PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER[a,b]

Palexia® retard 50 mg prolonged-release tablets
Palexia® retard 100 mg prolonged-release tablets
Palexia® retard 150 mg prolonged-release tablets
Palexia® retard 200 mg prolonged-release tablets
Palexia® retard 250 mg prolonged-release tablets

TAPENTADOL

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet (see section 4).

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Palexia® retard is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Palexia® retard
3. How to take Palexia® retard
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Palexia® retard
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT PALEXIA® RETARD IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Tapentadol – the active substance in Palexia® retard – is a strong painkiller which belongs to the class of opioids. Palexia® retard is used for the treatment of severe chronic pain in adults that can only be adequately managed with an opioid painkiller.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE PALEXIA® RETARD

Do not take Palexia® retard:
- If you are allergic to tapentadol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)
- If you have asthma or if your breathing is dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression, hypercapnia)
- If you have paralysis of the gut
- If you have acute poisoning with alcohol, sleeping pills, pain relievers or other psychotropic medicines (medicines that affect mood and emotions) (see “Other medicines and Palexia® retard”)

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Palexia® retard if you:
- have slow or shallow breathing,
- suffer from increased pressure in the brain or disturbed consciousness up to coma,
- have had a head injury or brain tumors,
- have had an epileptic fit or if you have an increased risk of having epileptic fits,
- suffer from a liver or kidney disease (see “How to take Palexia® retard”),
- suffer from a pancreatic or biliary tract disease, including pancreatitis,
- are taking medicines referred to as mixed opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g., pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g. buprenorphine).

Palexia® retard may lead to physical and psychological addiction. If you have a tendency to abuse medicines or if you are dependent on medicines, you should only take these tablets for short periods and under strict medical supervision.

Other medicines and Palexia® retard
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Your breathing may become dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression) if you are taking certain sleeping pills or tranquillizers (e.g. barbiturates, benzodiazepines), or pain relievers such as morphine and codeine (also as cough medicine) in combination with Palexia® retard. If this happens tell your doctor.

If you are taking certain CNS depressants (e.g. benzodiaze-

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pines, antipsychotics, H1-antihistamines, opioids, alcohol) in combination with Palexia® retard your consciousness may be decreased, you may feel drowsier or feel that you might faint. If this happens tell your doctor.

Serotonin syndrome is a rare, life-threatening condition that has been reported in some patients who took tapentadol in combination with so called serotoninergic medicines (e.g. certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Signs of serotonin syndrome may be for example confusion, restlessness, fever, sweating, uncoordinated movement of limbs or eyes, uncontrollable jerking of muscles, myoclonus and diarrhoea. Your doctor may advise you on this.

Taking Palexia® retard together with other types of medicines referred to as mixed mu-opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g. pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g., buprenorphine) has not been studied. It is possible that Palexia® retard will not work as well if given together with one of these medicinal products. Tell your doctor in case you are currently treated with one of these medicinal products.

Taking Palexia® retard together with strong inhibitors or inducers (e.g. rifampicin, phenobarbital, St John's Wort) of certain enzymes that are necessary to eliminate tapentadol from your body, may influence how well tapentadol works or may cause side effects, especially when this other medication is started or stopped. Please keep your doctor informed about all medicines you are taking.

Palexia® retard should not be taken together with MAO inhibitors (certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Tell your doctor if you are taking MAO inhibitors or have taken these during the last 14 days.

Palexia® retard with food, drink and alcohol
Do not drink alcohol whilst taking Palexia® retard because some side effects such as drowsiness may be increased. Food does not influence the effect of this medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.
Do not take these tablets:
- if you are pregnant, unless your doctor has instructed you to do so,
- during childbirth because it could lead to dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression) in the newborn,
- during breast-feeding, because it may be excreted in the breast milk.

Driving and using machines
Palexia® retard may cause drowsiness, dizziness and blurred vision and may impair your reactions. This may especially happen when you start taking Palexia® retard, when your doctor changes your dosage or when you drink alcohol or take tranquillizers. Please ask your doctor whether it is permitted to drive a car or use machines.

Palexia® retard contains lactose.
If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

3. HOW TO TAKE PALEXIA® RETARD

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
Your doctor will adjust the dosage according to the intensity of your pain and your individual pain sensitivity. In general the lowest pain-relieving dose should be taken.

Adults
The usual dose is 1 tablet every 12 hours. Total daily doses of Palexia® retard greater than 500 mg tapentadol are not recommended. Your doctor may prescribe a different, more appropriate dose or interval of dosing, if this is necessary for you. If you feel that the effect of these tablets is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Elderly patients
In elderly patients (above 65 years) usually no dose adjustment is necessary. However, the excretion of tapentadol may be delayed in some patients of this age group. If this applies to you, your doctor may recommend a different dosage regimen.

Liver and Kidney disease (insufficiency)
Patients with severe liver problems should not take these tablets. If you have moderate problems, your doctor will recommend a different dosage regimen. In case of mild liver problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.
Patients with severe kidney problems should not take these tablets. In case of mild or moderate kidney problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.

Use in children and adolescents
Palexia® retard is not suitable for children and adolescents below the age of 18 years.

How and when should you take Palexia® retard?
Palexia® retard is for oral use.

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Always swallow the tablets whole, with sufficient liquid.
Don't chew it, break it or crush it – this could lead to overdosing, because the drug will be released into your body too quickly. You may take the tablets on an empty stomach or with meals.

How long should you take Palexia® retard?
Do not take the tablets for longer than your doctor has told you.

If you take more Palexia® retard than you should
After taking very high doses, the following may be experienced:
- pin-point pupils, vomiting, drop in blood pressure, fast heart beat, collapse, disturbed consciousness or coma (deep unconsciousness), epileptic fits, dangerously slow or shallow breathing or stopping breathing may occur.

