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

<b>Presentation</b>	Capsule (controlled release): 37.5mg, 75mg, 150mg
<b>Dose</b>	<p><b><u>Menopausal hot flushes</u></b></p> <p><b>Oral:</b></p> <p>37.5mg daily for a week; increase up to 75mg daily if well tolerated</p> <p>Higher doses have not been shown to be more effective and are associated with increased frequency of adverse effects</p> <p><b><u>Major depression, generalised anxiety disorder, panic disorder, social phobia</u></b></p> <p><b>Oral:</b></p> <p>75 mg once daily; if required, increase to 150 mg once daily. Doses of up to 225 mg daily may be needed in some cases.</p>
<b>Administration</b>	<p><b><u>Oral</u></b></p> <p>Swallow whole, do not open, crush or chew capsules or put them in water.</p> <p>Take with or after food to minimise gastrointestinal upset.</p>
<b>Pregnancy</b>	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring required</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring required</p> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:</b> Monitoring required</p>
<b>Breastfeeding</b>	Considered safe to use
<b>Monitoring</b>	<p>Blood pressure at baseline and periodically during treatment as may cause hypertension</p> <p>Serum sodium at baseline and periodically during treatment as may cause hyponatraemia (especially in the elderly)</p> <p>Treatment with other drugs that affect serotonin levels may increase the likelihood of serotonin toxicity; avoid combinations or monitor clinical course carefully.</p>
<b>Other clinical guidelines</b>	<p><a href="#">Management of Menopausal Symptoms After Breast Cancer: Medication</a></p> <p><a href="#">KEMH Menopause Symptoms After Cancer Clinic</a></p> <p><a href="#">Venlafaxine for Menopausal Symptoms Patient Information Sheet</a></p>

<b>References</b>	Australian Medicines Handbook. Venlafaxine. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2017 [cited 2017 Sep 27]. Available from: <a href="https://amhonline.amh.net.au/">https://amhonline.amh.net.au/</a>
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