

Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) basics

Prevents seizures Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) treats epilepsy, but is more expensive than other medicines that work like it.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) Drug effectiveness	[Blue bar indicating effectiveness from Hours to Months]				
Possible side effects					
Rash†	[Red bar]				
Drowsiness 11% chance vs. 8% placebo*	[Red bar]				
Serious allergic reactions†	[Red bar]				
Depression†		[Red bar]	[Red bar]	[Red bar]	
Low sodium levels 2% chance vs. 1% placebo*		[Red bar]	[Red bar]	[Red bar]	

* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Before starting Aptiom (eslicarbazepine), let your doctor know if you have any mood, liver or kidney problems.
- Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) makes birth control pills less effective. Make sure to use other reliable forms of birth control.
- Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) interferes with how a lot of other medicines work. Make sure your doctor is aware of all the medicines, vitamins and supplements you're taking.
- Don't drive or do anything that requires mental focus until you know how Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) will affect you.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Changes in mood and suicidal thoughts and behaviors

Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) can cause changes in your mood and behavior, especially suicidal thoughts. If you, or any of your family and friends notice any mood or behavior changes, make sure to let your doctor know right away.

Serious skin problems

Aptiom (eslicarbazepine) can cause a serious and fatal skin condition. If you notice a painful rash, peeling skin, or a fever, let your doctor know right away.

Serious allergic reactions

You may develop a serious allergic reaction with Aptiom (eslicarbazepine), which can be deadly. If you notice any swelling in your face or difficulty breathing, seek medical help right away.