If this happens a doctor should be called immediately!

If you forget to take Palexia® retard
If you forget to take the tablets, your pain is likely to return. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose, simply continue taking the tablets as before.

If you stop taking Palexia® retard
If you interrupt or stop treatment too soon, your pain is likely to return. If you wish to stop treatment, please tell your doctor first before stopping treatment.
Generally there will be no after-effects when treatment is stopped, however, on uncommon occasions, people who have been taking the tablets for some time may feel unwell if they abruptly stop taking them.
Symptoms may be:
- restlessness, watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, sweating, chills, muscle pain and dilated pupils,
- irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, difficulty in sleeping, nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, and increases in blood pressure, breathing or heart rate.

If you experience any of these complaints after stopping treatment, please consult your doctor.
You should not suddenly stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to. If your doctor wants you to stop taking your tablets he/she will tell you how to do this, this may include a gradual reduction of the dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Important side effects or symptoms to look out for and what to do if you are affected:
This medicine may cause allergic reactions. Symptoms may be wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching, especially those covering your whole body.
Another serious side effect is a condition where you breathe more slowly or weakly than expected. It mostly occurs in elderly and weak patients.

If you are affected by these important side effects contact a doctor immediately.

Other side effects that may occur:
Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people): nausea, constipation, dizziness, drowsiness, headache.

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people): decreased appetite, anxiety, depressed mood, sleep problem, nervousness, restlessness, disturbance in attention, trembling, muscle twitches, flushing, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhoea, indigestion, itching, increased sweating, rash, feeling of weakness, fatigue, feeling of body temperature change, mucosal dryness, accumulation of water in the tissue (oedema).

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people): allergic reaction to medicines (including swelling beneath the skin, hives, and in severe cases difficulty breathing, a fall in blood pressure, collapse, or shock), weight loss, disorientation, confusion, excitability (agitation), perception disturbances, abnormal dreams, euphoric mood, depressed level of consciousness, memory impairment, mental impairment, fainting, sedation, balance disorder, difficulty in speaking, numbness, abnormal sensations of the skin (e.g. tingling, prickling), abnormal vision, faster heart beat, slower heart beat, palpitations, decreased blood pressure, abdominal discomfort, hives, delay in passing urine, frequent urination, sexual dysfunction, drug withdrawal syndrome (see "If you stop taking Palexia® retard"), feeling abnormal, irritability.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people): drug dependence, thinking abnormal, epileptic fit, near fainting, coordination abnormal, dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression), impaired gastric emptying, feeling drunk, feeling of relaxation.

In general, the likelihood of having suicidal thoughts and behaviour is increased in patients suffering from chronic pain. In addition, certain medicines for the treatment of depression (which have an impact on the neurotransmitter system in the brain) may increase this risk, especially at the beginning of

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treatment. Although tapentadol also affects neurotransmitters, data from human use of tapentadol do not provide evidence for an increased risk.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly.[c] By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE PALEXIA® RETARD

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and the blister. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Palexia® retard contains

The **active** substance is tapentadol.
Each tablet contains 50 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).
Each tablet contains 100 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).
Each tablet contains 150 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).
Each tablet contains 200 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).
Each tablet contains 250 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).

The **other** ingredients are:
[50 mg]: Tablet core: hypromellose, microcrystalline cellulose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate. Tablet coat: hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, talc, macrogol 6000, propylene glycol, titanium dioxide (E 171).

[100 mg]: Tablet core: hypromellose, microcrystalline cellulose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate.Tablet coat: hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, talc, macrogol 6000, propylene glycol, titanium dioxide (E 171), yellow iron oxide (E 172).

[150 mg]: Tablet core: hypromellose, microcrystalline cellulose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate. Tablet coat: hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, talc, macrogol 6000, propylene glycol, titanium dioxide (E 171), yellow iron oxide (E 172), red iron oxide (E172).

[200 mg]: Tablet core: hypromellose, microcrystalline cellulose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate. Tablet coat: hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, talc, macrogol 6000, propylene glycol, titanium dioxide (E 171), yellow iron oxide (E 172), red iron oxide (E172).

[250 mg]: Tablet core: hypromellose, microcrystalline cellulose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate. Tablet coat: hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, talc, macrogol 6000, propylene glycol, titanium dioxide (E 171), yellow iron oxide (E 172), red iron oxide (E172), black iron oxide (E 172).

What Palexia® retard looks like and contents of the pack[d]
[50 mg]: White film-coated oblong shaped prolonged-release tablets (6.5 mm x 15 mm) marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H1” on the other side.

[100 mg]: Pale yellow film-coated oblong shaped prolonged-release tablets (6.5 mm x 15 mm) marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H2” on the other side.

[150 mg]: Pale pink film-coated oblong shaped prolonged-release tablets (6.5 mm x 15 mm) marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H3” on the other side.

[200 mg]: Pale orange film-coated oblong shaped prolonged-release tablets (7 mm x 17 mm) marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H4” on the other side.

[250 mg]: Brownish red film-coated oblong shaped prolonged-release tablets (7 mm x 17 mm) marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H5” on the other side.

Palexia® retard prolonged-release tablets are packed in blisters and are supplied in boxes of 7, 10, 10x1, 14, 14x1, 20, 20x1, 24, 28, 28x1, 30, 30x1, 40, 50, 50x1, 54, 56, 56x1, 60, 60x1, 90, 90x1, 100 and 100x1tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

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Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer[e]
Grünenthal GmbH, Zieglerstrasse 6, 52078 Aachen, Germany.

