

# TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR

Planning to talk to your doctor about Duopa? Use this discussion guide to prepare for your visit. Be sure to look it over in advance—it can help you remember questions to ask your doctor.

Before your next doctor appointment, it may be helpful to keep track of your symptoms. Also, bring a list of all the prescription and over-the-counter medications you're taking, including vitamins and herbal supplements.

  
**Duopa**  
carbidopa/levodopa  
enteral suspension  
4.63 mg/20 mg per mL



## Ask your doctor about Duopa

1. What can I expect from Duopa?
  - What are the benefits?
  - What are the risks/side effects?
2. Is Duopa an option for me?
3. What does the daily routine involve?
4. What is required to start Duopa?
5. What is involved in the stoma procedure?
6. How and when will I know if Duopa is working?
7. What if Duopa doesn't work for me?
8. What's involved in taking care of the pump and tubing?
9. (For carers) As a carer, how might my role change with Duopa?

Your doctor may have more information about Duopa, including tools and resources, and can tell you about a program, which allows you to speak with someone on Duopa or caring for someone on Duopa.

Please see full Important Safety Information on pages 2 and 3 and the full Prescribing Information at [Duopa.com](https://www.duopa.com).

## Use

DUOPA (carbidopa and levodopa) enteral suspension is a prescription medicine used for treatment of advanced Parkinson's disease. DUOPA contains two medicines: carbidopa and levodopa.

## Important Safety Information

**What is the most important safety information I should know about DUOPA?**

- **Stomach and intestine (gastrointestinal) problems and problems from the procedure you will need to have to receive DUOPA (gastrointestinal procedure-related problems) may occur.** Some of these problems may require surgery and may lead to death.

Your healthcare provider will talk to you about the stoma procedure. **Before the stoma procedure**, tell your healthcare provider if you ever had a surgery or problems with your stomach.

**Talk to your healthcare provider about what you need to do to care for your stoma.**

After the procedure, you and your healthcare provider will need to regularly check the stoma for any signs of infection.

- **Symptoms of infection** may include: drainage, redness, swelling, pain, or feeling of warmth around the small hole in your stomach wall (stoma).

**Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms of stomach and intestine problems and gastrointestinal procedure-related problems:** stomach (abdominal) pain; constipation that does not go away; nausea or vomiting; fever; blood in your stool; or a dark tarry stool.

**Do not take DUOPA if you** currently take or have recently taken (within 2 weeks) a medication for depression called a non-selective monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure if you take an MAO inhibitor.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.** Using DUOPA with certain other medicines, including medications for high blood pressure, MAO inhibitors, antipsychotics, metoclopramide, isoniazid, and iron or vitamin supplements, may cause serious side effects. High-protein foods may affect how DUOPA works. Tell your healthcare provider if you change your diet.

**DUOPA may cause serious side effects. Talk to your doctor before starting DUOPA and while on DUOPA if you have had or have any of these:**

- **Falling asleep during normal daily activities without warning.** DUOPA may cause you to fall asleep while you are doing daily activities such as driving, which may result in an accident. This can happen as late as one year after starting DUOPA. **Do not** drive or operate machinery until you know how DUOPA affects you. Tell your healthcare provider if you take medicines that can make you sleepy, such as sleep medicines, antidepressants, or antipsychotics.

## Important Safety Information *(continued)*

- **Low blood pressure when you stand or sit up quickly.** After you have been sitting or lying down, stand up slowly to help reduce dizziness, nausea, sweating, or fainting until you know how DUOPA affects you.
- **Seeing, hearing, or feeling things that are not real** (hallucinations).
- **Unusual urges.** Some people taking medicines for Parkinson's disease, including DUOPA, have reported urges such as excessive gambling, compulsive eating, compulsive shopping, and increased sex drive.
- **Depression and suicide.** DUOPA can cause or worsen depression. Pay close attention to changes in your mood, behavior, thoughts, or feelings. Call your healthcare provider right away if you feel depressed or have thoughts of suicide.
- **Uncontrolled sudden movements** (dyskinesia). If you have new dyskinesia or your dyskinesia gets worse, tell your healthcare provider. This may be a sign that your dose of DUOPA or other Parkinson's medicines may need to be adjusted.
- **Progressive weakness or numbness or loss of sensation in the fingers or feet** (neuropathy).
- **Heart attack or other heart problems.** Tell your healthcare provider if you have experienced increased blood pressure, a fast or irregular heartbeat, or chest pain.
- Parkinson's disease patients are at an increased risk of developing **melanoma**, a form of **skin cancer**. See your healthcare provider for regular skin examinations when taking DUOPA.
- **Abnormal blood tests.** DUOPA may cause changes in certain blood tests, especially certain hormone and kidney blood tests.
- Worsening of the **increased pressure in your eyes** (glaucoma). The pressure in your eyes should be checked after starting DUOPA.

**Do not stop using DUOPA or change your dose unless you are told to do so by your healthcare provider. Tell your healthcare provider if you develop withdrawal symptoms such as fever, confusion, or severe muscle stiffness.**

**The most common side effects of DUOPA include:** complications of tubing placement procedure, swelling of legs and feet, nausea, high blood pressure (hypertension), depression, and mouth and throat pain.

**Please see the full Prescribing Information including Medication Guide for additional information about DUOPA. Talk to your healthcare provider if you have questions.**

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch) or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

If you cannot afford your medication, contact [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org) for assistance.

**Please see the full Prescribing Information at [Duopa.com](http://Duopa.com).**