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2. Midodrine

Midodrine

Generic name: midodrine [*MYE-doe-dreen*]

Brand names: [ProAmatine](#), [Orvaten](#)

Dosage form: oral tablet (10 mg; 2.5 mg; 5 mg)

Drug class: [Miscellaneous cardiovascular agents](#)



[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Sep 16, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).

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What is midodrine?

Midodrine is used to treat [low blood pressure \(hypotension\)](#) that causes severe dizziness or a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out. midodrine is for use only when low blood pressure affects daily life. Midodrine may not improve your ability to perform daily activities

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

Midodrine 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.

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

- **severely slowed heart rate**--weak pulse, severe dizziness or light-headed feeling; or
- **dangerously high blood pressure**--severe headache, pounding sensation in your ears ("hearing" your heartbeats), blurred vision, buzzing in your ears, anxiety, confusion, chest pain, [shortness of breath](#), uneven heartbeats, seizure.

Common side effects of midodrine may include:

- increased blood pressure when sitting or lying down;
- chills, goosebumps;
- numbness, tingling, or itching (especially in your scalp); or
- increased urination, painful or difficult urination, or sudden urge to urinate.

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.



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

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Warnings

You should not use midodrine if you have severe [heart disease](#), overactive thyroid, an adrenal gland tumor, kidney disease, if you are unable to urinate, or if your blood pressure is high even while lying down.

Midodrine can increase blood pressure even when you are at rest. midodrine should be used only if you have severely low blood pressure that affects your daily life. Midodrine may not improve your ability to perform daily activities.

Before taking this medicine

You should not use midodrine if you are allergic to it, or if you have:

- severe heart disease;
- if you are unable to urinate;
- [pheochromocytoma](#) (tumor of the adrenal gland);
- overactive thyroid;
- [high blood pressure](#) (even while lying down); or
- kidney disease.

To make sure midodrine is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have or have ever had:

- diabetes;
- glaucoma or a history of vision problems; or
- [liver disease](#).

It is not known if midodrine 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 this medicine.

How should I take midodrine?

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

Midodrine is usually taken 3 times per day, with doses spaced at least 3 hours apart. Take your last dose of the day before evening meal or 4 hours before bedtime.

You may take midodrine with or without food.

Take midodrine during your normal waking hours, when you are most likely to be upright and not lying down or napping. Ask your doctor about how to take this medicine if you normally lie down during the day.

Midodrine can increase your blood pressure even while you are lying down or sleeping (when blood pressure is usually lowest). Long-term high blood pressure (hypertension) can lead to serious medical problems.

Follow your doctor's instructions about the best way to position your body while you are laying down or sleeping. You may need to keep your head elevated to help prevent high blood pressure.

Your blood pressure will need to be checked before and during treatment with midodrine. **Check your blood pressure**

while you are lying down, and check it again with your head elevated.

Your kidney and liver function may also need to be checked.

Midodrine is only part of a treatment program that may also include lifestyle changes, wearing support stockings on your legs, and possibly special medical care. Follow your doctor's instructions very carefully.

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat.

Midodrine dosing information

Usual Adult Dose for Hypotension:

10 mg orally 3 times a day during daytime hours when the patient needs to be upright

Comments:

- The three daily doses may be given at 3-hour intervals, if needed, but not more frequently.
- This drug should not be given after the evening meal or less than 4 hours before bedtime.
- This drug should only be continued in patients who appear to attain symptomatic improvement during initial treatment.

Use: Treatment of symptomatic [orthostatic hypotension](#) (OH) in patients whose lives are considerably impaired despite standard clinical care, including non-pharmacologic treatment such as support stockings, fluid expansion, and lifestyle alterations.

 [Detailed Midodrine 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.

You may need to skip a dose if you will be resting or lying down for a long period of time during your normal waking hours. Talk to your doctor about how to adjust your dose schedule if needed.

What happens if I overdose?

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

Overdose symptoms include increased blood pressure (flushing, headache, pounding heartbeat, blurred vision), goosebumps, feeling cold, or trouble urinating.

What should I avoid while taking midodrine?

Avoid taking a dose if it is less than 4 hours before going to bed.

Ask a doctor or pharmacist before using any over-the-counter diet or cough/cold medicine containing [phenylephrine](#) or [pseudoephedrine](#). **These medicines may raise your blood pressure.**

What other drugs will affect midodrine?

Taking midodrine with other drugs that constrict blood vessels can further increase your blood pressure. Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially:

- digoxin, digitalis, droxidopa, [fludrocortisone](#);
- asthma medicine;
- phenylephrine, pseudoephedrine, ephedrine;
- heart or blood pressure medicine;
- [migraine headache](#) medicine;
- thyroid medicine;
- **drugs to treat high blood pressure or a prostate disorder**--alfuzosin, doxazosin, prazosin, terazosin, silodosin, [tamsulosin](#); or
- **an MAO inhibitor**--[isocarboxazid](#), linezolid, [methylene blue](#) injection, [phenelzine](#), [tranylcypromine](#), and others.

This list is not complete. Other drugs may affect midodrine, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and [herbal products](#). Not all possible [drug interactions](#) are listed here.

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

Does midodrine interact with my other drugs?

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

+

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Patient resources

Other brands

[ProAmatine](#), [Orvaten](#)

Professional resources

- [Midodrine monograph](#)
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Other brands

[ProAmatine](#)

Related treatment guides

- [Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome](#)
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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

6.8 / 10

[55 Reviews](#)

Images

Midodrine Hydrochloride 5 mg (US 5 212)



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