This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain: PALEXIA retard
Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden: PALEXIA Depot
Ireland, Slovenia, United Kingdom: PALEXIA SR
Italy: PALEXIA RP

This leaflet was last revised in[f]
August 2015

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PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER[a,b]

Palexia® retard 25 mg prolonged-release tablets

TAPENTADOL

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet (see section 4).

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Palexia® retard is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Palexia® retard
3. How to take Palexia® retard
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Palexia® retard
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT PALEXIA® RETARD IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Tapentadol - the active substance in Palexia® retard - is a strong painkiller which belongs to the class of opioids. Palexia® retard is used for the treatment of severe chronic pain in adults that can only be adequately managed with an opioid painkiller.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE PALEXIA® RETARD

Do not take Palexia® retard:

- If you are allergic to tapentadol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6),
- If you have asthma or if your breathing is dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression, hypercapnia),
- If you have paralysis of the gut,
- If you have acute poisoning with alcohol, sleeping pills, pain relievers or other psychotropic medicines (medicines that affect mood and emotions) (see "Other medicines and Palexia® retard")

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Palexia® retard if you:

- have slow or shallow breathing,
- suffer from increased pressure in the brain or disturbed consciousness up to coma,
- have had a head injury or brain tumors,
- have had an epileptic fit or if you have an increased risk of having epileptic fits,
- suffer from a liver or kidney disease (see "How to take Palexia® retard"),
- suffer from a pancreatic or biliary tract disease, including pancreatitis,
- are taking medicines referred to as mixed opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g., pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g. buprenorphine).

Palexia® retard may lead to physical and psychological addiction. If you have a tendency to abuse medicines or if you are dependent on medicines, you should only take these tablets for short periods and under strict medical supervision.

Other medicines and Palexia® retard

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Your breathing may become dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression) if you are taking certain sleeping pills or tranquillizers (e.g. barbiturates, benzodiazepines), or pain relievers such as morphine and codeine (also as cough medicine) in combination with Palexia® retard. If this happens tell your doctor.

If you are taking certain CNS depressants (e.g. benzodiazepines, antipsychotics, H1-antihistamines, opioids, alcohol) in combination with Palexia® retard your consciousness may be decreased, you may feel drowsier or feel that you might faint. If this happens tell your doctor.

Serotonin syndrome is a rare, life-threatening condition that has been reported in some patients who took tapentadol in combination with so called serotoninergic medicines (e.g. certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Signs of serotonin syndrome may be for example confusion, restlessness, fever, sweating, uncoordinated movement of limbs or eyes, uncontrollable jerking of muscles, myoclonus and diarrhoea. Your doctor may advise you on this.

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Taking Palexia® retard together with other types of medicines referred to as mixed mu-opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g. pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g., buprenorphine) has not been studied. It is possible that Palexia® retard will not work as well if given together with one of these medicinal products. Tell your doctor in case you are currently treated with one of these medicinal products.

Taking Palexia® retard together with strong inhibitors or inducers (e.g. rifampicin, phenobarbital, St John's Wort) of certain enzymes that are necessary to eliminate tapentadol from your body, may influence how well tapentadol works or may cause side effects, especially when this other medication is started or stopped. Please keep your doctor informed about all medicines you are taking.

Palexia® retard should not be taken together with MAO inhibitors (certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Tell your doctor if you are taking MAO inhibitors or have taken these during the last 14 days.

Palexia® retard with food, drink and alcohol
Do not drink alcohol whilst taking Palexia® retard because some side effects such as drowsiness may be increased. Food does not influence the effect of this medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Do not take this medicine:
- if you are pregnant, unless your doctor has instructed you to do so,
- during childbirth because it could lead to dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression) in the newborn,
- during breast-feeding, because it may be excreted in the breast milk.

Driving and using machines
Palexia® retard may cause drowsiness, dizziness and blurred vision and may impair your reactions. This may especially happen when you start taking Palexia® retard, when your doctor changes your dosage or when you drink alcohol or take tranquillizers. Please ask your doctor whether it is permitted to drive a car or use machines.

Palexia® retard contains lactose
If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicine.

3. HOW TO TAKE PALEXIA® RETARD

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
Your doctor will adjust the dosage according to the intensity of your pain and your individual pain sensitivity. In general the lowest pain-relieving dose should be taken.

Adults
The recommended dose is 1 tablet every 12 hours. Total daily doses of Palexia® retard greater than 500 mg tapentadol are not recommended. Your doctor may prescribe a different, more appropriate dose or interval of dosing, if this is necessary for you. If you feel that the effect of these tablets is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Elderly patients
In elderly patients (above 65 years) usually no dose adjustment is necessary. However, the excretion of tapentadol may be delayed in some patients of this age group. If this applies to you, your doctor may recommend a different dosage regimen.

Liver and Kidney disease (insufficiency)
Patients with severe liver problems should not take these tablets. If you have moderate problems, your doctor will recommend a different dosage regimen. In case of mild liver problems, a dosage adjustment is not required. Patients with severe kidney problems should not take these tablets. In case of mild or moderate kidney problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.

Use in children and adolescents
Palexia® retard is not suitable for children and adolescents below the age of 18 years.

How and when should you take Palexia® retard?
Palexia® retard is for oral use.
Always swallow the tablets whole, with sufficient liquid.
Don't chew it, break it or crush it – this could lead to overdosing, because the drug will be released into your body too quickly.
You may take the tablets on an empty stomach or with meals.

How long should you take Palexia® retard?
Do not take the tablets for longer than your doctor has told you.

If you take more Palexia® retard than you should
After taking very high doses, the following may be experienced:
- pin-point pupils, vomiting, drop in blood pressure, fast heart beat, collapse, disturbed consciousness or coma (deep un-

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consciousness), epileptic fits, dangerously slow or shallow breathing or stopping breathing may occur.
If this happens a doctor should be called immediately!

