

D-mine[®] Care



Welcome to Apomorphine

Apomorphine for Patients, Families and Carers

This booklet is intended for patients for which a decision has been made to prescribe Dacepton[®] therapy for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.



This booklet aims to provide you, and your family or carer, with information about why your doctor has chosen Apomorphine for you, and what to expect from your treatment.

Welcome to Apomorphine



You have been given this booklet because you have been referred to the **D-mine[®] Care Nurse Team** and/or have been scheduled for an Apomorphine response test prior to starting Apomorphine treatment for your Parkinson's disease.

Please read this information carefully and feel free to ask your healthcare professional any questions.

Scan here for the patient Information Leaflet

What is Apomorphine?



MYTH-BUSTERS: The name 'Apomorphine' can be misleading. Apomorphine is not morphine, it is not addictive and does not have pain-killing properties.

As Parkinson's disease develops, symptoms such as stiffness, slowness and pain when moving can become more difficult to control. This is known as being 'OFF'. Apomorphine is a medicine that may help to reduce the amount of time in the 'OFF' state and reduce the associated symptoms.

Apomorphine is not available as a tablet as it is broken down in your liver during digestion. Therefore, it is given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneous) through a needle and bypasses your stomach by entering your bloodstream.

Apomorphine can act on your symptoms in a short period of time. On average, Apomorphine will start working in 4-12 minutes from the time it is injected.

What is an 'OFF' period?

These are individual to you, but typical examples of an 'OFF' period may include:

- You may have unpredictable, sudden episodes of being unable to move / get up
- You may have noticed a gradual return of tremor and feeling of anxiety
- You may fall over due to your muscles freezing / seizing up
- You may have stiffness and foot cramping (dystonia) – particularly in the morning

If these things are beginning to take over your day, your doctor may have initiated the process of prescribing a medication called Apomorphine.

My gut and my Parkinson's disease

Over time, you might have noticed that you need to take more oral medication to manage your Parkinson's disease, and it may seem like they are not as effective as they used to be.

Parkinson's can affect all types of muscles, including your stomach. This can cause your digestion to slow down.

This is called Gastroparesis.



Gastro = stomach
Paresis = paralysis



Often your tablets, like levodopa, can't get absorbed from your gut as quickly as they once did. This can happen early in the morning, after meals and also during stressful situations.



Dacepton & Devices



Dacepton® is the name for the medicinal product Apomorphine Hemihydrate Hydrochloride

Dacepton® is injected into the skin and can be administered through one of two devices:

- **The D-mine**® Pen
- **The D-mine**® Pump

Dacepton® and the device work together to reduce your 'OFF' symptoms.

D-mine® Pen

The **D-mine**® Pen is a reusable device which injects Apomorphine through a small needle. The medicine **Dacepton**® is held in a cartridge that can be replaced when you run out.

You can administer injections with the **D-mine**® Pen at regular intervals. *For example: Every morning when you may struggle to get out of bed.*

Or when you may have a spontaneous 'OFF' period for emergency relief. *For example: An unexpected 'OFF' period during a bus journey.*



For more information on the D-mine® Pen, please look at the **STARTING ON THE D-MINE PEN** booklet.

D-mine[®] Pump

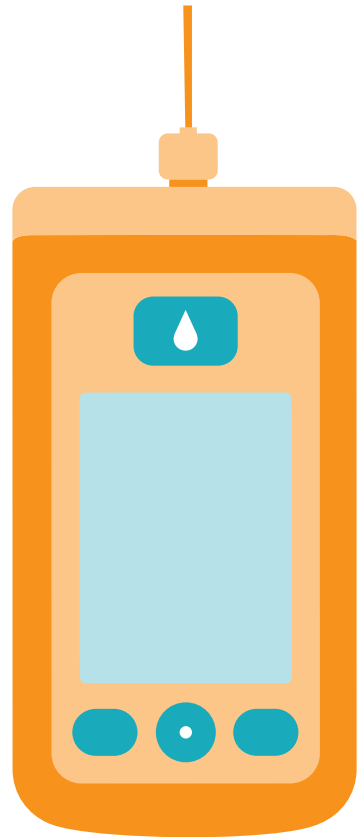
The **D-mine[®] Pump** can hold more Apomorphine than the **D-mine[®] Pen** and is used when you might need a continuous dose of Apomorphine throughout your day.

Your healthcare professional will be able to set your dose depending how much Apomorphine you need at a specific time of the day – this may be at a reoccurring time where you struggle with 'OFF' periods.

The Apomorphine is loaded into a container known as a reservoir in the pump and the pump slowly releases Apomorphine under the skin through a fine tubing and needle known as an infusion line.

This is a small portable pump which can be worn in a carry case. The case can be carried over your shoulder or fitted onto your belt.

The **D-mine[®] Pump** is designed to have little impact on your daily life and facilitate you in doing your normal activities.



