

# Sermion® (Nicergoline) instructions

*translated from original Russian pamphlet by Extrapharmacy Online Store*

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**Name in Cyrillic :** СЕРМИОН

**Active substance :** Nicergoline

## Pharmacodynamics

Nicergoline - an ergoline derivative, improves metabolic and hemodynamic processes in the brain, reduces platelet aggregation and improves hemorheological blood parameters, increases blood flow rate in the upper and lower extremities. Nicergoline exhibits an  $\alpha$ 1-adrenergic blocking effect, leading to an improvement in blood flow, and has a direct effect on the cerebral neurotransmitter systems - adrenergic, dopaminergic and cholinergic. With the use of the drug the activity of the adrenergic, dopaminergic and cholinergic cerebral systems increases, which contributes to the optimization of cognitive processes. Long-term nicergoline therapy resulted in a sustained improvement in cognitive function and a decrease in the severity of behavioral disorders associated with dementia.

## Indications

acute and chronic cerebral metabolic and vascular disorders (due to atherosclerosis, arterial hypertension, thrombosis or embolism of cerebral vessels, including transient cerebral attack, vascular dementia and headache caused by vasospasm);

acute and chronic peripheral metabolic and vascular disorders (organic and functional arteriopathies of the extremities, Raynaud's disease, syndromes caused by impaired peripheral blood flow);

as an additional agent in the treatment of hypertensive crises (parenteral)

## Contraindications

Common to all dosage forms:

- hypersensitivity to nicergoline and / or other components of the drug;
- acute bleeding;
- acute myocardial infarction;
- orthostatic hypotension;
- severe bradycardia;
- pregnancy;
- period of breastfeeding;

Additionally for coated tablets:

- deficiency of sucrase / isomaltase, fructose intolerance, glucose-galactose malabsorption;
- age to 18 years.

**With caution:** in the case of presence of hyperuricemia or gout in the anamnesis and / or in combination with drugs that disrupt the metabolism or excretion of uric acid.

## Side effects

Rarely - a marked decrease in blood pressure, mainly after parenteral administration, dizziness, dyspeptic symptoms, abdominal discomfort, skin rashes, fever, drowsiness or insomnia. An increase in the concentration of uric acid in the blood is possible, and this effect does not depend on the dose and duration of therapy. Side effects are usually mild to moderate.

## Interaction

Sermion® can enhance the effect of antihypertensive drugs.

Sermion® is metabolized by the CYP2D6 isoenzyme, therefore the possibility of its interaction with drugs that are metabolized with the participation of the same enzyme cannot be ruled out.

When using nicergoline with acetylsalicylic acid - an increase in bleeding time is possible.

## Administration and dosage

### ***Film-coated tablets***

Chronic disorders of cerebral circulation, vascular cognitive impairment, post-stroke conditions: nicergoline is prescribed at a dose of 10 mg 3 times a day. The therapeutic efficacy of the drug develops gradually, and the course of treatment should be at least 3 months.

Vascular dementia: the use of 30 mg 2 times a day is indicated (while every 6 months it is recommended to consult a doctor about the advisability of continuing therapy).

Acute disorders of cerebral circulation, ischemic stroke due to atherosclerosis, thrombosis and embolism of cerebral vessels, transient cerebral circulation disorders (transient ischemic attacks, hypertensive cerebral crises): it is preferable to start the course of treatment with parenteral administration of the drug, then continue taking the drug inside.

Peripheral circulatory disorders: nicergoline is prescribed orally at 10 mg 3 times a day for a long period of time (up to several months).

### ***Lyophilisate for solution for injection***

Intramuscularly: 2-4 mg (2-4 ml) 2 times a day.

Intravenous: by slow infusion 4–8 mg in 100 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride solution or 5–10% dextrose solution; as directed by a physician, this dose can be administered several times a day.

Intra-arterial: 4 mg in 10 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride solution; the drug is administered within 2 minutes.

It is recommended to use the reconstituted solution immediately after preparation.

The dose, duration of therapy and route of administration depend on the nature of the disease. In some cases, it is preferable to start therapy with parenteral administration and then switch to oral administration for maintenance treatment.

### **Special patient groups**

With impaired renal function (serum creatinine  $\geq 2$  mg / dL). Sermion® is recommended for use in lower therapeutic doses.

### **Special instructions:**

In therapeutic doses, Sermion®, as a rule, does not affect blood pressure, but in patients with arterial hypertension, it can cause its gradual decrease.

After parenteral administration of Sermion®, patients are recommended to be in a horizontal position for several minutes after injection, especially at the beginning of treatment, due to the possible appearance of hypotension.

The drug acts gradually, so it should be taken over a long time, while the doctor should periodically (at least every 6 months) assess the effect of treatment and the appropriateness of its continuation.

Influence on the ability to drive vehicles and work with mechanisms. Despite the fact that Sermion® improves reaction and concentration, its effect on the ability to drive and use complex equipment has not been specifically studied. In any case, care should be taken given the nature of the underlying disease.

**Storage:** The temperature is not above 25 °C, shelf-life of the drug is 3 years.

Manufactured by Pfizer

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