

Use of Artane in the management of drooling

Artane (alternatively known as Benzhexol Hydrochloride) has been prescribed to help reduce your child's drooling problem. Here are some important points to note about its use:

- The dosage required for any individual is quite variable. We start at a low dose, and if this is not effective, the dose is increased.
- The medication begins to act within an hour, peaks at 1 - 3 hours, and the duration of action is 6 - 12 hours. It is best to take the medication at breakfast, and then either at lunchtime or after school.
- Other management programs, for example, encouraging the child to wipe, should still be continued.
- Good effects are obtained in a large proportion of individuals. However, in others, there are no beneficial effects at all. If this is the case, the tablets should be discontinued after the six week trial period.
- Side effects are uncommon, but it is important to be aware of them. The side effects are change in behaviour, for example, irritability or confusion, blurred vision, constipation, difficulty passing urine and flushed dry skin. As with any drugs, other side effects are possible but unlikely. However, if you are worried about possible side effects, it is best to stop the tablets. In addition, it is best to withhold the medication on very hot days.
- The tablets should be taken with meals. If they cannot be swallowed, they can be crushed and placed in food.

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Use of Glycopyrrolate in the management of drooling

Glycopyrrolate (alternatively known as Robinul) has been prescribed to help reduce your child's drooling problem. Here are some important points to note about its use:

- The dosage required for any individual is quite variable. We start at a low dose, and if this is not effective, the dose is increased.
- The duration of action of the medication is 8 - 12 hours. It is best to take the medication at breakfast, and then either at lunchtime or after school.
- Other management programs, for example, encouraging the child to wipe, should still be continued.
- Good effects are reported in a large proportion of individuals. However, in others, there are no beneficial effects at all. If this is the case, the tablets should be discontinued after the six week trial period.
- Side effects are said to be less frequent than with Artane (Benzhexol Hydrochloride). Change in behaviour, for example, irritability or confusion, blurred vision, constipation, difficulty passing urine and flushed dry skin are possible side effects but are extremely unlikely. As with other drugs, other side effects are possible. If you are worried about possible side effects, it is best to stop the tablets. In addition, it is best to withhold the medication on very hot days.
- The tablets should be taken with meals. If they cannot be swallowed, they can be crushed and placed in food.

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