Diane®-35 ED (Di-ANNE Ee-Dee)

cyproterone acetate and ethinyloestradiol

Consumer Medicine Information

WHAT IS IN THIS LEAFLET

This leaflet answers some common questions about Diane-35 ED. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking Diane-35 ED against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns, or are unsure about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist for more advice.

Keep this leaflet with the medicine. You may need to read it again.

WHAT DIANE-35 ED IS USED FOR

Diane-35 ED is used for the treatment of signs of androgenisation in women, such as severe acne where other treatments have not been successful, or for excessive growth of facial or body hair (known as hirsutism) of a mild to moderate degree, where no underlying cause has been found.

Diane-35 ED can also be used as a contraceptive to prevent pregnancy in women who are taking it for the treatment of signs of androgenisation as described above. Diane-35 ED contains a progestogen and an oestrogen hormone, and therefore works similarly to the combined oral

contraceptive birth control pill, also known as 'the Pill'. It should not be used in combination with another hormonal contraceptive.

While taking Diane-35 ED you may also experience the following benefits:

- more regular and lighter periods – potentially resulting in a decreased risk in anaemia (iron deficiency)
- a decrease in period pain
- reduction of greasiness in skin and hair.

Some conditions such as pelvic inflammatory disease, ovarian cysts, ectopic pregnancy, fibrocystic breast changes and cancer of the uterus (womb) and ovaries may be less common in women taking the Diane-35 ED.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about why this medicine has been prescribed for you.

Your doctor may have prescribed it for another reason.

BEFORE YOU TAKE DIANE-35 ED

When you must not take it

Do not take Diane-35 ED if you have an allergy to:

- cyproterone acetate and/or ethinyloestradiol (the active ingredients in Diane-35 ED)
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.

Some of the symptoms of an allergic reaction may include:

- shortness of breath
- wheezing or difficulty in breathing
- swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
- rash, itching or hives on the skin.

Do not take Diane-35 ED if you are taking any of the following medicines:

• antiviral medicines which contain ombitasvir, paritaprevir, or dasabuvir, and combinations of these. These antiviral medicines are used to treat chronic (long-term) hepatitis C (an infectious disease that affects the liver, caused by the hepatitis C virus)

Do not take Diane-35 ED if you have, or have had, a blood clot in:

- the blood vessels of the legs (deep vein thrombosis DVT)
- the lungs (pulmonary embolism PE)
- the heart (heart attack)
- the brain (stroke)
- other parts of the body.

Do not take Diane-35 ED if you are concerned about an increased risk of blood clots.

Blood clots are rare. Very occasionally blood clots may cause serious permanent disability and may even be fatal.

All combined oral contraceptive pills, including Diane-35 ED,

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increase the risk of having a blood clot. However, the risk of having a blood clot when taking the Pill is less than the risk of having a blood clot during pregnancy.

Do not take Diane-35 ED if you are concerned about an increased risk of blood clots because of age or smoking.

The risk of having a heart attack or stroke increases as you get older. It also increases if you smoke. You should stop smoking when taking Diane-35 ED, especially if you are older than 35 years of age.

Do not take Diane-35 ED if you have, or have had:

- angina (chest pain)
- a mini-stroke (also known as TIA or transient ischaemic attack)
- migraine, accompanied by visual symptoms, speech disability, or weakness or numbness in any part of your body
- diabetes mellitus with blood vessel damage
- pancreatitis (an inflammation of the pancreas) associated with high levels of fatty substances in your blood
- severe liver disease and your liver function has not returned to normal
- cancer that may grow under the influence of sex hormones (e.g. of the breast or the genital organs)
- a benign or malignant liver tumour
- unexplained vaginal bleeding.

If any of these conditions appear for the first time while using the Pill, stop taking it at once and tell your doctor. In the meantime use non-hormonal (barrier) methods of contraception (such as condoms or a diaphragm). Do not take Diane-35 ED if you are using another hormonal contraceptive.