If you forget to take Palexia® retard
If you forget to take the tablets, your pain is likely to return. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose, simply continue taking the tablets as before.

If you stop taking Palexia® retard
If you interrupt or stop treatment too soon, your pain is likely to return. If you wish to stop treatment, please tell your doctor first before stopping treatment.
Generally there will be no after-effects when treatment is stopped, however, on uncommon occasions, people who have been taking the tablets for some time may feel unwell if they abruptly stop taking them.

Symptoms may be:
- restlessness, watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, sweating, chills, muscle pain and dilated pupils,
- irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, difficulty in sleeping, nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, and increases in blood pressure, breathing or heart rate.

If you experience any of these complaints after stopping treatment, please consult your doctor.
You should not suddenly stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to. If your doctor wants you to stop taking your tablets he/she will tell you how to do this, this may include a gradual reduction of the dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Important side effects or symptoms to look out for and what to do if you are affected:
This medicine may cause allergic reactions. Symptoms may be wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching, especially those covering your whole body. Another serious side effect is a condition where you breathe more slowly or weakly than expected. It mostly occurs in elderly and weak patients.
If you are affected by these important side effects contact a doctor immediately.

Other side effects that may occur:
Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people): nausea, constipation, dizziness, drowsiness, headache.

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people): decreased appetite, anxiety, depressed mood, sleep problem, nervousness, restlessness, disturbance in attention, trembling, muscle twitches, flushing, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhoea, indigestion, itching, increased sweating, rash, feeling of weakness, fatigue, feeling of body temperature change, mucosal dryness, accumulation of water in the tissue (oedema).

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people): allergic reaction to medicines (including swelling beneath the skin, hives, and in severe cases difficulty breathing, a fall in blood pressure, collapse, or shock), weight loss, disorientation, confusion, excitability (agitation), perception disturbances, abnormal dreams, euphoric mood, depressed level of consciousness, memory impairment, mental impairment, fainting, sedation, balance disorder, difficulty in speaking, numbness, abnormal sensations of the skin (e.g. tingling, prickling), abnormal vision, faster heartbeat, slower heartbeat, palpitations, decreased blood pressure, abdominal discomfort, hives, delay in passing urine, frequent urination, sexual dysfunction, drug withdrawal syndrome (see “If you stop taking Palexia® retard”), feeling abnormal, irritability.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1.000 people): drug dependence, thinking abnormal, epileptic fit, near fainting, coordination abnormal, dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression), impaired gastric emptying, feeling drunk, feeling of relaxation.

In general, the likelihood of having suicidal thoughts and behaviour is increased in patients suffering from chronic pain. In addition, certain medicines for the treatment of depression (which have an impact on the neurotransmitter system in the brain) may increase this risk, especially at the beginning of treatment. Although tapentadol also affects neurotransmitters, data from human use of tapentadol do not provide evidence for an increased risk.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly.[c] By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

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5. HOW TO STORE PALEXIA® RETARD

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and the blister. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Palexia® retard contains

The **active** substance is tapentadol.
Each tablet contains 25 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).

The **other** ingredients are:

Tablet core: hypromellose, microcrystalline cellulose, colloidal anhydrous silica, magnesium stearate.
Tablet coat: hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, talc, macrogol 400, macrogol 6000, titanium dioxide (E 171), yellow iron oxide (E 172), red iron oxide (E172).

What Palexia® retard looks like and contents of the pack[d]
Slightly brownish-orange film-coated oblong shaped prolonged-release tablets (5.5 mm x 10 mm) marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H9” on the other side.

Palexia® retard prolonged-release tablets are packed in blisters and are supplied in boxes of 7, 10, 10x1, 14, 14x1, 20, 20x1, 24, 28, 28x1, 30, 30x1, 40, 50, 50x1, 54, 56, 56x1, 60, 60x1, 90, 90x1, 100 and 100x1 tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer[e]
Grünenthal GmbH, Zieglerstrasse 6, 52078 Aachen, Germany.

This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:
Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain: PALEXIA retard
Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden: PALEXIA Depot
Ireland, Slovenia, United Kingdom: PALEXIA SR
Italy: PALEXIA
Hungary: PALEXIAS

This leaflet was last revised in[f]
August 2015

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[c] Reporting of suspected adverse reactions should be done via the national reporting system;
[d] Approved packsizes differ from country to country; [e] Marketing authorization holder differs from country to country; [f] Dates differ from country to country

PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER[a,b]

Palexia® 50 mg film-coated tablets
Palexia® 75 mg film-coated tablets
Palexia® 100 mg film-coated tablets

TAPENTADOL

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet (see section 4).

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Palexia® is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Palexia®
3. How to take Palexia®
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Palexia®
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT PALEXIA® IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Tapentadol – the active substance in Palexia® – is a strong painkiller which belongs to the class of opioids. Palexia® is used for the treatment of moderate to severe acute pain in adults that can only be adequately managed with an opioid painkiller.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE PALEXIA®

Do not take Palexia®:
- If you are allergic to tapentadol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)
- If you have asthma or if your breathing is dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression, hypercapnia)
- If you have paralysis of the gut
- If you have acute poisoning with alcohol, sleeping pills, pain relievers or other psychotropic medicines (medicines that affect mood and emotions) (see "Other medicines and Palexia®")

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Palexia® if you:
- have slow or shallow breathing,
- suffer from increased pressure in the brain or disturbed consciousness up to coma,
- have had a head injury or brain tumors,
- have had an epileptic fit or if you have an increased risk of having epileptic fits,
- suffer from a liver or kidney disease (see "How to take Palexia®"),
- suffer from a pancreatic or biliary tract disease, including pancreatitis,
- are taking medicines referred to as mixed opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g., pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g. buprenorphine).

