

Cinacalcet (Sensipar®) to Treat Secondary Hyperparathyroidism in Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

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What is secondary hyperparathyroidism?

This is a condition that can be caused by kidney disease. It happens when your kidneys can't filter out waste products the right way. This leads to too much parathyroid hormone in your blood.

Parathyroid hormone helps balance calcium and phosphorus in your blood to keep your bones, heart, muscles, nerves, and blood vessels working well. Too much of this hormone takes calcium out of your bones. Your bones get weak and calcium deposits can form in your heart, lungs, and blood vessels.

What is cinacalcet?

Cinacalcet (sin-a-KAL-cet) is a medicine used to lower the level of parathyroid hormone in your blood. This will help to balance your calcium and phosphorous levels. Sensipar® is a brand name for cinacalcet.

How do I take cinacalcet?

- Take your dose once a day with food or right after a meal.
- Swallow the tablet whole. **Do not cut it in half.**
- Take cinacalcet at the same time each day.
- Do not miss any doses. If you forget a dose, then skip it. Take your next dose at the usual time. **Do not take a double dose.**

Blood work

You will need blood tests once a month. They will measure your levels of parathyroid hormone, calcium, and phosphorous to see how well this medicine is working.

What are the possible side effects?

The most common side effects are:

- › nausea (feeling sick to your stomach)
- › vomiting (throwing up)
- › diarrhea
- › muscle pain

Rare side effects include:

- › allergic reactions
- › seizures (more likely if you've had seizures before)

How do I store this medicine?

- Store cinacalcet at room temperature.
- Store out of children's reach.



Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: <http://library.nshealth.ca/PatientGuides>

Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

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The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.