

## Paracetamol 500mg, Codeine 8mg/9mg

### What is this medication for?

This medication is commonly used to relieve pain. A combination of paracetamol and codeine provides stronger pain relief than paracetamol alone.

### How should I take/use this medication?

- You may take this medication with or without food
- Do not take more than two tablets at any time and make sure to space each dose at least 4 hours apart
- Do not exceed 8 tablets in 24 hours
- Do not take any other paracetamol-containing products while on this medication to prevent overdose.

### What should I do if I forget to take/use this medication?

- Combination tablets containing paracetamol and codeine are generally taken on an as-needed basis. Take them regularly only when directed by the doctor
- If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember. Then take your next dose at the usual time. Do not take two doses to make up for the missed dose.

### What precautions should I take?

- You are allergic to paracetamol, opioids (medication used to treat severe pain such as morphine and oxycodone), or any of the other ingredients of this medication
- You have a history of
  - Liver condition
  - Kidney condition
  - Fits / Seizures
  - Constipation or Obstructive bowel condition
  - Enlarged prostate
  - Lung conditions such as Asthma or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- You are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding
- You are taking any other medications, including supplements, traditional medications, and herbal remedies.

### **What are some common side-effects of this medication?**

- Drowsiness
  - Avoid driving or engaging in activities that require concentration
- Dizziness
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- Constipation
  - Drink more water (unless you are on fluid restriction) and eat more high fibre food such as fruits and vegetables.
- Dry mouth
- Nausea or vomiting
  - Taking the medication with some food may help with nausea.

This medication has the potential to cause addiction. If you experience any difficulty stopping this medication when it is no longer needed, please consult your healthcare professional.

### **What are some rare but serious side-effects that I need to seek medical advice immediately?**

The symptoms of a drug allergy include one or more of the following:

- Swollen face/eyes/lips/tongue
- Difficulty in breathing
- Itchy skin rashes over your whole body

If you experience any of these symptoms, you should stop your medication and see your healthcare professional immediately:

- This medication may depress your breathing. Seek immediate medical attention should you experience breathing difficulty.
- This medication may cause a drop in blood pressure. Seek immediate medical attention should you experience fainting, dizziness or light-headedness or blurred vision.

**What food or medication should I avoid when I take this medication?**

Avoid alcohol as alcohol may increase the risk of side effects such as drowsiness when taken with this medication.

**How should I store this medication?**

Store in a cool and dry place, away from direct sunlight. Keep this medication away from children.

**How should I throw away this medication safely?**

Pack this medication into a black trash bag and seal it tightly before throwing into the rubbish chute or bin.

**Disclaimers**

Please take note that the above is not a complete list of all possible side effects. If you have any concerns about your medication or if you have other side effects that you think are caused by this medication, please consult your doctor or pharmacist.

If you take more than the recommended dose, please seek medical advice immediately. The information provided on this page does not replace information from your healthcare professional. Please consult your healthcare professional for more information.

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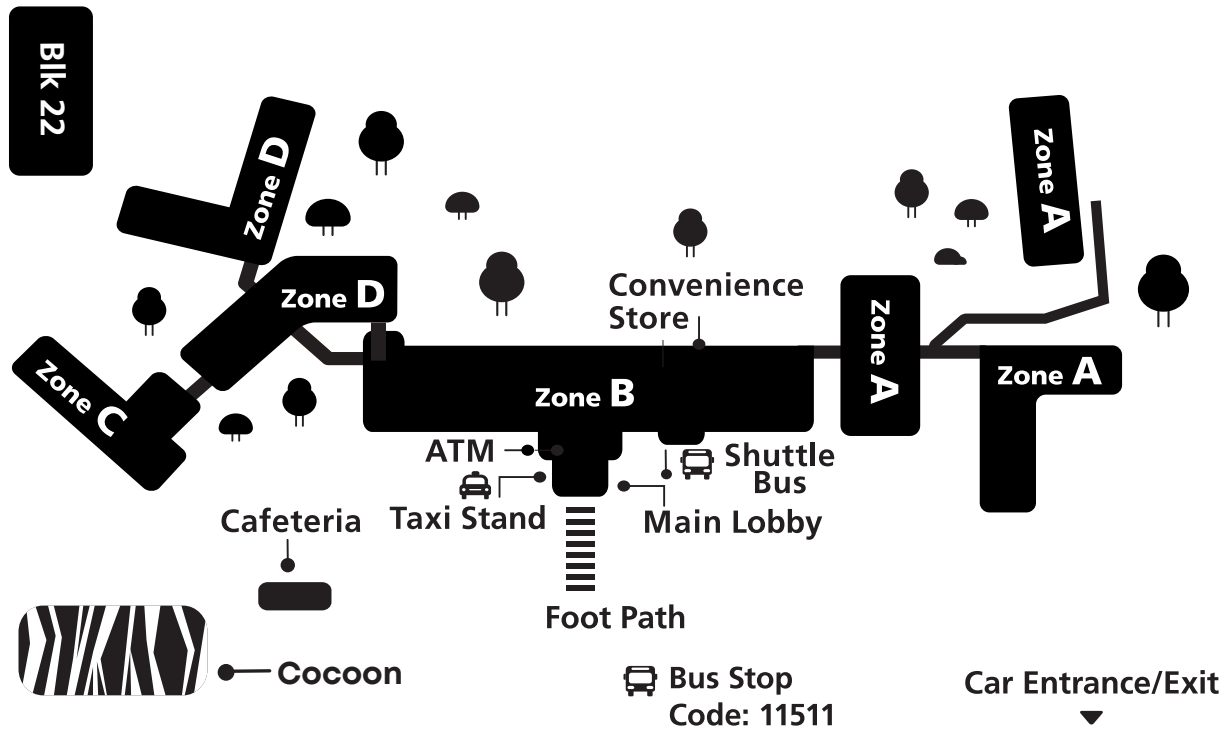
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