

# RENAGEL<sup>®</sup> 800 mg Tablets

*Sevelamer Hydrochloride*

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## Consumer Medicine Information

### What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about RENAGEL. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of you taking RENAGEL against the benefits this medicine is expected to have for you.

**If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.**

**Keep this leaflet with the medicine.**

You may need to read it again.

### What RENAGEL is used for

The name of your medicine is RENAGEL. It contains the active ingredient called sevelamer hydrochloride.

RENAGEL is used to treat hyperphosphataemia, a condition caused by too much dietary phosphorus being retained in your body due to a diseased kidney.

### *How RENAGEL works*

RENAGEL belongs to a class of medicines that are called ion exchange resins.

RENAGEL helps to remove excess phosphorus that has built up in your body by binding the phosphorus that is in the food that you eat.

### Before you use RENAGEL

#### *When you must not take it*

**Do not take RENAGEL if you have an allergy to:**

- RENAGEL
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- or if you have hypophosphataemia, a condition where you do not have enough phosphorus in your body
- a bowel obstruction

**Do not take RENAGEL if the packaging is torn or shows signs of tampering.**

**Do not take RENAGEL after the expiry date (EXP) printed on the pack has passed.**

If you take this medicine after the expiry date it may have no

effect at all, or worse, an unexpected effect.

### **Before you start to take RENAGEL**

**You must tell your doctor if:**

**1. you have any allergies to:**

- RENAGEL
- any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet
- any other substances, such as foods, preservatives or dyes

**2. you intend to become pregnant or intend to breastfeed.**

**3. you have or have had any other medical conditions, including a bowel obstruction or hypophosphataemia**

**If you have not told your doctor about any of the above, tell them before you take RENAGEL.**

**Tell your doctor if you are taking any other medicines, including medicines that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.**

Some medicines may be affected by RENAGEL or may affect how will it works.

You may need different amounts of your medicine, or you may need to take different medicines. Your doctor will advise you.

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## How to take RENAGEL

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### ***How much to take***

Your doctor will most likely initially prescribe 1 – 2 Renagel 800 mg tablets three times a day with your meals

**Follow all directions given to you by your doctor and pharmacist carefully.**

These directions may differ from the information contained in this leaflet.

If you do not understand the instructions on the bottle, ask your doctor or pharmacist for help.

### ***How to take it***

**Swallow RENAGEL whole with a glass of water. Do not chew them.**

When the contents of RENAGEL come into contact with water they expand making them hard to swallow, therefore do NOT crush, chew or break the tablets into pieces before you take them.

### ***How long to take it***

RENAGEL helps lower your dietary phosphate. It does not cure your condition. Therefore, you must continue to take it as directed by your doctor if you expect to lower your phosphate level and keep it down. You may have to take phosphate-lowering medicine for the rest of

your life. If you stop taking RENAGEL, your phosphate levels may rise again.

### **Do not stop taking RENAGEL.**

Your doctor may need to change the dose of your other medicines if you stop RENAGEL, so you should only stop when your doctor tells you to.

### ***If you forget to take it***

**If you miss a dose, do not take an extra dose to make up for the one you missed. Just go back to taking your tablets as you would normally.**

It is important to try to take RENAGEL as prescribed by your doctor.

If you have trouble remembering to take your tablets, ask your pharmacist for some hints.

### ***If you take too much (overdose)***

**Immediately telephone your doctor or Poisons Information Centre [Australia call 13 1126; in New Zealand call 0800 POISON or 0800 764 766], or go to casualty at your nearest hospital, if you think that you or anyone else may have taken too much RENAGEL. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning. You may need urgent medical attention. Keep telephone numbers of these places handy.**

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## While you are using RENAGEL

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### ***Things you must do***

**If you become pregnant while you are taking RENAGEL tell your doctor.**

**If you are about to be started on any new medicine tell your doctor and pharmacist that you are taking RENAGEL.**

### ***Things you must not do***

**Do not give RENAGEL to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.**

**Do not use RENAGEL to treat any other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.**

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## Side effects

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**Check with your doctor as soon as possible if you have any problems while taking RENAGEL, even if you do not think the problems are connected with the medicine or are not listed in this leaflet.**

Like other medicines, RENAGEL can cause some side effects. If they occur, most are likely to be minor and temporary. However, some may be serious and need medical attention.

**Ask your doctor or pharmacist any questions you may have.**

**Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following and they worry you:**

- vomiting

- nausea
- constipation
- diarrhoea
- flatulence
- indigestion

These side effects are usually mild.

**Other side effects not listed above may occur in some patients. Tell your doctor if you notice anything making you feel unwell when you are taking, or soon after you have finished taking, RENAGEL.**

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## After using RENAGEL

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### **Storage**

**Keep your tablets in their bottle until it is time to take them.**

If you take the tablets out of their bottle they may not keep well.

**Keep RENAGEL in a cool dry place where the temperature stays below 25°C with the lid tightly closed. Do not put RENAGEL in the refrigerator. Do not store it or any other medicine in the bathroom or near a sink. Do not leave it in the car or on window sills.**

Heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.

**Keep it where young children cannot reach it.**

A locked cupboard at least one-and-a-half metres above the ground is good place to store medicines.

### **Disposal**

**If your doctor tells you to stop taking the tablets or the**

**tablets have passed their expiry date, ask your pharmacist what to do with any tablets that are left over.**

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## Product Description

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### **What it looks like**

RENAGEL tablets are off-white, oval shaped tablets with "RENAGEL 800" printed on one side.

### **Ingredients**

**Active ingredient:** sevelamer hydrochloride

**Other ingredients:** hypromellose, diacetylated monoglycerides, colloidal anhydrous silica and stearic acid

RENAGEL does not contain gluten, lactose, sucrose, tartrazine or any other azo dyes.

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## Supplied by

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**In Australia this product is supplied by:**

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