

## TRANSCRIPT (page 1 of 3)

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If you have moderate to severe pain, you may be prescribed Ultracet. Ultracet is a high alert medication, which means if you do not take it exactly as prescribed it may cause illness or injury.

To understand how Ultracet works, let's look at how pain affects your body.

Thousands of tiny nerve cells in your body sense many feelings, like cold, heat, pressure, and pain. When your body is injured, the tiny nerve cells send a message to your brain that says: 'I'm in pain here!'

Ultracet is a combination of two different pain relief medications; Tramadol and Acetaminophen, and comes in a tablet.

Ultracet works in the brain to change how your body feels and responds to pain.

Your healthcare provider will decide how much you need to take. Make sure you understand exactly what you are taking and how you are supposed to take it to avoid injury.

Ultracet is a powerful medication. Some people should not take it.

Do not take Ultracet if you are allergic to Tramadol or other medications containing Acetaminophen, like Tylenol.

If you are pregnant, or planning to get pregnant, tell your healthcare provider. Do not breastfeed while taking Ultracet.

Before taking Ultracet, tell your healthcare provider if you have a history of: head injury, seizures, liver or kidney problems, asthma or other breathing problems, stomach disorders, or depression.

Ultracet can be highly addictive. If you have a history of abuse of street drugs or prescription medications, tell your healthcare provider. If you drink more than 3 alcoholic drinks per day, or you have a history of alcohol abuse, you may not be able to take Ultracet.

Ultracet may interact with certain medications like anti-depressants and cause severe side effects. Before taking Ultracet, give your healthcare provider a complete list of all other medications you use, including vitamins and herbal supplements.

*(Continued on next page)*

## TRANSCRIPT (page 2 of 3)

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Some side effects of Ultracet include: constipation, stomach pain, dizziness, feeling tired, dry mouth, feeling anxious, sweating, itching, and sleep problems. If you do notice any of these side effects, contact your healthcare provider about how to manage them.

Be aware that you are at an increased risk of falling while taking Ultracet. Get up from a sitting or lying position slowly.

Do not drive or operate heavy machinery, including your car, until you know how Ultracet affects you.

Do not drink alcohol while taking Ultracet. Drinking alcohol while taking this medication can cause serious side effects leading to death.

If you have an allergic reaction like: trouble breathing, hives, or swelling of your face or throat; call 911.

If you have: seizures, weak or shallow breathing, fast heartbeat, hallucinations, feel like you may pass out, a severe rash on your face or upper body, increased body temperature, or loss of coordination; call your healthcare provider right away.

This is not the complete list of side effects. Make sure you discuss all possible side effects with your healthcare provider.

Take Ultracet exactly as prescribed. Do not change your dose or take it for longer than prescribed.

This medication can be taken with or without food, but be sure to take it the same way each time.

Ultracet is taken when needed so you may not be on a dosing schedule. If you do take it regularly and skip a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip your missed dose and return to your normal medication schedule. Do not double dose.

If you think you have taken too much Ultracet, call 911. An overdose of Ultracet can cause serious breathing problems that can lead to death.

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## *TRANSCRIPT (page 3 of 3)*

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Store Ultracet away from moisture and direct sunlight. Your bathroom medicine cabinet is not the best place because of moisture. Do not leave your medication where it can get too hot or too cold.

Always store your medication out of sight and out of reach of children to prevent accidents.

Because Ultracet is a medication that can cause dependency, it can be a very desirable drug to addicts. Lock this medication up to prevent stealing and abuse.

When you are done taking Ultracet, crush all of your remaining tablets and mix them with undesirable trash like kitty litter or coffee grounds.

Do not sell or give your Ultracet to anyone else. It is against the law and can seriously harm anyone else taking it. Contact your local police station for more information on proper disposal directions.

Ultracet can help relieve your pain. But it is a powerful medication that should only be taken exactly as prescribed. If you have any questions about Ultracet, ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist for more information.