Do not take this medicine if you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant.

Do not breast-feed if you are taking this medicine.

Do not give this medicine to a child.

Do not take this medicine after the expiry date printed on the pack and blister. The expiry date is printed on the carton and on each blister after "EXP" (e.g. 11 18 refers to November 2018). The expiry date refers to the last day of that month. If it has expired return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

Do not take this medicine if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.

If the packaging is damaged, return it to your pharmacist for disposal.

If you are not sure whether you should start taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.

Before you start to take it

Tell your doctor if you have allergies to any other medicines, foods, preservatives or dyes.

Tell your doctor if:

- you smoke
- you, or anyone in your immediate family has had blood clots in the legs (DVT), or lungs (PE), a heart attack, a stroke, breast cancer or high cholesterol.

Tell your doctor if you have or have had any of the following medical conditions:

- diabetes
- high blood pressure

- heart valve disorders or certain heart rhythm disorders
- inflammation of your veins (superficial phlebitis)
- varicose veins
- migraine
- epilepsy

Ask your doctor to check if you:

- are overweight
- have high cholesterol or triglycerides
- have liver disease
- have gall bladder disease
- have Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis (chronic inflammatory bowel disease)
- have systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE – a disease affecting the skin all over the body)
- have haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS – a disorder of blood coagulation causing failure of the kidneys)
- have sickle cell disease
- have a condition that occurred for the first time, or worsened during pregnancy or previous use of sex hormones (e.g. hearing loss, a metabolic disease called porphyria, a skin disease called *herpes gestationis*, a neurological disease called Sydenham's chorea)
- have chloasma (yellowishbrown pigmentation patches on the skin, particularly of the face) – if so, avoid exposure to the sun or ultraviolet radiation
- have hereditary angio-oedema

 you should see your doctor
 immediately if you experience
 symptoms of angio-oedema,
 such as swollen face, tongue
 and/or pharynx and/or
 difficulty swallowing, or hives
 together with difficulty in
 breathing.

If any of the above conditions appear for the first time, recur, or worsen while taking Diane-35 ED, you should contact your doctor.

Diane-35 ED contains lactose.

If you have an intolerance to some sugars, contact your doctor before you start taking Diane-35 ED.

If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell him/her before you start taking Diane-35 ED.

Taking other medicines

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any that you get without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

Some medicines and Diane-35 ED may interfere with each other. These include:

- medicines used to treat tuberculosis such as rifampicin, rifabutin
- medicines used to treat epilepsy such as phenytoin, primidone, barbiturates (e.g. phenobarbitone), carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, topiramate, felbamate, lamotrigine
- medicines used to treat HIV, such as ritonavir or nevirapine
- some medicines used to treat Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) such as boceprevir, telaprevir
- macrolide antibiotics (e.g. clarithromycin, erythromycin)
- medicines used to treat fungal infections, such as ketoconazole and griseofulvin
- cyclosporin, an immunosuppressant medicine
- medicines used to treat high blood pressure, chest pain and/or irregular heartbeats such as diltiazem, verapamil

- etoricoxib, an antiinflammatory medicine used to treat pain
- tizanidine, melatonin or midazolam which are medicines used to relax the body
- theophylline, a medicine that helps with breathing
- herbal medicines containing St John's Wort
- grapefruit juice.

These medicines may be affected by Diane-35 ED, or may affect how well it works. Your doctor may need to alter the dose of your medicine or prescribe a different medicine.

Some medicines

- can have an influence on the blood levels of Diane-35 ED
- can make it less effective in preventing pregnancy or
- can cause unexpected bleeding.

You may need to use additional barrier methods of contraception (such as condoms or a diaphragm) while you are taking any of these medicines with Diane-35 ED and for some time after stopping them.

Your doctor will be able to advise you about how long you will need to use additional contraceptive methods.

Your doctor and pharmacist have more information on medicines that you need to be careful with or avoid while taking this medicine.

