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2. Pilocarpine

Pilocarpine ophthalmic

Generic name: pilocarpine ophthalmic [*PYE-loe-KAR-peen-off-THAL-mik*]

Brand names: [Isopto Carpine](#), [Pilocar](#), [Qlosi](#), [Vuity](#), Adorbocarpine, ... [show all 17 brands](#)

Dosage form: ophthalmic solution (0.4%; 1.25%; 1%; 2%; 4%)

Drug class: [Ophthalmic glaucoma agents](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Jan 21, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

What is pilocarpine ophthalmic?

[Pilocarpine](#) ophthalmic (for the eyes) is used to treat [glaucoma](#) or ocular hypertension (high pressure inside the eye).

Pilocarpine ophthalmic is also used for the induction of miosis.

Pilocarpine ophthalmic is used in the prevention of high intraocular pressure after laser [surgery](#).

Vuity and **Qlosi** is used in adults to treat a condition that reduces the eyes' ability to focus on near objects ([presbyopia](#)).

Pilocarpine ophthalmic may also be used for purposes not listed in this medication guide.

Pilocarpine ophthalmic side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction**: hives, difficult breathing, swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat.

Seek medical attention right away if you have sudden onset of vision loss.

Pilocarpine ophthalmic may cause serious side effects. Call your doctor at once if you have:

- severe stinging, burning, swelling, or redness of your eye;
- vision problems;
- seeing flashes of light or "floaters" in your vision; or
- **signs of eye infection**--swelling, redness, severe discomfort, crusting or drainage.

Common side effects of pilocarpine ophthalmic may include:

- [headache](#), eyebrow pain;
- eye pain or irritation;

- [eye redness](#);
- watery eyes;
- blurred vision;
- dim or dark vision, problems when changing focus between objects; or
- your eyes may be more sensitive to light.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Pilocarpine ophthalmic side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

Use only as directed. Tell your doctor if you use other medicines or have other medical conditions or allergies.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use pilocarpine ophthalmic if you are allergic to it.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- a detached retina;
- [iritis](#); or
- an eye condition called [uveitis](#).

It is not known if pilocarpine ophthalmic will harm an unborn baby. Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.

Ask a doctor if it is safe to breastfeed while using pilocarpine ophthalmic.

How should I use pilocarpine ophthalmic?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine exactly as directed.

Your doctor may examine your retina before starting therapy.

Wash your hands before using eye medication.

To apply the eye drops: Pull down your lower eyelid to create a small pocket and squeeze a drop into this pocket. Close your eyes for 1 or 2 minutes.

Use only the prescribed number of drops.

Wait at least 5 minutes before using any other eye drops.

Do not touch the dropper tip or place it directly on your eye. A contaminated dropper can infect your eye and lead to serious vision problems.

Do not use while wearing soft contact lenses. A preservative in this medicine could permanently stain the lenses. Wait at least 10 minutes before inserting your contact lenses.

Call your pharmacist if the medicine looks cloudy, has changed colors or has particles in it.

Store at room temperature, in an upright position and tightly closed. Do not freeze.

Qlosi is supplied as a single patient use vial. Throw away a vial (bottle) after one use, even if there is still medicine left inside.

Qlosi should be stored in the refrigerator, do not freeze.

Once the foil pouch is opened, **Qlosi** can be stored at room temperature away from moisture and heat for 30 days.

 [Detailed Pilocarpine ophthalmic dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Use the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** use two doses at one time.

What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222.

Overdose symptoms may include [sweating](#), [nausea](#), tremors, [slow heart rate](#), increased salivation, or feeling like you might pass out.

What should I avoid while using pilocarpine ophthalmic?

Avoid using any other eye medications your doctor has not prescribed.

pilocarpine ophthalmic may cause blurred vision and may impair your reactions. Avoid driving, especially at night or hazardous activity until you know how this medicine will affect you.

What other drugs will affect pilocarpine ophthalmic?

Medicine used in the eyes is not likely to be affected by other drugs you use. But many drugs can interact. Tell your doctor about all your current medicines, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, [vitamins](#), and [herbal products](#).

 [Pilocarpine ophthalmic drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does pilocarpine ophthalmic interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

pilocarpine ophthalmic

+

Enter a drug name

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Patient resources

- [Pilocarpine \(Ophthalmic\) advanced reading](#)

Other brands

[Vuity](#), [Isopto Carpine](#), [Pilocar](#), [Qlosi](#), ... +2 more

Professional resources

- [Pilocarpine, Pilocarpine Hydrochloride, Pilocarpine Nitrate \(Ophthalmic\) monograph](#)
- [Pilocarpine Eye Drops \(FDA\)](#)

Other brands

Vuity, Isopto Carpine, Qlosi

Related treatment guides

- [Glaucoma](#)
- [Presbyopia](#)
- [Production of Miosis](#)
- [Glaucoma, Narrow Angle](#)
- [Glaucoma, Open Angle](#)
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Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use this medication only for the indication prescribed.

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

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DRUG STATUS

Availability	
Rx	Prescription only
Pregnancy & Lactation	
	Risk data available
CSA Schedule*	
N/A	Not a controlled drug
Approval History	
	Drug history at FDA

User Reviews & Ratings

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Images

Vuity (pilocarpine) 1.25% ophthalmic solution



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