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2. Flolan

Flolan

Generic name: [epoprostenol](#) [*EE-poe-PROST-en-ol*]**Brand names:** Flolan, [Veletri](#)**Drug class:** [Agents for pulmonary hypertension](#)[Medically reviewed](#) by Drugs.com on Aug 26, 2024. Written by [Cerner Multum](#).[Uses](#) [Side effects](#) [Warnings](#) [Before taking](#) [Dosage](#) [Interactions](#)

What is Flolan?

Flolan is a prostaglandin (a hormone-like substance that occurs naturally in the body). Prostaglandins help to control functions in the body such as blood pressure and muscle contractions.

Flolan is used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) and improve your ability to exercise.

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

Flolan side effects

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

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

- [shortness of breath](#) with dizziness or weakness;
- a light-headed feeling, like you might pass out;
- easy bruising, unusual bleeding; or
- **symptoms of pulmonary edema**--[anxiety](#), [sweating](#), pale skin, severe shortness of breath, [wheezing](#), gasping for breath, [cough](#) with foamy mucus, chest pain, fast or uneven heart rate.

Common side effects of Flolan may include:

- flushing (warmth, redness, or tingly feeling);
- dizziness;
- [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), [diarrhea](#), stomach pain;
- trouble breathing;
- [headache](#), jaw pain;

- fast or slow heartbeats;
- joint or [muscle pain](#);
- flu-like symptoms; or
- feeling anxious or nervous.

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.

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

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Warnings

You should not use Flolan if you have fluid in your lungs, or [heart failure](#) caused by a decrease in your heart's ability to pump blood back into the body.

Before taking this medicine

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

- fluid in your lungs ([pulmonary edema](#)); or
- congestive heart failure caused by a decrease in your heart's ability to pump blood back into the body.

Tell your doctor if you have ever had breathing problems while using Flolan.

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

It may not be safe to breast-feed while using this medicine. Ask your doctor about any risk.

How should I use Flolan?

Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets. Use the medicine exactly as directed. **You may need to use Flolan for many years.**

You may receive your first dose in a hospital or clinic setting to quickly treat any serious side effects. Your blood pressure and heart rate may also need to be monitored whenever your dose is changed.

Flolan is injected with an infusion pump, usually through a permanent central intravenous (IV) catheter placed into a large vein such as in your chest. A healthcare provider will give your first dose and may teach you how to properly use the medication by yourself.

Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine, which may be different for different brands of epoprostenol. Do not use Flolan if you don't understand all instructions for proper use. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have questions.

Prepare your injection only when you are ready to give it. **Do not use if the medicine has changed colors or has particles in it.** Call your pharmacist for new medicine.

You should not stop using Flolan suddenly, even if you feel fine. Stopping suddenly may make your condition worse.

Call your doctor if your symptoms do not improve, or if they get worse.

To make sure there is no interruption in your treatment, you may need to have a back-up infusion pump, replacement batteries, and extra IV infusion sets. Get your prescription refilled before you run out of medicine completely.

Store Flolan powder in its original package at room temperature, away from moisture, heat, and light.

After mixing your medicine, you will need to use it within a certain number of hours or days. This will depend on the concentration of the mixture, the diluent used, and whether you store the mixture at room temperature or in a refrigerator. **Carefully follow the mixing and storage instructions provided with your medicine.** Ask your pharmacist if you have questions.

Protect the mixed medicine from light at all times, whether it is in storage or in use.

Use a needle and syringe only once and then place them in a puncture-proof "sharps" container. Follow state or local laws about how to dispose of this container. Keep it out of the reach of children and pets.

 [Detailed Flolan dosage information](#)

What happens if I miss a dose?

Because Flolan is given around the clock, you should not miss a dose if you use the medicine properly. Call your doctor right away if your Flolan therapy is interrupted for any reason.

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 using Flolan?

Avoid using any infusion pump that has not been approved for use by your doctor.

What other drugs will affect Flolan?

Tell your doctor about all your other medicines, especially:

- a diuretic or "water pill";
- blood pressure medications; or
- **a blood thinner**--[warfarin](#), [Coumadin](#), [Jantoven](#).

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

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

Does Flolan interact with my other drugs?

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

Flolan

+

Enter a drug name

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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

10+ years FDA approved 1995



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