

Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) basics

Treats Parkinson's disease. Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) is a good choice for Parkinson's disease, especially when carbidopa/levodopa starts losing its effect.

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
Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) Drug effectiveness					
Possible side effects†	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Diarrhea					
Difficulty controlling movement					
Muscle damage					
Nausea and vomiting					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) can make you very sleepy. Don't drive or do anything that requires concentration until you know how your body reacts to it.
- Your saliva, sweat and urine may have dark color and stain your clothing while taking Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone).
- Take Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) 30-60 minutes before a meal so that your body can properly absorb it. Don't eat too much high protein foods (meat, milk, cheese or nuts) because doing so can prevent it from getting absorbed into your body.
- Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) may cause unusual cravings in some people.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Difficulty controlling movements

Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) can cause you to have involuntary movements. This is more likely if you're also using other medicines for Parkinson's disease. Talk to your doctor if this bothers you.

Diarrhea

People taking Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) are more likely to have diarrhea than just carbidopa/levodopa. Sometimes this doesn't happen until you've taken it for a long time. This usually goes away after stopping Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) or lowering the dose. Drink plenty of water. Talk to your doctor if this bothers you.

Muscle damage

People on Stalevo (carbidopa / levodopa / entacapone) can have bad muscle aches all over their body. Talk to your doctor right away if this happens to you, especially if you notice your urine becoming darker, since it can be the sign of a serious problem.