

Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) basics

Treats advanced stages of Parkinson's disease. Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) pumps carbidopa/levodopa into your body throughout the day. It is reserved for advanced Parkinson's disease when your symptoms become more frequent than the dosing of your tablets.

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

- Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) is given via pump. You need to have a minor procedure to connect the pump to your body.
- You may still need to take carbidopa/levodopa in tablet form at night or if the pump disconnects.
- Call your doctor right away if you start having stomach pains around where the pump is connected.
- Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) is only good for 16 hours. Throw out the cassette when the infusion is done even if there's still medicine left inside.
- Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) can make you very sleepy. Don't drive or do anything requiring concentration until you know how it affects you.
- Don't stop taking Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) suddenly. It can be very dangerous. Talk to your doctor if you want to stop taking Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa).

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Stomach problems

Because Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) is given through a pump connected to your stomach, you may have problems with the attachment. Call your doctor right away if you have abdominal pain, constipation for more than a few days, nausea, vomiting, fever or blood in your stool.

Falling asleep during the day

Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) can make you very sleepy. Don't drive or do anything that requires your full concentration until you know how Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) affects you. You're more at risk if you're taking other medicines for Parkinson's. Talk to your doctor if this bothers you.

High fever and confusion

Stopping Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) suddenly can be very dangerous. Symptoms include a very high fever, sweating, stiff muscles, and a fast or irregular heartbeat. Talk to your doctor about how to stop taking Duopa (carbidopa / levodopa) safely.