

# Glimepiride

When you have Type 2 Diabetes, you may be prescribed Glimepiride.

Taking glimepiride helps your body produce more insulin. To see how this medication works, let's see what happens when you eat.

When you eat, your body breaks down most of the food into glucose, a form of sugar, and releases hormones that travel to your pancreas.

The glucose enters your bloodstream causing your blood glucose level to rise.

In response to this rise in glucose and release of hormones, the pancreas releases insulin. Insulin works like a key to open the cells and let glucose enter.

The glucose is used for energy now or it is stored in the cells for later use.

In many people with type 2 diabetes, the pancreas does not release enough insulin to open the cells and remove glucose from your bloodstream. Your blood glucose level stays high.

When you take glimepiride, your pancreas releases more insulin, making it possible for the cells to open and take in glucose.

This removes it from the bloodstream and lowers your blood glucose level.

This medication is usually taken just once a day with breakfast to keep blood glucose levels from rising between meals.

Glimepiride may interact with certain medications. Before taking Glimepiride, give your healthcare provider a complete list of all other medications you use, including vitamins and herbal supplements.

Some side effects of Glimepiride include: hypoglycemia or low blood glucose, nausea, upset stomach, and headache.

If you do notice any of these side effects, contact your healthcare provider about how to manage them.

If you have: bruising, bleeding nose or gums; a fever; nausea, stomach pain; trouble swallowing; dark colored urine; yellowing of the eyes or skin; headache; confusion; a rash; or feel like you may pass out, 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.

Because Hypoglycemia is a possible side effect and can be serious, always carry a fast-acting carbohydrate such as glucose tablets or gel, available at any pharmacy.

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

Take Glimepiride exactly as prescribed. If you have any questions about Glimepiride, ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist for more information.