Palexia® may lead to physical and psychological addiction. If you have a tendency to abuse medicines or if you are dependent on medicines, you should only take these tablets for short periods and under strict medical supervision.

Other medicines and Palexia®
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Your breathing may become dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression) if you are taking certain sleeping pills or tranquillizers (e.g. barbiturates, benzodiazepines), or pain relievers such as morphine and codeine (also as cough medicine) in combination with Palexia®. If this happens tell your doctor.

If you are taking certain CNS depressants (e.g. benzodiazepines, antipsychotics, H1-antihistamines, opioids, alcohol) in combination with Palexia® your consciousness may be decreased, you may feel drowsier or feel that you might faint. If this happens tell your doctor.

Serotonin syndrome is a rare, life-threatening condition that has been reported in some patients who took tapentadol in combination with so called serotoninergic medicines (e.g. cer-

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tain medicines for the treatment of depression). Signs of serotonin syndrome may be for example confusion, restlessness, fever, sweating, uncoordinated movement of limbs or eyes, uncontrollable jerking of muscles, myoclonus and diarrhoea. Your doctor may advise you on this.

Taking Palexia® together with other types of medicines referred to as mixed mu-opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g. pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g., buprenorphine) has not been studied. It is possible that Palexia® will not work as well if given together with one of these medicinal products. Tell your doctor in case you are currently treated with one of these medicinal products.

Taking Palexia® together with strong inhibitors or inducers (e.g. rifampicin, phenobarbital, St John's Wort) of certain enzymes that are necessary to eliminate tapentadol from your body, may influence how well tapentadol works or may cause side effects, especially when this other medication is started or stopped. Please keep your doctor informed about all medicines you are taking.

Palexia® should not be taken together with MAO inhibitors (certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Tell your doctor if you are taking MAO inhibitors or have taken these during the last 14 days.

Palexia® with food, drink and alcohol
Do not drink alcohol whilst taking Palexia®, because some side effects such as drowsiness may be increased. Food does not influence the effect of this medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Do not take these tablets:
- if you are pregnant, unless your doctor has instructed you to do so,
- during childbirth because it could lead to dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression) in the newborn,
- during breast-feeding, because it may be excreted in the breast milk.

Driving and using machines
Palexia® may cause drowsiness, dizziness and blurred vision and may impair your reactions. This may especially happen when you start taking Palexia®, when your doctor changes your dosage or when you drink alcohol or take tranquillizers. Please ask your doctor whether it is permitted to drive a car or use machines.

Palexia® contains lactose.
If you have been told by your doctor that you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before taking this medicinal product.

3. HOW TO TAKE PALEXIA®

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
Your doctor will adjust the dosage according to the intensity of your pain and your individual pain sensitivity. In general the lowest pain-relieving dose should be taken.

Adults
The usual dose is 1 tablet every 4 to 6 hours. Total daily doses greater than 700 mg tapentadol on the first day of treatment and daily doses greater than 600 mg tapentadol on the following days of treatment are not recommended.
Your doctor may prescribe a different, more appropriate dose or interval of dosing, if this is necessary for you. If you feel that the effect of these tablets is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Elderly patients
In elderly patients (above 65 years) usually no dose adjustment is necessary. However, the excretion of tapentadol may be delayed in some patients of this age group. If this applies to you, your doctor may recommend a different dosage regimen.

Liver and Kidney disease (insufficiency)
Patients with severe liver problems should not take these tablets. If you have moderate problems, your doctor will recommend a different dosage regimen. In case of mild liver problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.
Patients with severe kidney problems should not take these tablets. In case of mild or moderate kidney problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.

Use in children and adolescents
Palexia® is not suitable for children and adolescents below the age of 18 years.

How and when should you take Palexia®?
Palexia® is for oral use.
Swallow the tablets with sufficient liquid. You may take the tablets on an empty stomach or with meals.

How long should you take Palexia® PR?
Do not take the tablets for longer than your doctor has told you.

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If you take more Palexia® than you should
After taking very high doses, the following may be experienced:
- pin-point pupils, vomiting, drop in blood pressure, fast heart beat, collapse, disturbed consciousness or coma (deep unconsciousness), epileptic fits, dangerously slow or shallow breathing or stopping breathing may occur.

If this happens a doctor should be called immediately!

If you forget to take Palexia®
If you forget to take the tablets, your pain is likely to return. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose, simply continue taking the tablets as before.

If you stop taking Palexia®
If you interrupt or stop treatment too soon, your pain is likely to return. If you wish to stop treatment, please tell your doctor first before stopping treatment.
Generally there will be no after-effects when treatment is stopped, however, on uncommon occasions, people who have been taking the tablets for some time may feel unwell if they abruptly stop taking them.

Symptoms may be:
- restlessness, watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, sweating, chills, muscle pain and dilated pupils,
- irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, difficulty in sleeping, nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, and increases in blood pressure, breathing or heart rate.

If you experience any of these complaints after stopping treatment, please consult your doctor.
You should not suddenly stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to. If your doctor wants you to stop taking your tablets he/she will tell you how to do this, this may include a gradual reduction of the dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Important side effects or symptoms to look out for and what to do if you are affected:
This medicine may cause allergic reactions. Symptoms may be wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching, especially those covering your whole body.
Another serious side effect is a condition where you breathe more slowly or weakly than expected. It mostly occurs in elderly and weak patients.

If you are affected by these important side effects contact a doctor immediately.

Other side effects that may occur:
Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people): nausea, vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness, headache.

