



This is an oral medication for the treatment of moderate-severe acne. It is used when acne has not responded well to other treatments such as topical therapy or oral antibiotics. It is not used as a first-line therapy for acne. The medicine is also known as Accutane, Sotret and Amnesteem.

Use of this medication may be associated with a number of potential side effects including but not limited to:

- High rate of birth defects
- Mental Health problems: depression, psychosis, suicide
- Liver toxicity
- Lipid abnormality: elevation of blood cholesterol or triglycerides
- Blood cell problems: decrease in red or white blood cells
- Vision disturbance: loss of night vision, blurry vision, dry eye
- Brain problems: headaches, dizziness, hearing loss, seizures, stroke
- Skin Changes: dry skin, chapped lips, nose bleeds, sun sensitivity, difficulty healing, scarring
- Bone or Muscle problems: back pain, joint pain, muscle pain
- Allergic reaction

To monitor these side effects, you will be followed in the office and with lab tests both before you start the medication and during your treatment. Treatment duration varies, but averages 4-6 months.

Patients on this medication are required to enroll in the FDA mandated **iPledge Program**. Your provider will help you to enroll and have you sign consent forms.

For a full listing of the potential side effects, please read the package insert or go to the iPledge website: www.ipledgeprogram.com

For female patients

Given the high risk of developing birth defects, women of child bearing age must be on two forms of contraception: one hormonal (eg: birth control pill, Depo-Provera) and one barrier (eg: condom, diaphragm, abstinence).

Both forms must be used for one month before the start of treatment, during treatment and for one month after your last dose. There is a 30-day mandatory waiting period during which you must use both forms of contraception prior to starting therapy. Pregnancy testing is done routinely and multiple times before, during and after treatment.

For further information regarding isotretinoin therapy, please contact your provider.