

# ARE YOUR LEVODOPA PILLS WORKING LIKE THEY USED TO?



## You may have noticed a change...



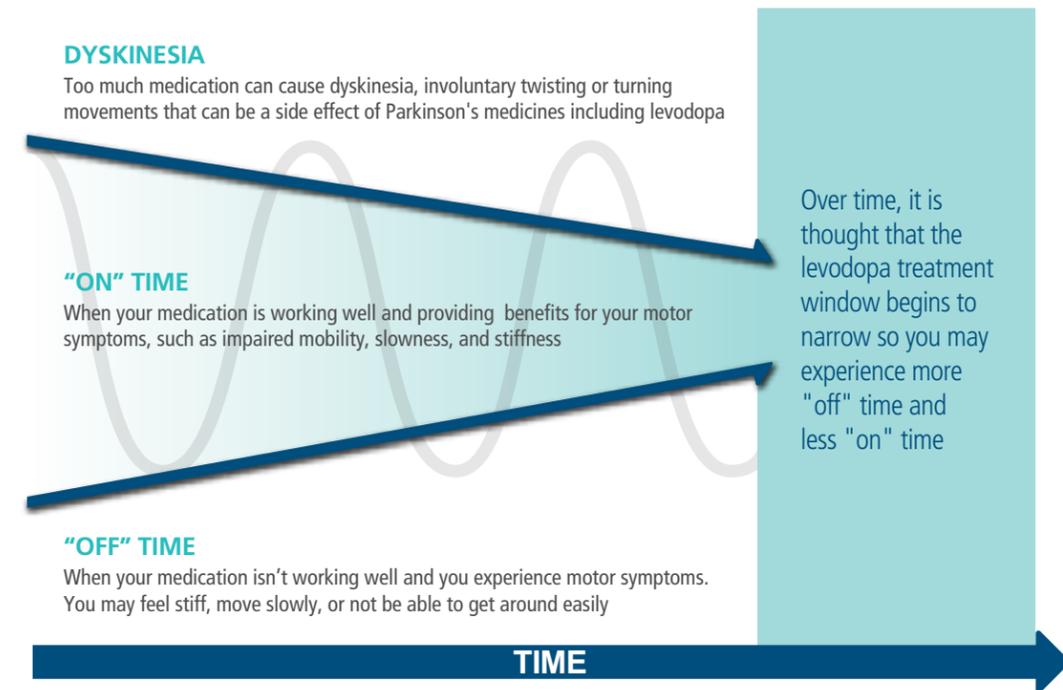
Levodopa is a **common treatment** for Parkinson's, and doctors have relied on it for decades.

Over time as Parkinson's progresses, however, levodopa pills may not seem to work as well as they used to for motor symptoms. Your doctor may need to adjust your levodopa prescription, giving you **higher doses** or having you take levodopa pills **more often** during the day. This may make it challenging for some patients to keep up with their treatment.

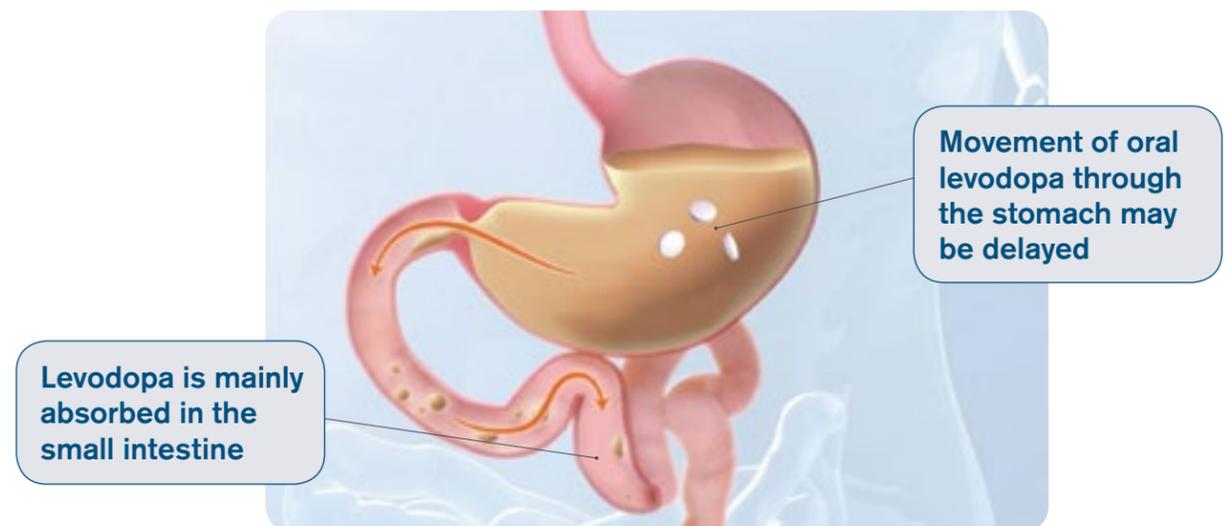
*If this feels like you or someone you know, keep reading to find out more.*

