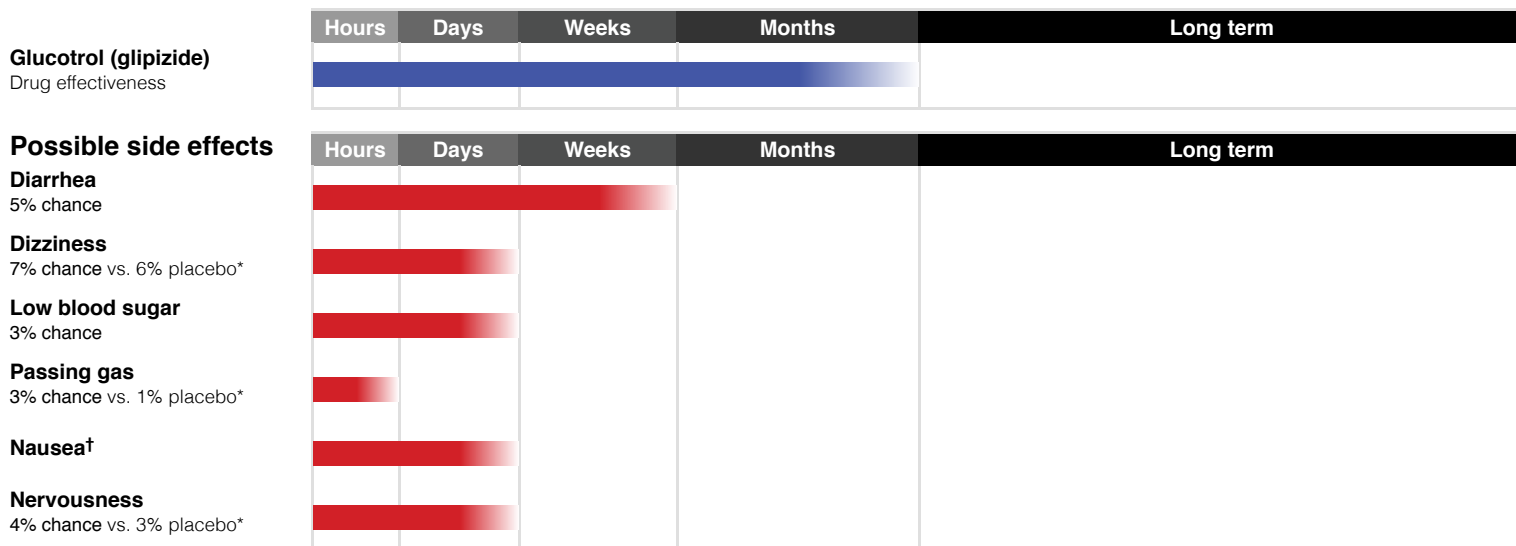


Glucotrol (glipizide) basics

Lowers blood sugar. Glucotrol (glipizide) is an effective medicine for lowering blood sugar, but it can cause your blood sugar level to be too low so you must always carry some form of sugar with you that can be readily used.

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

- Take the medicine 30 minutes before eating, usually before your first big meal of the day.
- Avoid drinking alcohol while taking Glucotrol (glipizide).
- Eat regular and well-balanced meals to keep your blood sugar levels normal.
- Check your blood sugar regularly.
- Glucotrol (glipizide) can cause dizziness so avoid activities that require coordination until you know how your body can handle the medicine.

Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Serious heart problems

Taking Glucotrol (glipizide) may increase your risk of death from heart problems when compared to other methods of controlling blood sugar, specifically with diet alone or diet and insulin. Talk to your doctor about the benefits and risks of taking Glucotrol (glipizide) to decide if it is the right medicine for you.

Low blood sugar

Glucotrol (glipizide) can drop your blood sugar to dangerously low levels, which can be life-threatening. Signs of low blood sugar include fast heartbeat, sweating, pale skin, shakiness, confusion and irritability. Make sure to carry with you some form of sugar such as hard candies or glucose tablets at all times while you are on this medicine.

Severe allergic reaction

Glucotrol (glipizide) can cause a severe allergic reaction which include signs like skin rash, hives, face swelling, difficulty breathing, and the feeling of wanting to pass out. Go to the emergency room right away if you can't breathe or you feel like you will faint after taking the medicine. If you had these problems before with a sulfa-containing medicine, talk to your doctor first before taking Glucotrol (glipizide).