PEN NSW Paediatric Epilepsy Network



The Sydney **children's** Hospitals Network

# Stiripentol

#### <u>Usage</u>

Stiripentol is an anti-seizure medication used to control seizures associated with Dravet Syndrome (DS), in conjunction with at least 2 other anti-seizure medications.

Stiripentol must be prescribed by a doctor. You should never give your child anyone else's medication.

## Side Effects

# Below are some of the possible side effects your child may experience.

- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss, especially when administered with sodium valproate
- Drowsiness, fatigue
- Unsteadiness
- Floppiness
- Abnormal tone (dystonia), tremor, additional movements (hyperkinesia)
- Insomnia
- Nausea and vomiting
- Altered behaviour: aggressiveness and irritability
- Low white blood cell count (neutropenia) or raised liver function tests (GGT)

#### Dangerous side effects:

• Rash, photosensitivity, urticaria

# **Interactions**

- Stiripentol can increase levels of clobazam and valproate by interfering with how these medications are processed by the body. Your Doctor may reduce the dose of these medications due to expected interactions.
- Your Doctor will check and make sure that other drugs your child is taking are compatible with Stiripentol. This is also important if you are giving your child herbal or complementary medicines.

## Need-to-know

 Stiripentol should be taken with food, as stiripentol degrades rapidly in the acid environment of an empty stomach.

#### Monitoring and medication levels

 There is no need to do regular drug level monitoring with Stiripentol. Routine blood counts, liver function tests and other drug levels may be monitored at regular intervals according to your Doctor.

#### Pregnancy and contraception

 Stiripentol can potentially cause abnormalities in the baby. If a pregnancy is planned, a discussion with your neurologist is recommended. For further information, refer to the Contraception and Pregnancy section.