## What may be going on...

Your doctor may have prescribed levodopa, a medication that is thought to be converted to dopamine in the brain, which helps to control movement. Over time as Parkinson's progresses, it is thought that there may be fewer cells in the brain to make and store dopamine. The levodopa treatment window may narrow over time, so you may notice more "off" time and less "on" time.



Parkinson's can also affect how your **stomach** digests food and medicines, so they may not empty at a regular rate into your intestine. This may delay when oral levodopa reaches the **intestine**, where it is mainly absorbed and made available to the brain.



Is it time for something different?



For people with advanced Parkinson's disease...

## Duopa is a different way to deliver levodopa

Duopa contains carbidopa and levodopa, a medicine you may know, but is delivered directly into the small intestine, where it is mainly absorbed. The stomach is bypassed so you get **continuous delivery** of levodopa over 16 hours.



Before you can start Duopa, you will need to have a **procedure**. A doctor who specializes in the procedure will make a small hole (called a "stoma") in your stomach wall and then place a medication delivery tube in your small intestine (called a "PEG-J"\*).

Your individualized Duopa dose is delivered by a **portable pump** and will be set and adjusted by your doctor.

\*Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy with jejunal.

### 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.

### Selected 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.



Not an actual patient.

## Duopa can help people get back more time in their day

**In a clinical study**, 71 advanced Parkinson's patients with persistent "off" time despite taking Parkinson's medications (including carbidopa/levodopa pills) took either Duopa or carbidopa/levodopa pills\* for 12 weeks.

Less "off" time



VERSUS



**90% relative reduction in average daily "off" time compared with carbidopa/levodopa pills\* at 12 weeks**

**"Off" time:** when your medication isn't working well and you experience motor symptoms. You may feel stiff, move slowly, or not be able to get around as easily.

\*Carbidopa/levodopa immediate-release pills.

<sup>†</sup>Change in average daily "off" time from study start to Week 12 measured over 16-hour days during which patients were awake. At study beginning—average daily "off" time: 6.3 hours in Duopa group, 6.9 hours in carbidopa/levodopa pill group.

### Selected Important Safety Information

**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.

**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.

Please see full Important Safety Information on pages 10 and 11 and full Prescribing Information including Medication Guide and Instructions for Use available at [www.rxabbvie.com](http://www.rxabbvie.com).

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

## Duopa is delivered directly to where it's mainly absorbed

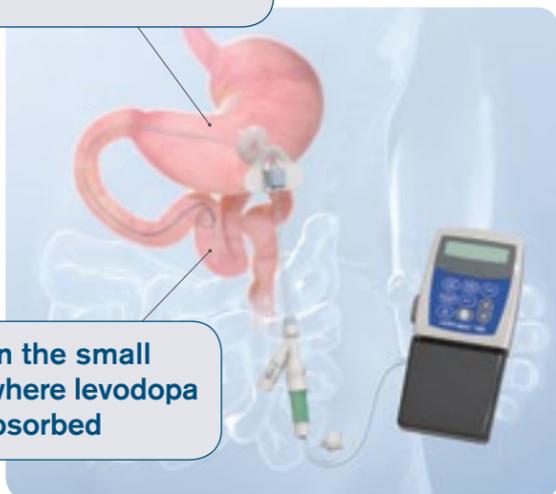
Duopa is delivered through a **portable pump**. The PEG-J procedure is **reversible**—the medication delivery tubing can be removed and the stoma allowed to heal.

Removal of the PEG-J should only be performed by a qualified healthcare provider.

If you need to discontinue Duopa, your dose should be tapered or medication switched to carbidopa/levodopa immediate-release pills.