HOW TO TAKE DIANE-35 ED

Follow all directions given to you by your doctor or pharmacist carefully.

They may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the pack, printed on the pharmacist label or in this leaflet, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

How to take it

Take one tablet daily at about the same time every day. You must take Diane-35 ED every day regardless of how often you have sex. This will also help you remember when to take it.

Swallow the tablet whole with water. It does not matter if you take it before or after food.

Each blister pack is marked with the day of the week.

Take your first tablet from the red area on the blister pack corresponding to the day of the week.

Follow the direction of the arrows on the blister pack until all the tablets have been taken.

A period should begin 2-3 days after starting to take the white inactive tablets (last row) and may not have finished before the next pack is started.

Always start a new blister pack on the same day of the week as your previous pack.

Taking Diane-35 ED for the first time

If you are starting Diane-35 ED after a natural cycle, and you have not used a hormonal contraceptive in the past month, start on the first day of your period, i.e. on the first day of your menstrual bleeding.

You must also use additional barrier contraceptive precautions (e.g. condoms or a cap or diaphragm plus spermicide) for the first 14 days of tablet-taking when having intercourse.

Your doctor will advise you when to start if you:

- are taking Diane-35 ED after having a baby
- have had a miscarriage or an abortion.

Changing from another contraceptive

<u>Changing from a combined oral</u> contraceptive:

Start taking Diane-35 ED on the day after taking the last active tablet in your previous Pill pack. Bleeding may not occur until the end of the first pack of Diane-35ED.

If you are not sure which were the active/inactive tablets in your previous Pill pack, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Your previous Pill pack may have different colour tablets to those of Diane-35 ED.

Changing from a vaginal ring:

Start taking Diane-35 ED on the day of removal of the last vaginal ring.

<u>Changing from a progestogenonly pill ('minipill'):</u>

Stop taking the minipill on any day and start taking Diane-35 ED at the same time the next day.

You must also use additional barrier contraceptive precautions (e.g. condoms or a diaphragm) for the first 14 days of tablet-taking when having intercourse.

Changing from a progestogen only injection, implant or intrauterine system (IUS):

Start taking Diane-35 ED when your next injection is due, or on the day that your implant or IUS is removed.

You must also use additional barrier contraceptive precautions (e.g. condoms or a diaphragm) for the first 14 days of tablet-taking when having intercourse.

How long to take Diane-35 ED

You may have to take Diane-35 ED for at least 6 months before you see an improvement in your condition. The length of treatment depends on the severity of the condition and how well it responds to treatment.

You may be advised by your doctor to stop Diane-35 ED 3 to 4 months after your symptoms have completely resolved.

You should have regular checkups with your doctor to determine how long to keep taking Diane-35 ED.

Stopping Diane-35 ED

You can stop taking Diane-35 ED at any time.

It is possible that the original condition may recur once Diane-35 ED is stopped. Do not start taking Diane-35 ED again without seeing your doctor first.

If you do not wish to fall pregnant, you should use additional barrier contraceptive precautions (e.g. condoms or a diaphragm) when you stop taking Diane-35 ED.

If you are considering becoming pregnant, it is recommended that you begin taking a vitamin supplement containing folic acid. It is best that you start taking folic acid tablets before you stop taking Diane-35 ED and not stop until your doctor advises this. Seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist about suitable supplements. It is both safe and recommended that you take folic acid during pregnancy.

If you forget to take Diane-35 ED

If you miss a tablet and take the missing tablet within 12 hours of missing it, you should still be protected against pregnancy.

If you are more than 12 hours late follow these detailed instructions:

For Diane-35 ED to be most effective, beige active tablets need to be taken uninterrupted for 7 days.

If you have been taking the beige active tablets for 7 uninterrupted days and miss a beige active tablet, take the missed tablet as soon as you remember, then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally, even if this means taking two tablets in one day at the same time. You will not need to use additional barrier contraceptive precautions.

