



What's my Drug?

Furosemide is a strong diuretic or water drug. It is mainly used to help treat problems with the heart or kidney, and blood pressure. It helps to get rid of excess fluid from your body. You will first notice this effect within about an hour.

How it is given: Swallow whole then take a drink.

Possible side effects include: It will make you pass more urine than usual. Feeling sick, diarrhoea, cramps, and dizziness when you stand up quickly. You may be more at risk of getting gout. It can make blood sugar levels go up; a potential problem if you already have diabetes.

Rare but important side effects: It can affect the levels of various minerals in your bloodstream (sodium and potassium) in your body. These could cause nausea, headache, confusion, weak muscles and cramps, and an irregular pulse. This can affect your bone marrow cells which could mean that you are more likely to get infections or bruising and bleeding. It can affect your hearing. If this happens let your health professional know straight away. Effects on your liver or pancreas are possible, so if you get bad tummy pains and sickness, possibly with yellowing of your skin or eyes and dark urine tell your doctor. Skin rashes can happen but are rare. Your skin could get more sensitive to sunlight (photosensitivity). In men with prostate problems: there is a small risk that they could become unable to pass urine; and urinary retention.

Warnings and Cautions: This medicine doesn't mix well with several other drugs. Check this out with the doctor or pharmacist if necessary. Although diuretics help you lose water, it is important to have enough to drink, so do not ignore feelings of thirst. To find out more about this medicine's other possible side effects, read the full Product Information Leaflet. For women: this medicine is not usually used during pregnancy unless it is very important to have this. It is not usually used during breastfeeding.