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people): decreased appetite, anxiety, confusion, hallucination, sleep problem, abnormal dreams, trembling, flushing, constipation, diarrhoea, indigestion, dry mouth, itching, increased sweating, rash, muscle cramps, feeling of weakness, fatigue, feeling of body temperature change.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people): depressed mood, disorientation, excitability (agitation), nervousness, restlessness, euphoric mood, disturbance in attention, memory impairment, near fainting, sedation, difficulty in controlling movements, difficulty in speaking, numbness, abnormal sensations of the skin (e.g. tingling, prickling), muscle twitches, abnormal vision, faster heart beat, palpitations, decreased blood pressure, dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression), less oxygen in the blood, shortness of breath, abdominal discomfort, hives, sensation of heaviness, delay in passing urine, frequent urination, drug withdrawal syndrome (see "If you stop taking Palexia®"), accumulation of water in the tissue (oedema), feeling abnormal, feeling drunk, irritability, feeling of relaxation.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people): allergic reaction to medicines (including swelling beneath the skin, hives, and in severe cases difficulty breathing, a fall in blood pressure, collapse, or shock), thinking abnormal, epileptic fit, depressed level of consciousness, coordination abnormal, slower heart beat, impaired gastric emptying.

In general, the likelihood of having suicidal thoughts and behaviour is increased in patients suffering from chronic pain. In addition, certain medicines for the treatment of depression (which have an impact on the neurotransmitter system in the brain) may increase this risk, especially at the beginning of treatment. Although tapentadol also affects neurotransmitters, data from human use of tapentadol do not provide evidence for an increased risk.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

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You can also report side effects directly.[c] By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE PALEXIA®

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.
Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and the blister. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Palexia® contains

The **active** substance is tapentadol.
Each tablet contains 50 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).
Each tablet contains 75 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).
Each tablet contains 100 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride).

The **other** ingredients are:

[50 mg]:
Tablet core: microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, croscarmellose sodium, povidone K30, magnesium stearate.
Tablet coat: polyvinylalcohol, titanium dioxide (E 171), macrogol 3350, talc.

[75 mg]:
Tablet core: microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, croscarmellose sodium, povidone K30, magnesium stearate.
Tablet coat: polyvinylalcohol, titanium dioxide (E 171), macrogol 3350, talc, yellow iron oxide (E 172), red iron oxide (E 172).

[100 mg]:
Tablet core: microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, croscarmellose sodium, povidone K30, magnesium stearate.
Tablet coat: polyvinylalcohol, titanium dioxide (E 171), macrogol 3350, talc, yellow iron oxide (E 172), red iron oxide (E 172), black iron oxide (E 172).

What Palexia® looks like and contents of the pack[d]
[50 mg]: White round shaped film-coated tablets of 7 mm diameter, marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H6” on the other side.

[75 mg]: Pale yellow round shaped film-coated tablets of 8 mm diameter, marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H7” on the other side.

[100 mg]: Pale pink round shaped film-coated tablets of 9 mm diameter, marked with Grünenthal logo on one side and “H8” on the other side.

Palexia® film-coated tablets are packed in blisters and are supplied in boxes of 5, 10, 10x1, 14, 14x1, 20, 20x1, 24, 28, 28x1, 30, 30x1, 40, 50, 50x1, 54, 56, 56x1, 60, 60x1, 90, 90x1, 100 and 100x1 tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer[e]
Grünenthal GmbH, Zieglerstrasse 6, 52078 Aachen, Germany.

This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom: PALEXIA

This leaflet was last revised in[f]
August 2015

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PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER[a,b]

Palexia® 4 mg/ml oral solution
Palexia® 20 mg/ml oral solution

TAPENTADOL

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet (see section 4).

What is in this leaflet:

1. What Palexia® is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Palexia®
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4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Palexia®
6. Contents of the pack and other information

1. WHAT PALEXIA® IS AND WHAT IT IS USED FOR

Tapentadol – the active substance in Palexia® – is a strong painkiller which belongs to the class of opioids. Palexia® is used for the treatment of moderate to severe acute pain in adults that can only be adequately managed with an opioid painkiller.

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE PALEXIA®

Do not take Palexia®:
- If you are allergic to tapentadol or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6),
- If you have asthma or if your breathing is dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression, hypercapnia),
- If you have paralysis of the gut,
- If you have acute poisoning with alcohol, sleeping pills, pain relievers or other psychotropic medicines (medicines that affect mood and emotions) (see "Other medicines and Palexia®")

Warnings and precautions
Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Palexia® if you:
- have slow or shallow breathing,
- suffer from increased pressure in the brain or disturbed consciousness up to coma,
- have had a head injury or brain tumors,
- have had an epileptic fit or if you have an increased risk of having epileptic fits,
- suffer from a liver or kidney disease (see "How to take Palexia®"),
- suffer from a pancreatic or biliary tract disease, including pancreatitis.
- are taking medicines referred to as mixed opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g., pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g. buprenorphine).

Palexia® may lead to physical and psychological addiction. If you have a tendency to abuse medicines or if you are dependent on medicines, you should only take Palexia® for short periods and under strict medical supervision.

Other medicines and Palexia®
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

- Your breathing may become dangerously slow or shallow (respiratory depression) if you are taking certain sleeping pills or tranquillizers (e.g. barbiturates, benzodiazepines), or pain relievers such as morphine and codeine (also as cough medicine) in combination with Palexia®. If this happens tell your doctor.
- If you are taking certain CNS depressants (e.g. benzodiazepines, antipsychotics, H1-antihistamines, opioids, alcohol) in combination with Palexia® your consciousness may be decreased, you may feel drowsier or feel that you might faint. If this happens tell your doctor.
- Serotonin syndrome is a rare, life-threatening condition that has been reported in some patients who took tapentadol in combination with so called serotoninergic medicines (e.g. certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Signs of serotonin syndrome may be for example confusion, restlessness, fever, sweating, uncoordinated movement of limbs or eyes, uncontrollable jerking of muscles, myoclonus and diarrhoea. Your doctor may advise you on this.
- Taking Palexia® together with other types of medicines