The chance of pregnancy after missing a beige active tablet depends on when you missed the

tablet. There is a higher risk of becoming pregnant if you miss a beige tablet at the beginning or end of a pack.

If after taking your missed tablet you have less than 7 days of beige active tablets left in a row, you should finish the active tablets in your pack but skip the white inactive tablets and start a new pack with the beige active tablets corresponding to the correct day of the week.

This is the best way to maintain contraceptive protection. However, you may not have a period until the end of the beige active tablets of the second pack. You may have spotting or breakthrough bleeding on tablet-taking days.

If you have been taking the beige active tablets for less than 7 days and miss a beige active tablet, take the missed tablet as soon as you remember, then go back to taking your medicine as you would normally, even if this means taking two tablets in one day at the same time. In addition, you must also use additional barrier contraceptive precautions (e.g. condoms or a diaphragm) for the next 7 days.

If you have had sexual intercourse in the preceding 7 days, there is a possibility of pregnancy and you may need emergency contraception. You should discuss this with your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to take more than one beige active tablet, seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist about what to do.

If you have had sexual intercourse in the week before missing your tablets, there is a possibility of becoming pregnant. You should discuss this with your doctor or pharmacist.

If you forget to take a white inactive tablet, take it as soon as you remember and take the next tablet at the usual time. You should still be protected

against pregnancy because the white tablets do not contain any active ingredients.

Please refer to the diagram at the end of this leaflet entitled "Summary of advice if you missed an active tablet more than 12 hours ago".

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

If you take too much (overdose)

Immediately telephone your doctor or the Poisons
Information Centre (Australia: 13 11 26 or New Zealand: 0800 poison or 0800 764 766) for advice, or go to the Accident and Emergency Department at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much Diane-35 ED. Do this even if there are no signs of

discomfort or poisoning. You may need medical attention.

If you take several beige active tablets at once, you may feel sick or vomit or may bleed from the vagina. Even girls who have not yet started to menstruate but have accidentally taken this medicine may experience such bleeding.

WHILE YOU ARE TAKING DIANE-35 ED

Things you must do

Tell any other doctors, dentists, and pharmacists who treat you that you are taking this medicine.

If you are about to have any blood tests, tell your doctor that you are taking this medicine. It may interfere with the results of some tests.

Have regular check-ups with your doctor. When you are taking the Pill, your doctor will tell you to return for regular check-ups, including getting a Pap (cervical) smear test. Your doctor will advise how often you need a Pap (cervical) smear test. A Pap (cervical) smear test can detect abnormal cells lining the cervix. Sometimes abnormal cells can progress to cancer.

If you are about to start on any new medicine, remind your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking Diane-35 ED.

Stop taking Diane-35 ED and see your doctor immediately if you notice possible signs of thrombosis (blood clot). These include:

- an unusual cough
- severe pain or heaviness in the chest
- breathlessness
- any unusual, severe, or prolonged headache or migraine attack
- partial or complete loss of vision, or double vision
- slurring or speech disability
- sudden changes to your hearing, sense of smell, or taste
- dizziness or fainting

- weakness or numbness in any part of your body
- severe pain in your abdomen
- severe pain, swelling or discolouration in either of your legs.

If you are going to have surgery, tell the surgeon or anaesthetist beforehand that you are taking Diane-35 ED. The risk of having deep venous thrombosis is temporarily increased as a result of an operation or immobilisation (for example, when you have your leg(s) in plaster or splints). In women who take the Pill, the risk may be higher.

Your doctor may tell you to stop taking Diane-35 ED several weeks before surgery, or at the time of immobilisation, and when you can start taking it again. If you notice possible signs of a thrombosis, stop taking Diane-35 ED and consult your doctor immediately.

Consult your doctor if you develop high blood pressure while taking Diane-35 ED – you may be told to stop taking it.

If you become pregnant while taking this medicine, tell your doctor immediately.

