

# Skelaxin (metaxalone) basics

**Relaxes your muscles.** Skelaxin (metaxalone) is used for muscle spasms and musculoskeletal pain with mixed results.

## 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>Skelaxin (metaxalone)</b><br>Drug effectiveness |       |      |       |        |           |
| <b>Possible side effects†</b>                      |       |      |       |        |           |
| <b>Sleepiness</b>                                  |       |      |       |        |           |
| <b>Dizziness</b>                                   |       |      |       |        |           |
| <b>Headache</b>                                    |       |      |       |        |           |

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- Can be taken with or without food. However, Skelaxin (metaxalone) may be stronger when taken with food, especially if you are older. Be on the lookout for more pronounced drowsiness or sleepiness.
- Skelaxin (metaxalone) can make you feel very tired or sleepy. Don't drive or do anything that requires concentration until you know how it affects you.
- Taking Skelaxin (metaxalone) with alcohol or narcotics can worsen the drowsiness.
- Skelaxin (metaxalone) can also have a more pronounced effect on women.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Sleepiness and dizziness

Taking Skelaxin (metaxalone) can make you feel sleepy and dizzy, especially if you're taking other medications that can make you drowsy, or if you're taking recreational drugs or drinking too much alcohol. Avoid driving or doing other tasks that require concentration until you know how this medication affects you. Get up very slowly from a seated or lying down position.

### Serotonin syndrome

Taking Skelaxin (metaxalone) while you're also taking medications for depression can lead to serotonin syndrome. Symptoms can include high fever, sudden changes in thought, mood and movement, or high blood pressure. Talk to your doctor if you have questions.

### Liver damage

There have been reports of people having liver damage while taking Skelaxin (metaxalone). This is very rare. Symptoms include fever, rash, lack of appetite, abdominal pain, dark urine or yellowing of the skin and eyes. Call your doctor right away if this happens.