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Pegaptanib

Generic name: Pegaptanib [*peg-AP-ta-nib*]

Brand name: [Macugen](#)

Drug class: [Anti-angiogenic ophthalmic agents](#)

[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com. Last updated on Jan 11, 2024.

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Uses of Pegaptanib:

- It is used to treat [macular degeneration](#).

What do I need to tell my doctor BEFORE I take Pegaptanib?

- If you have an [allergy](#) to [pegaptanib](#) or any other part of pegaptanib.
- If you are allergic to pegaptanib; any part of pegaptanib; or any other drugs, foods, or substances. Tell your doctor about the allergy and what signs you had.
- If you have an [infection](#) in or around the eye.

This is not a list of all drugs or health problems that interact with pegaptanib.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all of your drugs (prescription or OTC, natural products, [vitamins](#)) and health problems. You must check to make sure that it is safe for you to take pegaptanib with all of your drugs and health problems. Do not start, stop, or change the dose of any drug without checking with your doctor.

What are some things I need to know or do while I take Pegaptanib?

- Tell all of your health care providers that you take pegaptanib. This includes your doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and dentists.
- Use care when driving or doing other tasks that call for clear eyesight.
- Have your eye pressure checked. Talk with your doctor.
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan on getting pregnant. You will need to talk about the benefits and risks of using pegaptanib while you are pregnant.
- Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding. You will need to talk about any risks to your baby.

How is this medicine (Pegaptanib) best taken?

Use pegaptanib as ordered by your doctor. Read all information given to you. Follow all instructions closely.

- It is given as a shot into the eye.

What do I do if I miss a dose?

- Call your doctor to find out what to do.

i [Detailed Pegaptanib ophthalmic dosage information](#)

What are some side effects that I need to call my doctor about right away?

WARNING/CAUTION: Even though it may be rare, some people may have very bad and sometimes deadly side effects when taking a drug. Tell your doctor or get medical help right away if you have any of the following signs or symptoms that may be related to a very bad side effect:

- Signs of an allergic reaction, like [rash](#); hives; [itching](#); red, swollen, blistered, or peeling skin with or without [fever](#); [wheezing](#); tightness in the chest or throat; trouble breathing, swallowing, or talking; unusual hoarseness; or swelling of the mouth, face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Very bad [headache](#).
- Change in eyesight, eye pain, or very bad eye irritation.
- Trouble passing urine.
- Pain when passing urine.
- Eyelid swelling.
- [Eye redness](#).
- Eye discharge.
- Bleeding in the eye.
- Eye is bothered by bright light.

i [Pegaptanib ophthalmic side effects](#) (more detail)

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What are some other side effects of Pegaptanib?

All drugs may cause side effects. However, many people have no side effects or only have minor side effects. Call your doctor or get medical help if any of these side effects or any other side effects bother you or do not go away:

- Eye irritation.
- Seeing floaters.
- Dizziness.
- [Diarrhea](#).

- Headache.
- [Upset stomach.](#)

These are not all of the side effects that may occur. If you have questions about side effects, call your doctor. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects.

You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-332-1088. You may also report side effects at <https://www.fda.gov/medwatch>.

If OVERDOSE is suspected:

If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

How do I store and/or throw out Pegaptanib?

- If you need to store pegaptanib at home, talk with your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist about how to store it.
- Keep all drugs in a safe place. Keep all drugs out of the reach of children and pets.
- Throw away unused or expired drugs. Do not flush down a toilet or pour down a drain unless you are told to do so. Check with your pharmacist if you have questions about the best way to throw out drugs. There may be drug take-back programs in your area.

Consumer Information Use and Disclaimer

- If your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse, call your doctor.
- Do not share your drugs with others and do not take anyone else's drugs.
- Some drugs may have another patient information leaflet. Check with your pharmacist. If you have any questions about pegaptanib, please talk with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or other health care provider.
- If you think there has been an overdose, call your poison control center or get medical care right away. Be ready to tell or show what was taken, how much, and when it happened.

More about pegaptanib ophthalmic

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
- [Reviews \(1\)](#)
- [Side effects](#)
- [Dosage information](#)
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- [Drug class: anti-angiogenic ophthalmic agents](#)
- [Breastfeeding](#)

Patient resources

- [Pegaptanib advanced reading](#)

Other brands

[Macugen](#)

Professional resources

Other brands

[Macugen](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Macular Degeneration](#)

Further information

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

DRUG STATUS

Availability

 Discontinued

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 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*

N/A Not a controlled drug



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