

# Lithium

Mood stabilizer



## Your medication

# Lithium



## What is this leaflet for?

This leaflet is to help you understand more about your medicine.

Your medicine could look different to the pictures on this leaflet.

Lithium is also called Camcolit and Priadel.

Lithium is available as tablets and liquid.



## What is lithium used for?

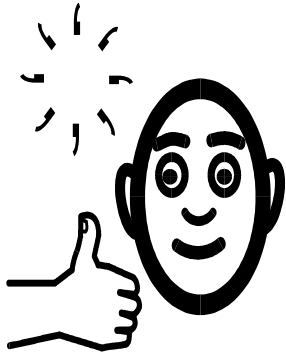
Lithium is commonly used for manic depressive disorder.

It is also used in:

- People having difficult behaviours
- People feeling tense or angry



# Lithium



## What will lithium do?

Lithium should help you feel calm and relaxed.

It could take some time for lithium to have its full effect.



## What are the side effects of lithium?

Side effects are the unwanted effects of any medicine on the body.

Not everyone taking a medicine will get side effects.

Many side effects will go away with time. But some side effects may last for longer.

Some side effects can be serious.

You should tell your doctor if you have any side effect.

# Lithium



**Some side effects of Lithium are more serious.**

You should tell someone straight away if you experience...

- feeling sick or being sick
- needing the toilet a lot
- shakes in the hands
- feeling faint or dizzy
- feeling confused
- slurred speech
- unsteady on your feet

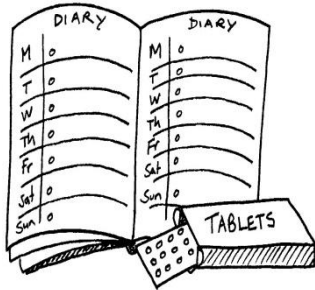
The above side effects can be seen if the Lithium level in the body is high.



**Other side effects of lithium can be...**

- feeling sleepy or sluggish
- a dry mouth or feeling very thirsty
- fine shaking in the hands
- putting on weight
- swollen ankles or feet
- changes in functioning of kidney
- changes in functioning of Thyroid gland

# Lithium



## How and when do I take lithium?

The label on your lithium packet should tell you when and how much you should take.



## If you forget to take your medicine

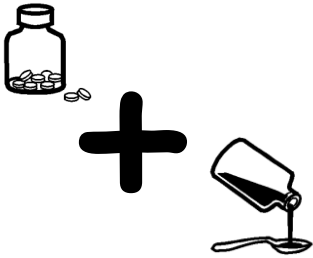
Tell your carer or doctor straight away.



## When to stop taking your Lithium

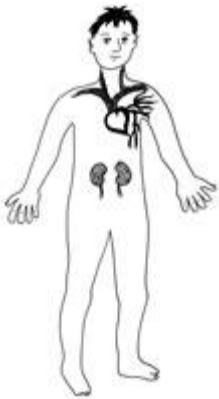
You should carry on taking your medicine unless your doctor asks you to stop.

# Lithium



**Some medicines do not work well together.**

You should tell your doctor about any other medicines you are taking.



**What else do I need to know about lithium?**

Drinking alcohol when you are on Lithium could make you feel sleepy.

You will need to have regular blood tests to check:

- Lithium levels
- Kidney function
- Thyroid Function



**Doctor's comments**

# Help and support



Your doctor: .....  
Telephone Number: .....

Your Psychiatrist: .....  
Telephone Number: .....



Your Community Nurse: .....  
Telephone Number: .....

Other professionals involved:

Other resources:



[www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk)



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**Please note this is not a manufacturer's information leaflet**