If you vomit within 3-4 hours or have severe diarrhoea after taking a beige active tablet, the active ingredients may not have been completely absorbed. This is like missing a tablet. Follow the advice for missed tablets.

If you have unexpected bleeding and it continues, becomes heavy, or occurs again, tell your doctor. When taking these tablets for the first few months, you can have irregular vaginal bleeding (spotting or breakthrough bleeding) between your periods. You may need to use

sanitary protection, but continue to take your tablets as normal. Irregular vaginal bleeding usually stops once your body has adjusted to the Pill, usually after about 3 months.

If you have missed a period, but you have taken all your tablets, it is unlikely that you are pregnant, as long as:

- you have taken the beige active tablets at the right time
- you have not been taking medicine(s) that may interfere with Diane-35 ED.
- you have not vomited or had severe diarrhoea during this cycle.

If this is so, continue to take Diane-35 ED as usual. If you have any concerns consult your doctor or pharmacist.

If you miss your period twice in a row, you may be pregnant even if you have taken the Pill correctly. Stop taking Diane-35 ED and seek advice from your doctor. You must use a non-hormonal method of contraception, (such as condoms or a diaphragm) until your doctor rules out pregnancy.

Diane-35 ED will not protect you from HIV-AIDS or any other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhoea, hepatitis B, human papilloma virus and syphilis.

To protect yourself from STIs, you will need to use additional barrier contraceptives (e.g. condoms).

Things you must not do
Do not take Diane-35 ED to
treat any other conditions,
unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not give your medicine to anyone else.

Do not stop taking your medicine or change the dosage without checking with your doctor. You may become pregnant if you are not using any other contraceptive and you stop taking Diane-35 ED, or do not take a tablet every day.

SIDE EFFECTS

Tell your doctor or pharmacist as soon as possible if you do not feel well while you are taking Diane-35 ED.

This medicine helps most women, but it may have unwanted side effects in some women.

All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not. You may need medical attention if you get some of the side effects.

Do not be alarmed by the following lists of side effects. You may not experience any of them.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist to answer any questions you may have.

The following list includes the more common side effects of Diane-35 ED. These are usually mild and lessen with time.

If you notice any of the following side effects and they worry you, tell your doctor or pharmacist:

- nausea
- abdominal pain
- changes in weight
- headache, including migraines

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- mood changes, including depression
- breast tenderness or pain.

The following list includes very serious but rare side effects. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

If you experience any of the following, tell your doctor immediately, or go to the Emergency Department at your nearest hospital:

- pain in the chest, arm, or below the breastbone
- discomfort radiating to the back
- breathlessness and/or difficulty breathing
- swelling, pain or tenderness of one leg or along a vein in the leg
- sudden weakness, numbness or bad 'pins and needles' of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
- sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- severe, sudden abdominal pains
- a fainting attack or you collapse
- unusual headaches or migraines that are worse than usual
- sudden problems with speech, understanding or eyesight
 The side effects listed above are possible signs of a blood clot (thrombosis).
- jaundice (yellowing skin or yellowing eyes)
- you cough up blood
- breast lumps
- unexplained vaginal bleeding.

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything that is making you feel unwell.

Other side effects not listed above may also occur in some people.

Thrombosis and the Pill

Thrombosis is the formation of a blood clot that may block a blood vessel.

Thrombosis sometimes occurs in the deep veins of the legs (DVT). If a blood clot breaks away from the veins where it has formed, it may reach and block the arteries of the lungs, causing pulmonary embolism (PE).

Blood clots can also occur in the blood vessels of the heart (causing a heart attack) or the brain (causing a stroke).

Blood clots are a rare occurrence and can develop whether or not you are taking the Pill. They can also happen during pregnancy. The risk of having blood clots is higher in Pill users than in non users, but not as high as during pregnancy.

The risk of a blood clot is highest during the first year of taking the Pill for the first time, or after having a break from the Pill for 4 weeks or more.