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referred to as mixed mu-opioid agonist/antagonists (e.g. pentazocine, nalbuphine) or partial mu-opioid agonists (e.g., buprenorphine) has not been studied. It is possible that Palexia® will not work as well if given together with one of these medicinal products. Tell your doctor in case you are currently treated with one of these medicinal products.
- Taking Palexia® together with strong inhibitors or inducers (e.g. rifampicin, phenobarbital, St John's Wort) of certain enzymes that are necessary to eliminate tapentadol from your body, may influence how well tapentadol works or may cause side effects, especially when this other medication is started or stopped. Please keep your doctor informed about all medicines you are taking.
- Palexia® should not be taken together with MAO inhibitors (certain medicines for the treatment of depression). Tell your doctor if you are taking MAO inhibitors or have taken these during the last 14 days.

Palexia® with food, drink and alcohol
Do not drink alcohol whilst taking Palexia® because some side effects such as drowsiness may be increased. Food does not influence the effect of this medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Do not take this medicine:
- if you are pregnant, unless your doctor has instructed you to do so,
- during childbirth, because it could lead to dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression) in the newborn,
- during breast-feeding, because it may be excreted in the breast milk.

Driving and using machines
Palexia® may cause drowsiness, dizziness and blurred vision and may impair your reactions. This may especially happen when you start taking Palexia®, when your doctor changes your dosage or when you drink alcohol or take tranquillizers. Please ask your doctor whether it is permitted to drive a car or use machines.

3. HOW TO TAKE PALEXIA®

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

Your doctor will adjust the dosage according to the intensity of your pain and your individual pain sensitivity. In general, the lowest pain-relieving dose should be taken.

Adults
[4 mg/ml]
The usual dose is 50 mg tapentadol (12.5 ml oral solution), 75 mg tapentadol (18.75 ml oral solution) or 100 mg tapentadol (25 ml oral solution) every 4 to 6 hours.

[20 mg/ml]
The usual dose is 50 mg tapentadol (2.5 ml oral solution), 75 mg tapentadol (3.75 ml oral solution) or 100 mg tapentadol (5 ml oral solution) tapentadol every 4 to 6 hours.

Total daily doses greater than 700 mg tapentadol on the first day of treatment and daily doses greater than 600 mg tapentadol on the following days of treatment are not recommended.

Your doctor may prescribe a different, more appropriate dose or interval of dosing, if this is necessary for you. If you feel that the effect of this medicine is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Elderly patients
In elderly patients (above 65 years) usually no dose adjustment is necessary. However, the excretion of tapentadol may be delayed in some patients of this age group. If this applies to you, your doctor may recommend a different dosage regimen.

Liver and Kidney disease (insufficiency)
Patients with severe liver problems should not take this medicine. If you have moderate problems, your doctor will recommend a different dosage regimen. In case of mild liver problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.

Patients with severe kidney problems should not take this medicine. In case of mild or moderate kidney problems, a dosage adjustment is not required.

Use in children and adolescents
Palexia® is not suitable for children and adolescents below the age of 18 years.

How and when should you take Palexia®?
Palexia® is for oral use.

You may take the oral solution on an empty stomach or with meals.

There is an oral syringe with an attached adaptor in the pack which should be used to take the exact amount (volume) needed from the bottle that corresponds to the prescribed dose of tapentadol.

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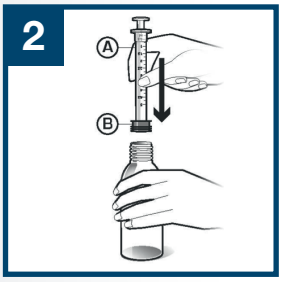
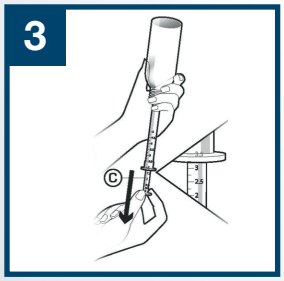
Directions for opening the bottle and using the oral syringe

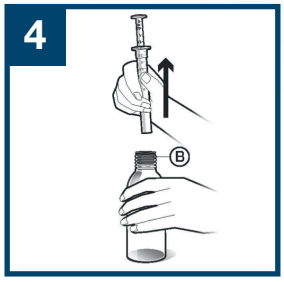
The bottle has a child resistant screw cap. To remove the cap, push it down and turn it counter clockwise (Fig. 1). Remove the cap and peel off the safety seal from the top of the bottle. If the safety seal is damaged, do not use this medicine and talk to your pharmacist.



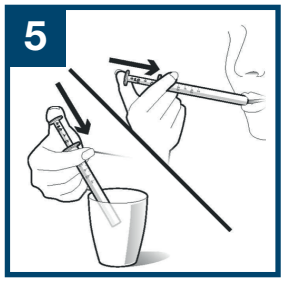
Place the bottle on a firm and flat surface. Open the plastic bag containing the oral syringe/adaptor at the perforated end and remove the oral syringe (A) with the attached adaptor (B). Plug the adaptor with the oral syringe firmly into the neck of the bottle (Fig 2).



To fill the oral syringe, turn the bottle upside down. Whilst holding the oral syringe in place, gently pull the plunger (C) down to the line that matches the dose prescribed by your doctor (See section "How to take Palexia®"). **Do not remove** the oral syringe at this point! (Fig 3)



Turn the bottle upright and thereafter carefully remove the oral syringe from the bottle. After you have removed the oral syringe, carefully check that you have taken the right amount of the solution. The adaptor (B) that was previously attached to the oral syringe should now remain in the bottle (Fig. 4).



