

Medication Information Card

Levothyroxine

(Le – vo – thi – rox – een)

Other names for this medication

Synthroid[®]
Eltroxin[®]

There are many other names for this medication.

How this medication is used

This medication is used to help relieve symptoms caused by low levels of thyroxine in the body.

This medication can lessen:

- dry, brittle hair and nails
- cold, dry, yellowish skin
- puffy face, eyelids
- weak, painful muscles
- feeling very tired
- lack of menstruation in women
- weight gain
- feeling cold
- hoarse, deep voice
- slow heart rate
- constipation

Your doctor will adjust the amount of medication you take based on the results of regular blood tests. It may take many months before you get the full effect of this medication.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor.

This medication is usually taken one time a day, in the morning, ½ hour before breakfast.

If you miss a dose of this medication, take it as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

Contact your doctor if you notice

- increased appetite
- trouble staying still
- shaking
- trouble sleeping
- your heart beat is faster than normal
- changes in menstruation
- increased sweating; feeling hot all the time
- unusual mood changes
- too much weight loss
- severe vomiting or diarrhea

These problems may mean you need your dose changed.

If you are taking a medication called Cholestyramine or Questran, take it 4 hours before or 4 hours after taking Levothyroxine.