



[Home](#)

2. Premphase

Premphase

Generic name: [conjugated estrogens and medroxyprogesterone](#) [KON-joo-GAY-ted-ES-troe-jenz-and-me-DOX-ee-proe-JES-ter-one]

Brand names: Premphase, [Prempro](#)

Drug class: [Sex hormone combinations](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Feb 6, 2025. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

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

What is Premphase?

Estrogen is a female sex hormone produced by the ovaries. Estrogen is necessary for many processes in the body.

[Conjugated estrogens](#) are a mixture of estrogen hormones.

[Medroxyprogesterone](#) is a form of [progesterone](#), a female hormone important for regulating ovulation and menstruation.

Premphase is a combination medicine used to treat menopause symptoms such as hot flashes and vaginal changes, and to prevent [osteoporosis](#) (bone loss) in menopausal women.

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

Premphase 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.

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

- **heart attack symptoms**--chest pain or pressure, pain spreading to your jaw or shoulder, nausea, sweating;
- **signs of a stroke**--sudden numbness or weakness (especially on one side of the body), sudden severe headache, slurred speech, problems with vision or balance;
- **signs of a blood clot**--sudden vision loss, stabbing chest pain, feeling short of breath, coughing up blood, pain or warmth in one or both legs;
- swelling or tenderness in your stomach;
- jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes);
- memory problems, confusion, unusual behavior;
- unusual vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain;
- a lump in your breast; or

- **high levels of calcium in your blood**--nausea, vomiting, [constipation](#), increased thirst or urination, muscle weakness, bone pain, lack of energy.

Common side effects of Premphase may include:

- nausea, gas, stomach pain;
- headache, back pain;
- depression, weakness;
- breast pain;
- itching, thinning scalp hair; or
- vaginal itching or discharge, changes in your menstrual periods, [breakthrough bleeding](#).

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.

 [Premphase side effects](#) (more detail)

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Warnings

You should not use Premphase if you have: undiagnosed vaginal bleeding, [liver disease](#), a [bleeding disorder](#), if you will have major surgery, or if you have ever had a [heart attack](#), a stroke, a blood clot, or cancer of the breast, uterus/cervix, or vagina.

Do not use if you are pregnant.

Premphase may increase your risk of developing a condition that may lead to [uterine cancer](#). **Report any unusual vaginal bleeding right away.**

Using this medicine can increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, heart attack, or cancer of the breast, uterus, or ovaries. Estrogens should not be used to prevent [heart disease](#), stroke, or dementia.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use this medicine if you have:

- unusual vaginal bleeding that has not been checked by a doctor;
- liver disease;
- a history of heart attack, stroke, or blood clot;
- an increased risk of having blood clots due to a heart problem or a hereditary blood disorder; or
- a history of hormone-related cancer, or cancer of the breast, uterus/cervix, or vagina.

Do not use Premphase if you are pregnant. Tell your doctor right away if you become pregnant during treatment.

Using this medicine can increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, or heart attack. You are even more at risk if you have [high blood pressure](#), diabetes, [high cholesterol](#), if you are overweight, or if you smoke.

Premphase should not be used to prevent heart disease, stroke, or dementia, because this medicine may actually increase your risk of developing these conditions.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- a [hysterectomy](#);
- heart disease;
- liver problems, or jaundice caused by pregnancy or taking hormones;
- kidney disease;
- [gallbladder disease](#);
- asthma;
- epilepsy or other seizure disorder;
- migraines;
- lupus;
- [endometriosis](#) or uterine fibroid tumors;
- [hereditary angioedema](#);
- porphyria (a genetic enzyme disorder that causes symptoms affecting the skin or nervous system);
- a thyroid disorder; or
- high levels of calcium in your blood.

Using this medicine may increase your risk of cancer of the breast, uterus, or ovaries. Talk with your doctor about this risk.

Estrogen lowers the hormone needed to produce breast milk and can slow breast milk production. Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding.

How should I take Premphase?

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

Take the medicine at the same time each day.

Premphase may increase your risk of developing a condition that may lead to uterine cancer. Your doctor may prescribe a progestin to take while you are using Premphase, to help lower this risk. **Report any unusual vaginal bleeding right away.**

The 28-day **Premphase** treatment consists of two differently colored pills, 14 of each color. Carefully follow the patient instructions about which pills to take on days 1 through 14 and which pills to take on days 15 through 28.

Your doctor should check your progress on a regular basis to determine whether you should continue this treatment. Self-examine your breasts for lumps on a monthly basis, and have regular mammograms.

If you need major surgery or will be on long-term bed rest, you may need to stop using this medicine for a short time. Any doctor or surgeon who treats you should know that you are using Premphase.

Store at room temperature away from moisture, heat, and light.

 [Detailed Premphase dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Take the medicine as soon as you can, but skip the missed dose if it is almost time for your next dose. **Do not** take 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.

What should I avoid while taking Premphase?

Avoid smoking. It can greatly increase your risk of blood clots, stroke, or heart attack while using Premphase.

Grapefruit may interact with Premphase and lead to unwanted side effects. **Avoid the use of grapefruit products.**

What other drugs will affect Premphase?

Sometimes it is not safe to use certain medications at the same time. Some drugs can affect your blood levels of other drugs you take, which may increase side effects or make the medications less effective.

Many drugs can affect Premphase. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal products](#). **Not all possible interactions are listed here.** Tell your doctor about all your current medicines and any medicine you start or stop using.

 [Premphase drug interactions](#) (more detail)

Does Premphase interact with my other drugs?

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

Premphase

+

Enter a drug name

Add

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- [Atrophic Urethritis](#)
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- [Postmenopausal Symptoms](#)
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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.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

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DRUG STATUS

Availability

Rx Prescription only

Pregnancy & Lactation

 Risk data available

CSA Schedule*



N/A Not a controlled drug

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