Take your medicine by placing the oral syringe into your mouth and gently pressing the plunger. Press the plunger fully to ensure all solution is used. If you prefer, you can dilute the medicine in a glass of water or a non-alcoholic drink before you take it; in this case drink the whole glass to ensure that you have taken the correct dose of medicine (Fig.5)

Leave the adaptor in the bottle, tightly close the bottle and store it in an upright position. Rinse the oral syringe with water after each use and allow it to dry. When you take your medicine the next time, place the oral syringe into the adaptor in the neck of the bottle and follow the instructions above.

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How long should you take Palexia® PR?
Do not take this medicine for longer than your doctor has told you.

If you take more Palexia® than you should
After taking very high doses, the following may be experienced:
- pin-point pupils, vomiting, drop in blood pressure, fast heart beat, collapse, disturbed consciousness or coma (deep unconsciousness), epileptic fits, dangerously slow or shallow breathing or stopping breathing may occur.

If this happens a doctor should be called immediately!

If you forget to take Palexia®
If you forget to take this medicine, your pain is likely to return. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose, simply continue taking this medicine as before.

If you stop taking Palexia®
If you interrupt or stop treatment too soon, your pain is likely to return. If you wish to stop treatment, please tell your doctor first before stopping treatment.
Generally there will be no after-effects when treatment is stopped, however, on uncommon occasions, people who have been taking this medicine for some time may feel unwell if they abruptly stop taking it.
Symptoms may be:
- restlessness, watery eyes, runny nose, yawning, sweating, chills, muscle pain and dilated pupils,
- irritability, anxiety, backache, joint pain, weakness, abdominal cramps, difficulty in sleeping, nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea, and increases in blood pressure, breathing or heart rate.

If you experience any of these complaints after stopping treatment, please consult your doctor.
You should not suddenly stop taking this medicine unless your doctor tells you to. If your doctor wants you to stop taking this medicine he/she will tell you how to do this, this may include a gradual reduction of the dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Important side effects or symptoms to look out for and what to do if you are affected:
This medicine may cause allergic reactions. Symptoms may be wheeziness, difficulties in breathing, swelling of the eyelids, face or lips, rash or itching, especially those covering your whole body. Another serious side effect is a condition where you breathe more slowly or weakly than expected. It mostly occurs in elderly and weak patients.
If you are affected by these important side effects contact a doctor immediately.

Other side effects that may occur:
Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people): nausea, vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness, headache.

Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people): decreased appetite, anxiety, confusion, hallucination, sleep problem, abnormal dreams, trembling, flushing, constipation, diarrhoea, indigestion, dry mouth, itching, increased sweating, rash, muscle cramps, feeling of weakness, fatigue, feeling of body temperature change.

Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people): depressed mood, disorientation, excitability (agitation), nervousness, restlessness, euphoric mood, disturbance in attention, memory impairment, near fainting, sedation, difficulty in controlling movements, difficulty in speaking, numbness, abnormal sensations of the skin (e.g. tingling, prickling), muscle twitches, abnormal vision, faster heart beat, palpitations, decreased blood pressure, dangerously slow or shallow breathing (respiratory depression), less oxygen in the blood, shortness of breath, abdominal discomfort, hives, sensation of heaviness, delay in passing urine, frequent urination, drug withdrawal syndrome (see "If you stop taking Palexia®"), accumulation of water in the tissue (oedema), feeling abnormal, feeling drunk, irritability, feeling of relaxation.

Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people): allergic reaction to medicines (including swelling beneath the skin, hives, and in severe cases difficulty breathing, a fall in blood pressure, collapse, or shock), thinking abnormal, epileptic fit, depressed level of consciousness, coordination abnormal, slower heart beat, impaired gastric emptying.

In general, the likelihood of having suicidal thoughts and behaviour is increased in patients suffering from chronic pain. In addition, certain medicines for the treatment of depression (which have an impact on the neurotransmitter system in the brain) may increase this risk, especially at the beginning of treatment. Although tapentadol also affects neurotransmitters, data from human use of tapentadol do not provide evidence for an increased risk.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

[a] Approved product names differ from country to country; [b] Not all strengths are approved/available in every country;
[c] Reporting of suspected adverse reactions should be done via the national reporting system;
[d] Approved packsizes differ from country to country; [e] Marketing authorization holder differs from country to country; [f] Dates differ from country to country

This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly.[c] By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE PALEXIA®

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and the bottle after <EXP>. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Unopened: This medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

After first opening of the bottle, the solution should not be used for longer than 6 weeks.
Store in an upright position after first opening.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6. CONTENTS OF THE PACK AND OTHER INFORMATION

What Palexia® contains

The **active** substance is tapentadol.
1 ml of Palexia® 4 mg/ml oral solution contains 4 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride)
1 ml of Palexia® 20 mg/ml oral solution contains 20 mg tapentadol (as hydrochloride)

The **other** ingredients are:

[4 mg/ml]
Sodium benzoate (E211)
Citric acid monohydrate
Sucralose (E955)
Raspberry flavour
Purified water

[20 mg/ml]
Citric acid monohydrate
Sucralose (E955)
Raspberry flavour
Sodium hydroxide (for pH adjustment)
Purified water

What Palexia® looks like and contents of the pack[d]
Palexia® is a clear, colourless oral solution.

Palexia® 4 mg/ml oral solution is supplied in plastic bottles containing 100 millilitres of solution, including an oral syringe and an adapter.

Palexia® 20 mg/ml oral solution is supplied in plastic bottles containing 100 millilitres or 200 millilitres of solution, including an oral syringe and an adapter.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer[e]
Grünenthal GmbH, Zieglerstrasse 6, 52078 Aachen, Germany.

This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:
Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom: PALEXIA
Hungary: PALEXIAS

This leaflet was last revised in[f]
August 2015

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