



BEXTRA (valdecoxib) tablets

Patient Advisory Label Update®

DRUG NAME: BEXTRA (valdecoxib) tablets

MANUFACTURER: Pharmacia

INDICATIONS FOR USE: For the relief of the signs and symptoms of Osteoarthritis and Adult Rheumatoid Arthritis. It is also used for the treatment of Primary Dysmenorrhea.

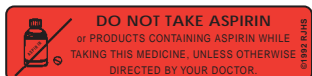
In order to assist you with your patient counseling, we recommend the use of the following Patient Advisory Label(s) when you dispense *Bextra* (valdecoxib):

A-42:



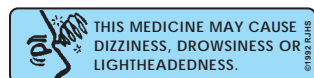
Research: Tablets may be taken without regard to the timing of meals.

A-17:



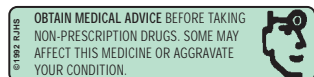
Research: Literature review states: "Concomitant administration of Bextra (valdecoxib) and aspirin may result in an increased risk of gastrointestinal ulcerations compared to Bextra (valdecoxib) alone."

A-15:



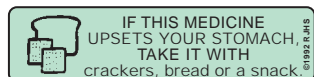
Research: Dizziness is listed as a side effect greater than 2% of the time. Advise the patient to avoid sudden changes in posture. Sit or lie down at the first sign of dizziness. If this side effect continue, patient should call his/her physician.

A-14:



Research: Concern is with the use of any over the counter products that contain aspirin, ibuprofen or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents. Increase chance of stomach upset.

A-29:



Research: If this medicine does cause stomach upset, it may be taken with crackers, slice of bread or a light snack.

Please Note: The Patient Advisory Label Update® and The Patient Advisor® are intended to provide the healthcare professional with easily accessible, practical drug counseling information to use when verbally communicating with a patient about a particular drug. The information printed here is designed to assist, not replace, professional judgement. The author, manufacturer or distributor make no claims regarding proper use of this information.

References available upon request

To obtain Labels or other Patient Counseling Information:



R•J Health Systems, Inc.

P.O. Box 290616 • Wethersfield, CT 06109 • Phone: 860-563-1223 Fax: 860-563-1650 • or on the web: www.rjhealthsystems.com



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Patient Advisor®

Be sure to read all this information and contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions that are not answered here.

THIS MEDICATION IS USED:

To treat pain, swelling and stiffness due to Osteoarthritis and Rheumatoid Arthritis. It is also used to treat the pain of dysmenorrhea (difficult and painful menstruation).

PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION:

- Take this medication exactly as your doctor has instructed.
- This can be taken with or without regard to food, however do take it with a full glass of water (4 ounces).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER:

- If this causes stomach upset, you may take it with crackers, slice of bread or a light snack.
- You should not take aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin IB) or another non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (Aleve, Orudis KT) or drink alcoholic beverages while taking this medicine without consulting with your doctor or pharmacist. They may increase your chance of stomach upset.
- This medicine may cause dizziness or light-headedness. Avoid sudden changes in posture. Sit or lie down at the first sign of dizziness. **DO NOT** drive a car, operate dangerous machinery or do jobs that require you to be alert until you know how you are going to react to this medicine.
- **DO NOT** use any prescription or non-prescription drugs such as diet pills; cough, cold or allergy medicines (especially those containing aspirin, ibuprofen or alcohol) without first talking with your doctor or pharmacist. Some may affect this medicine or aggravate your condition.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:

Stomach pain, stomach fullness, nausea, diarrhea, headache, flatulence (gas), dizziness, rash, upper respiratory infection.

MISSED DOSE INSTRUCTIONS:

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as possible. **BUT** if it is almost time for the next dose, **DO NOT** take the missed dose or **DO NOT DOUBLE** the next dose. Instead, continue with your regular dosing schedule.