GOAL

• Product labels can be overwhelming
  • 90 million Americans misinterpret medicine labels
• Some information is more relevant to each consumer
  • Not everyone is fully aware of what will affect them directly
• Relevant for prescribed drugs and OTC medications
• FDA Priority Area 8 (3c)
FDA Drug Database

Patient Electronic Medical Records
What special precautions should I follow?

Before taking ergocalciferol,

- tell your doctor and pharmacist if you are allergic to ergocalciferol, aspirin, tartrazine (a yellow dye in some processed foods and drugs), any other medications, or any of the ingredients in ergocalciferol capsules. Ask your pharmacist for a list of the ingredients.
- tell your doctor and pharmacist what other prescription and nonprescription medications, vitamins, nutritional supplements, and herbal products you are taking or plan to take. Be sure to mention any of the following: calcium supplements; other vitamin D supplements and fortified foods; or thiazide diuretics ("water pills") such as chlorothiazide (Diuril), hydrochlorothiazide (in many blood pressure medications), indapamide, and metolazone (Zaroxolyn). You and your caregiver should know that many nonprescription medications are not safe to take with ergocalciferol. Ask your doctor before you take any nonprescription medications while you are taking ergocalciferol. Your doctor may need to change the doses of your medications or monitor you carefully for side effects.
- tell your doctor if you have high blood levels of calcium and vitamin D, an abnormal sensitivity to high levels of vitamin D, or if you have malabsorption syndrome (problems absorbing food). Your doctor will probably tell you not to take ergocalciferol.
- tell your doctor if you have or have ever had kidney or liver disease.
- tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding. If you become pregnant while taking ergocalciferol, call your doctor.

What special dietary instructions should I follow?

Ergocalciferol will work only if you also get the right amount of calcium from the foods you eat. If you get too much calcium from foods, you may experience serious side effects from taking ergocalciferol. If you do not get enough calcium from foods, ergocalciferol will not control your condition. Your doctor will tell you which foods are good sources of calcium and how many servings you need each day. If you find it difficult to eat enough of these foods, tell your doctor. In that case, your doctor can prescribe or recommend a calcium supplement.

Your doctor may also prescribe a low-phosphate diet during your treatment with ergocalciferol. Follow these directions carefully.

What should I do if I forget a dose?

Take the missed dose as soon as you remember it. However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule. Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed one.

What side effects can this medication cause?

Ergocalciferol may cause side effects. Tell your doctor if any of these symptoms are severe or do not go away:

- pale skin
- tiredness

Some side effects can be serious. If you experience any of these symptoms, call your doctor immediately:

- feeling tired, difficulty thinking clearly, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, constipation, increased thirst, increased urination, or weight loss
- drowsiness
- muscle aches, stiffness, and weakness
MyHealth Library

Search MyHealth for information on medications' allergens, side effects, and more personalized to your medical history.

Find information on:

MYHEALTH SEARCH

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MYHEALTH

- Patients can find relevant medication information through MyChart
  - Side effects
  - Interactions with other medications
  - Allergens
- Confidential
- Easily accessible for any patient
  - Increase MyChart usage
  - Use trusted source for information

“Improve methods to convey complex scientific and quantitative information about product risks and benefits (e.g., quantitative risk information, clinical trial results, toxicology data) to consumers and professionals”