# What is most important to remember?

- Use this medicine as directed by your doctor
- Do not start any new medicines, over-the-counter drugs or herbal remedies without talking to your doctor
- Tell all doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you are using hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®)
- Call your doctor if your symptoms or health problems do not get better or if they become worse
- This medicine may cause you to be sleepy or dizzy, so use caution in activities that require you to be alert

#### If you have questions:

Ask your doctor, nurse or pharmacist for more information about hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®)

#### **Strong Internal Medicine**

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MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER

#### Strong Internal Medicine



Hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®): Important Patient Information



MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER

#### What does hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®) do?

- It is an antihistamine. Used to treat itching caused by allergies and control the nausea and vomiting caused by a number of conditions, including motion sickness
- It also can be used to treat anxiety or tension

### How should hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®) be used?

- Take this medicine as directed by your doctor
- Take with or without food. If it causes an upset stomach take with food

## Who should know I am taking hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®)?

 Keep a list of all your medicines (prescription, natural products, supplements, vitamins, over-the-counter) and give it to your healthcare provider (doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, or physician assistant)

#### Are there any interactions with other drugs that I need to worry about?

- There are many drug interactions that may increase your risk of side effects
- Do not start new prescriptions, over-thecounter medicines, or herbal and dietary supplements without telling your doctor

#### What should I do if I forget to take hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®)?

- Many times this drug is taken on an as needed basis
- Take a missed dose as soon as you think about it
- If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your normal dose time
- Do not take 2 doses at the same time or extra doses to make up for a missed dose

## If you have any of the following side effects, call your doctor or visit the emergency room immediately:

- · Very nervous or excitable
- Trouble passing urine
- Muscle weakness
- Trouble controlling body movements, twitching, change in balance, trouble swallowing or speaking
- Any sign of a severe allergic reaction including, itching, rash, severe dizziness, trouble breathing, swelling of face, lips, tongue, or throat

## What are some things that I need to be aware of when taking hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®)?

- This medicine may make you drowsy. Do not drive or do other activities that call for you to be alert until you know how this medicine affects you.
- This medication may impair your thinking or reaction time
- Avoid drinking alcohol while taking hydroxyzine (this includes beer and wine). It can increase some of the side effects of the medicine
- Tell your doctor if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant during treatment, or if you are breastfeeding
- If you have asthma, glaucoma, ulcers, seizures, or trouble passing urine, talk with your doctor before taking this medicine
- Share with your doctor your complete medical history before starting this medicine
- Older adults (>65 years old) may be more sensitive to the side effects of this drug, especially drowsiness and confusion

#### What side effects could occur with hydroxyzine (Atarax® or Vistaril®)?

- Feeling sleepy or dizzy
- Dry mouth, nose, throat
- · Headache, upset stomach