For more information on the D-mine[®] Pump, please look at the STARTING ON THE D-MINE PUMP booklet.

What's next?

To know if Apomorphine will work, you will need a response test to see if Apomorphine works for you and determine the correct dose you need.

This test is carried out while you are in an 'OFF' state, and your healthcare professional may ask you to reduce or withhold your Parkinson's medication on the day of the test.



The response test usually takes up to half a day. One of our **D-mine[®] Care** nurse advisors will be present to do a series of Apomorphine injections and assess your movement. Each person is different and your response to Apomorphine will determine the correct dose for you.

Apomorphine Response Test

BEFORE THE TEST

Three days before the test and as directed by your healthcare professional, you may be prescribed an anti-nausea medication.

It is important that you take this medication as prescribed. Apomorphine may make you feel sick when you are exposed to it for the first time.

THE TEST

In the response test, your healthcare professional or your **D-mine[®] Care** nurse advisor will do a series of small injections using the **D-mine[®] Pen**.

These needles are short and fine and are injected into an area just beneath your skin. After each injection you will be asked to do a number of tasks including standing, walking or finger tapping.

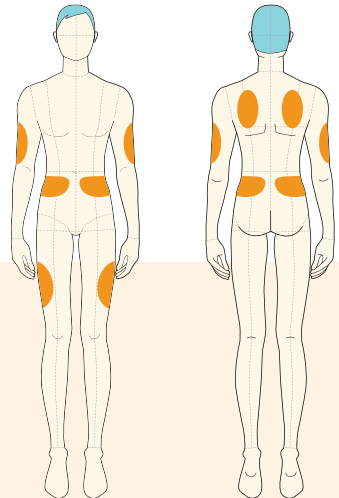
The objective of the response test is to assess if there is an improvement in your ability to do certain tasks.

If the response test shows that you have a positive response to Apomorphine you will be given a prescription and a device suitable for you.



Where do I inject myself?

The areas where you will be injecting can be seen in the image on the right. You can use these same areas for injecting with both the **D-mine[®] Pen** or the **D-mine[®] Pump**.



For more information read the INJECTION SITES BOOKLET, ask your healthcare professional / D-mine[®] Care nurse advisor for a copy if you are interested.

What are the possible side-effects of Apomorphine?

Like any other medication, Apomorphine has a list of known side-effects. Not everyone will get the same side-effects but it is important you are aware of these so you will know what to expect.

Most commonly, Apomorphine can cause nausea and vomiting. The nausea doesn't affect everyone and usually only occurs in the initial stages of Apomorphine therapy.

Although Apomorphine is absorbed quickly from the injection site, it can pool under the skin causing skin reactions. This is why you must use a different injection site each time you use Apomorphine.

In general, symptoms like low blood pressure (feeling dizzy), vivid dreams, imagining things that are not real, feeling sleepy and confusion have been reported.

Please refer to the Patient Information Leaflet for additional information. This can be found at:

<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/9650/pil>

Who are the D-mine® Care nurse advisors?

EVER Pharma has a team of highly qualified and experienced **D-mine® Care** nurse advisors. They can help with assessing your suitability for **Dacepton®** and provide additional education and support. These nurses work alongside your NHS Parkinson's Nurse to make sure you are supported through therapy.

Once you start your **Dacepton®** therapy you will be given contact details for your **D-mine® Care** nurse advisor and other support lines on the back of this booklet.





D-mine[®] Care

Who to contact for support

For support related to your **Dacepton[®]** therapy, please contact your healthcare professional or your **D-mine[®] Care** nurse advisor. Please note, your **D-mine[®] Care** nurse advisor works Monday-Friday, 09h00-17h30. Please **leave a message** when prompted and you will receive a response within 24 hours.

Technical Support

For technical support relating to your device:

- 📞 0800 254 0175 (Monday-Sunday: 07h00-22h00). Outside of these hours, **leave a message** and you will receive a call back the next day.
- ✉️ email ever.pharma@nhs.net

Prescriptions and ancillaries

For support relating to prescriptions and ordering:

- 📞 0800 254 0176 (Monday - Friday: 08h00-16h00)
- ✉️ email info.uk@everpharma.com

Adverse Events

Any adverse events should be reported to your healthcare professional. You can also report adverse events directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at www.yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk

Adverse events should also be reported to Medical Information on: 0800 254 0174 or drugsafety@everpharma.com

By reporting adverse events you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine. Very common side effects include hallucinations and injection site reactions. If you experience these side effects, please discuss them with your healthcare professional.

This booklet has been produced by EVER Pharma in the interests of patient education.

The D-mine[®] Care nurse service is contracted through Bionical Health.

Registered Office: Bionical Health Ltd, The Piazza, Mercia Marina, Findern Lane, Willington, Derbyshire, DE65 6DW. No. 15300657

The D-mine[®] Care nurse service can only be engaged after a decision to prescribe Dacepton[®] has been made.

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