If you notice possible signs of a thrombosis, stop taking Diane-35 ED and consult your doctor immediately.

If you are concerned about an increased risk of blood clots while on Diane-35 ED, speak to your doctor.

Cancer and the Pill

Breast cancer has been diagnosed slightly more often in women who take the Pill than in women of the same age who do not take the Pill.

This slight increase in the numbers of breast cancer diagnoses gradually disappears during the course of the 10 years after women stop taking the Pill.

It is not known whether the difference is caused by the Pill. It may be that these women were examined more often, so that the breast cancer was noticed earlier.

It is important that you check your breasts regularly and contact your doctor if you feel any lump.

In rare cases benign liver tumours and, even more rarely, malignant liver tumours have been reported in users of the Pill. These tumours may lead to internal bleeding.

Contact your doctor immediately if you have severe pain in your abdomen.

Cervical cancer has been reported to occur more often in women who have been taking the Pill for a long time. This finding may not be caused by the Pill, but may be related to sexual behaviour and other factors.

AFTER TAKING DIANE-35 ED

Storage

Keep your tablets in the blister pack until it is time to take them. If you take the tablets out of the pack they may not keep well.

Keep your tablets in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C.

Do not store your tablets or any other medicine in the bathroom, near a sink, or on a window-sill. Do not leave medication in the car.

Heat and damp can destroy some medicines.

Keep Diane-35 ED where children cannot reach it.

A locked cupboard at least oneand-a-half metres above the ground is a good place to store medicines.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking this medicine or the expiry date has passed, ask your pharmacist what to do with any medicine that is left over.

Return any unused medicine to your pharmacist.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

What it looks like

Diane-35 ED active tablets are beige and round.

Diane-35 ED inactive tablets are white and round.

Diane-35 ED comes in a box containing either 1 or 3 blister packs. Each blister pack contains 21 beige active tablets and 7 white inactive tablets.

Ingredients

Each beige active tablet contains:

Active ingredients:

- 2 mg of cyproterone acetate
- 35 micrograms of ethinyloestradiol

Inactive ingredients:

- lactose
- maize starch
- povidone
- magnesium stearate
- sucrose
- macrogol 6000
- calcium carbonate
- purified talc
- glycerol
- titanium dioxide
- iron oxide yellow
- glycol montanate
- purified water

Each white inactive tablet contains:

• lactose

- maize starch
- povidone
- magnesium stearate
- sucrose
- macrogol 6000
- calcium carbonate
- glycol montanate
- titanium dioxide

Tablets do not contain gluten. Tablets also do not contain tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

Supplier

Made in Germany for:

Bayer Australia Ltd. ABN 22 000 138 714 875 Pacific Highway Pymble NSW 2073

Bayer New Zealand Limited 3 Argus Place, Hillcrest, North Shore Auckland 0627

Australian Registration Number

Diane-35 ED - AUST R 33647

Date of Preparation

February 2017

See TGA website (www.ebs.tga.gov.au) for latest Australian Consumer Medicine Information.

See MEDSAFE website (www.medsafe.govt.nz) for latest New Zealand Consumer Medicine Information.

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Missed a pill?

See the end of this leaflet



Summary of advice if you missed an active tablet more than 12 hours ago.

Before missing your tablet, did you take beige active tablets for the previous 7 days?	No	Did you have sex in the 7 days before missing the tablet?	→	No Take the tablet missed AND use extra barrier precaution for 7 days. If there are fewer than 7 beige active tablets left in the pack, finish the beige active tablets and go straight to the beige active tablets of the next pack. This means you skip the white inactive tablets. Yes See your Doctor or Pharmacist for advice.
	Yes	Does your pack still have 7 active beige tablets in a row to follow?	→	No Take the tablet you missed AND complete taking the beige active tablets. Skip the white inactive tablets. Start your next pack with beige active tablets. Yes Take the tablet you missed AND complete the pack as normal.