Bypasses the stomach and intended to avoid the effects of slowed or delayed gastric emptying

Delivered in the small intestine, where levodopa is mainly absorbed



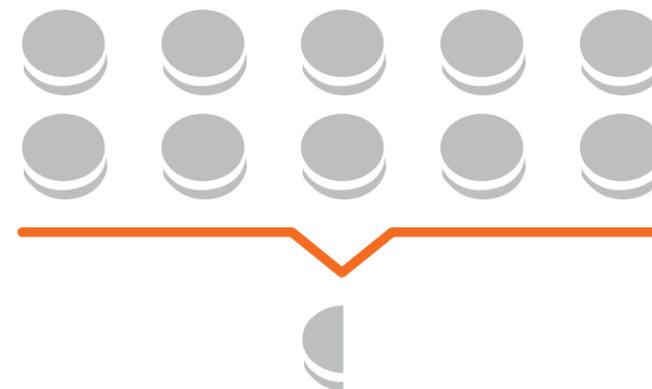
Not an actual patient.



In a clinical study, oral levodopa was converted to Duopa, so...

## Patients on Duopa needed fewer levodopa pills

At the study start, Duopa patients were taking approximately 10 levodopa pills a day on average\*



At the end of the 12-week study, patients were taking approximately 1/2 levodopa pill a day on average with Duopa\*

\*Based on average oral levodopa dose (25-mg carbidopa/100-mg levodopa).

In the clinical study, patients remained on other Parkinson's medications and could take carbidopa/levodopa immediate-release pills as needed for nighttime or rescue.

Keep a supply of oral carbidopa/levodopa immediate-release (IR) tablets with you in case you are unable to give your Duopa infusion.

## Selected Important Safety Information

**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.**

**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.
- **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.

## Selected Important Safety Information

**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.

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## Duopa can become part of your day

Duopa is started every morning and discontinued every night



### MORNING ROUTINE

- **Take** one Duopa cassette out of the refrigerator and leave at room temperature for 20 minutes prior to use
- **Connect** Duopa cassette to the pump, connect the pump to the stomach tube, and **start** pump to receive a **morning dose**
- **Continuous dose** starts automatically afterward and continues through 16 hours



### EVENING ROUTINE

- After 16 hours, **disconnect** pump from the PEG-J tube, and flush the tubing with drinking water
- **Remove** and dispose of the cassette
- A **nighttime dose** of oral carbidopa/levodopa pills may be prescribed by your physician for use after disconnection



Not an actual patient.

Your doctor may enable **extra doses**, which will allow you to deliver additional medicine during the day, if needed. Frequent extra doses may cause or worsen dyskinesia (uncontrolled sudden movements). **Single-use cassettes** should not be used for more than 16 hours even if medicine remains.

Talk to your doctor about **available carrying cases** for your pump or learn more at [www.Duopa.com](http://www.Duopa.com).



### Over 6000 people worldwide have been prescribed Duopa.

Duopa has been available in the United States since **2015** and outside the United States since **2004**.

Source: AbbVie International Dashboard. Based on data from the affiliates on total current patient number as of May 2016. In regions outside the United States, Duopa is marketed under the trade name Duodopa.

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- **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.

## Support for you every step of the way



### Call a Duopa Nurse at 1-(844) 4-DUOPA-1

- Get answers to your questions about Duopa

Duopa Nurses are available Monday–Friday, from 9 AM to 6 PM in every time zone. For continental US–based residents only. All nurses are employees of AbbVie.



### Speak with a Peer Mentor

Call a Duopa Nurse at 1-(844) 4-DUOPA-1 to learn more about the Peer Mentor program.



### Connect with DuoConnect support

- 24/7 personalized one-on-one support
- Ongoing help as long as you're on Duopa
- Assistance securing benefit approvals
- Help understanding insurance coverage
- Information about possible financial support if eligible



### Insurance coverage

Most US healthcare plans, including Medicare, cover Duopa.\*

\*National health plans include managed Medicare, commercial, and Medicaid. Each patient's situation is different and insurance plans vary. DuoConnect is designed to provide you with resources regarding insurance coverage when you need them.

**Only you and your doctor can decide if a treatment is right for you. Your doctor is the best resource for medical information.**

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**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.

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- **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.
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- **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 available at [www.rxabbvie.com](http://www.rxabbvie.com) 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.

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# WHAT'S NEXT?



## Talk to your doctor about whether Duopa may be right for you

- Only you and your doctor can decide if a treatment is right for you
- Your doctor is your best resource for medical information



## Duopa Education Phone Support

FOR PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS

## Return the enclosed card to receive more information from a Duopa Nurse

- Get answers to your questions about Duopa
- Connect with a Peer Mentor—a patient or carer who can talk with you about their experiences with Duopa
- Have patient support materials sent to your home

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## Visit us online at [www.Duopa.com](http://www.Duopa.com)

- See how Duopa is delivered
- View stories of real people talking about their experiences with Duopa
- Sign up to receive the latest information and resources

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