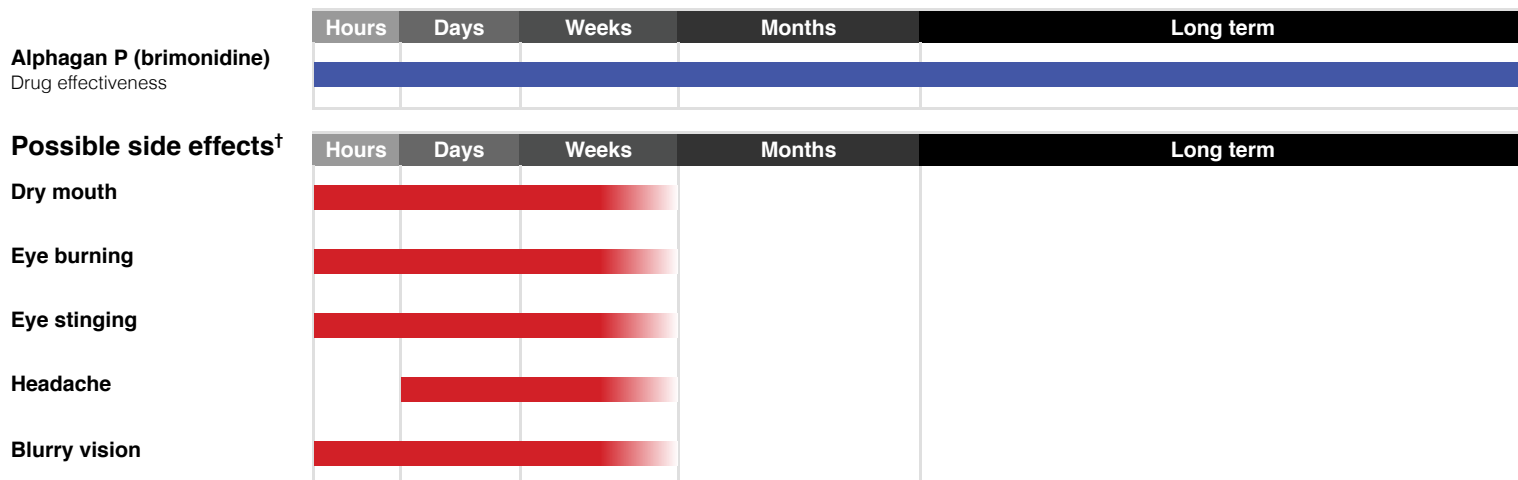


Alphagan P (brimonidine) basics

Lowers high eye pressure. Alphagan P (brimonidine) is an effective medication for treating high pressure in the eyes, but it can cause some bothersome effects such as dry mouth, eye burning, and stinging upon administration.

What to expect when starting

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



† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Wash your hands before putting drops in eyes.
- Don't touch the dropper tip to your eye, lid or hands.
- If you wear contact lenses remove them before using Alphagan P (brimonidine). Wait for 15 minutes after instilling the drops before putting your contacts back in. If your eyes are irritated or infected, don't put your lenses back in.
- After instilling drops in the eye, lightly press one finger to the inner corner of eye, by your nose, for 1 to 2 minutes.
- Avoid driving and doing tasks that require you to be alert or have clear vision, until you see how Alphagan P (brimonidine) affects you.
- If more than one topical eye medication has to be used, the different products should be instilled at least 5 minutes apart.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Contact lens use

You should remove your contact lenses before using Alphagan P (brimonidine). There is a preservative in Alphagan P (brimonidine) called benzalkonium chloride, that can be absorbed by soft contact lenses. You can insert your contact lenses 10 minutes after administering the medication. However, if your eyes are red, do not wear your contact lenses.

Contamination of eye products after use

Use of Alphagan P (brimonidine) can cause bacterial keratitis, an infection of the cornea. This is due to use of multiple-dose containers of topical eye products. These containers have likely been contaminated if you have other conditions, such as corneal disease or a disruption of the ocular epithelial surface. Contact your doctor if you notice an eye infection developing.

Severe heart disease

Although Alphagan P (brimonidine) has little effects on blood pressure, caution is advised if you have severe heart disease. Tell your doctor about all your health conditions prior to use of Alphagan P (brimonidine).