

Azilect (rasagiline) basics

Treats Parkinson's disease. Azilect (rasagiline) is one of the recommended medicines to treat Parkinson's disease. It is now available in generic, which makes it more affordable for people without insurance.

What to expect when starting

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



* Placebo is a sugar pill with no medicinal benefit.

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Azilect (rasagiline) can make you very sleepy. Don't drive or do anything that requires concentration until you know how your body reacts to it.
- Watch how much cheese, soy sauce or smoked meats you eat. Eating too much of these foods while on Azilect (rasagiline) can cause an unsafe rise in blood pressure.
- Azilect (rasagiline) can make you dizzy or lightheaded, especially when you suddenly stand up from sitting or laying down.
- Don't stop taking Azilect (rasagiline) without talking to your doctor first. Stopping it suddenly can cause confusion, stiff muscles and a high fever.
- Azilect (rasagiline) can prevent many medicines from working properly. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if the way you take your other medicines needs to be changed.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Increased blood pressure

Taking Azilect (rasagiline) with certain medicines can lead to serotonin syndrome, which is a serious condition. Check with your doctor before taking Azilect (rasagiline), especially if you are on medicines to improve your mood.

Serotonin syndrome

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Falling asleep during the day

Azilect (rasagiline) can make you very sleepy. This is more likely to happen if you are also taking other medicines for Parkinson's disease. Don't drive or do anything that requires your full concentration until you know how Azilect (rasagiline) affects you.