

# ketotifen-oral tablet

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## GENERIC NAME: KETOTIFEN - ORAL TABLET (key-toe-TIFF-en)

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**USES:** Ketotifen is used to minimize the frequency and severity of **asthma** attacks. This medication may allow for a reduction in the use of other **asthma medications**. Ketotifen is not effective in treating an active **asthma attack** (acute attack).

**HOW TO USE:** Take this medication by mouth; generally twice daily. Do not crush or chew the tablets. Ketotifen must be taken regularly to be effective. Do not skip any doses. Do not stop using other **asthma** medications unless your doctor tells you to. To lessen the drowsiness effect of this drug, the dosage may be slowly increased during the first week. It may take several weeks before the full benefits of this drug are clearly noticed (usually within 10 weeks). After 2 to 3 months of using this drug, your doctor may slowly decrease the use of other **asthma** medicines. Follow your doctor's directions carefully.

**SIDE EFFECTS:** Drowsiness, **dizziness**, trouble sleeping or **flu-** like symptoms might occur. If these persist or worsen, notify your doctor. Unlikely but report promptly: unusual **weight gain**, **stomach pain**, **rash**. Very unlikely but report promptly: unusual bleeding or **bruising**, irritability, unusual excitability or nervousness. If you notice other effects not listed above, contact your doctor or pharmacist.

**PRECAUTIONS:** Before using this drug, tell your doctor your medical history, including: **allergies** (especially drug **allergies**). Limit **alcohol** intake as this might aggravate drug side effects. Caution performing tasks requiring alertness (e.g., driving). Lowering of **corticosteroid**

(e.g., **prednisone**) doses must be done carefully under doctor and pharmacist supervision. This medication should be used only when clearly needed during **pregnancy**. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. This drug is excreted into **breast milk**. Because of the potential risk to the infant, breast-feeding while using this drug is not recommended. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Tell your doctor of all nonprescription and prescription medication you may use, especially of: oral **drugs** used for **diabetes**. Also report drugs that may cause drowsiness such as: sleeping pills, anti-**anxiety** drugs, psychiatric medicines, certain **antihistamines** (e.g., **diphenhydramine**), muscle relaxants, narcotic **pain** relievers (e.g., **codeine**), anti-**seizure** drugs. Certain **cough**-and-**cold** preparations may also make you drowsy. Consult your pharmacist. Do not start or stop any medicine without doctor or pharmacist approval.

**OVERDOSE:** If overdose is suspected, contact your local **poison control** center or emergency room immediately. US residents can call the US national poison hotline at 1-800-222-1222. Canadian residents should call their local poison control center directly. Symptoms of overdose may include unusual drowsiness, **confusion**, hyperexcitability (especially in children), rapid **heart** rate, **dizziness** or **fainting**, **seizures**, and **loss of consciousness**.

**NOTES:** Do not share this medication with others.

**MISSED DOSE:** If you miss a dose, use it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not "double-up" the dose to catch up.

**STORAGE:** Store at room temperature at or below 77 degrees F (25 degrees C) away from light and moisture.

**MEDICAL ALERT:** Your condition can cause complications in a medical emergency. For enrollment information call MedicAlert at 1-800-854-1166 (USA), or 1-800-668-1507 (Canada).



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