



Model is for illustrative purposes only

Know What to Say. Know What to Ask.

Successfully treating your hypothyroidism starts with medication. But to make sure you're getting what you need from your treatment, you also need to have effective discussions with your doctor about your condition and medication.

This guide can help you make sure you're sharing important information and asking the right questions at your next appointment.

Things you should share with your doctor:

- New symptoms
- Symptoms that have returned or become worse
- How you're feeling overall – physically and emotionally
- If you have missed any doses of Synthroid
- If you've made any changes – no matter how small – to the way you take Synthroid
- Whether you're taking Synthroid or a substitute
- Other medications or supplements you may be taking
- Any concerns you may have about your condition or treatment

Questions you may want to ask:

- How long will I have to take Synthroid?
- What can I expect during the first several months of treatment?
- Why might you need to adjust my dose?
- What do I need to do to stay consistent with my treatment?
- How can I keep my symptoms from returning?
- Do you want me to stay with Synthroid, or is a substitute acceptable?

Use

SYNTHROID is a prescription synthetic thyroid hormone that is used to treat a condition called hypothyroidism. It is intended to replace a hormone that is normally produced by your thyroid gland. Generally, thyroid replacement therapy is to be taken for life.

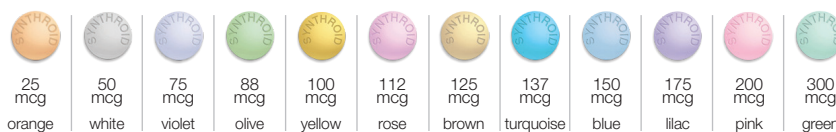
Safety Considerations

Thyroid hormones, including SYNTHROID, should not be used for the treatment of obesity or weight loss. Large doses of thyroid hormone, especially when used with certain medicines that reduce appetite, can result in serious and even life-threatening effects. Talk to your doctor about any medication and food allergies, all medications you are taking, pregnancy plans, and all medical conditions you may have, especially heart disease, diabetes, clotting disorders, and adrenal or pituitary gland problems. Tell your doctor if you experience rapid or irregular heartbeat, chest pain, shortness of breath, leg cramps, headache, nervousness, irritability, sleeplessness, tremors, change in appetite, weight gain or loss, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive sweating, heat intolerance, fever, changes in menstrual periods, hives or skin rash, or any other unusual medical event.

Please see the next page for Important Safety Information, including warning about misuse in weight loss. To view full Prescribing Information, visit: <http://www.rxabbott.com/pdf/Synthroid.pdf>.

Synthroid[®]

(levothyroxine sodium tablets, USP)



Tablets shown not actual size and may not represent exact color.

Use and Important Safety Information you should know about SYNTHROID[®]

Use

SYNTHROID[®] (levothyroxine sodium tablets, USP) is a prescription synthetic thyroid hormone that is used to treat a condition called hypothyroidism. It is intended to replace a hormone that is normally produced by your thyroid gland. Generally, thyroid replacement therapy is to be taken for life.

Important Safety Information You Should Know

- **Thyroid hormones, including SYNTHROID, should not be used either alone or in combination with other medicines for the treatment of obesity or weight loss. In patients with normal thyroid levels, doses of SYNTHROID within the typical range used for hormone replacement are not effective for weight loss. Larger doses may result in serious or even life-threatening effects, especially when used in combination with certain other drugs used to reduce appetite.**
- Notify your physician if you are allergic to any foods or medicines, are pregnant or intend to become pregnant, are breast-feeding or are taking any other medications, including prescription and over-the-counter preparations.
- Notify your physician of any other medical conditions you may have, particularly heart disease, diabetes, clotting disorders, and adrenal or pituitary gland problems. Your dose of medications used to control these other conditions may need to be adjusted while you are taking SYNTHROID. If you have diabetes, monitor your blood and/or urinary glucose levels as directed by your physician and immediately report any changes to your physician. If you are taking anticoagulants (blood thinners), your clotting status should be checked frequently.
- Use SYNTHROID only as prescribed by your physician. Do not discontinue or change the amount you take, or how often you take it, unless directed to do so by your physician.
- Agents such as iron and calcium supplements and antacids can decrease the absorption of levothyroxine sodium tablets. Therefore, levothyroxine sodium tablets should not be administered within 4 hours of these agents.
- Take SYNTHROID as a single dose, preferably on an empty stomach, one-half to one hour before breakfast. Levothyroxine absorption is increased on an empty stomach.
- Notify your physician if you experience any of the following symptoms: rapid or irregular heartbeat, chest pain, shortness of breath, leg cramps, headache, nervousness, irritability, sleeplessness, tremors, change in appetite, weight gain or loss, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive sweating, heat intolerance, fever, changes in menstrual periods, hives or skin rash, or any other unusual medical event.
- Notify your physician or dentist that you are taking SYNTHROID prior to any surgery.
- After a stable response has been established, it is important to have follow-up laboratory tests done, as ordered by your health care provider, at least annually.

This is the most important information to know about SYNTHROID. For more information, talk with your health care provider.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-323-1088).

If you cannot afford your medication, contact www.pparx.org or call the toll free phone number (1-888-4PPA-NOW) (1-888-477-2669) for assistance.

To view full Prescribing Information, visit: <http://www.rxabbott.com/pdf/Synthroid.pdf>.

Reference: Synthroid [package insert]. North Chicago, IL: Abbott Laboratories.