

# Flomax (tamsulosin) basics

**Makes it easier to urinate.** Flomax (tamsulosin) is a good treatment for an enlarged prostate if medical treatment is needed, but it can reduce your sex drive and takes time to kick in.

## 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
<b>Flomax (tamsulosin)</b> Drug effectiveness					
<b>Possible side effects†</b>					
<b>Dizziness</b>					
<b>Painful erection</b>					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- Take Flomax (tamsulosin) 30 minutes after the same meal every day.
- Do not crush, chew, or open Flomax (tamsulosin) capsules.
- Can cause dizziness, muscle pain, headache, stuffy/runny nose and low blood pressure. Get up slowly when sitting or lying down to avoid feeling dizzy or fainting.
- Do not drive, operate machinery, or engage in dangerous activity until you know how Flomax (tamsulosin) affects you.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Low blood pressure

Especially when you first starting taking Flomax (tamsulosin), you can experience a sudden drop in blood when you get up from sitting or lying down. Symptoms include feeling lightheaded or dizzy after stand up, weakness, blurry vision, fainting, nausea, and confusion. Your body should adjust to it after the first few days. Always get up slowly to help avoid this.

### Rash

Flomax (tamsulosin) can cause a rare but severe skin rash. Talk to your doctor immediately if you suddenly develop a severe blistering skin rash with fever.

### Floppy iris syndrome

If you're going to have eye surgery, let your surgeon know you're taking (or had taken) Flomax (tamsulosin). It can cause a rare eye condition during the surgery.