# BENZTROPINE (benz-tro-peen) **Active** ingredients Other anticholinergic medicines (generic Not included in this monograph — see *AMH* for information: names) Trihexyphenidyl (Benzhexol) Controlling side effects of antipsychotic medicines, eg haloperidol, depot antipsychotics ► Mental health emergency What it is used for Psychosis Oculogyric crisis • Parkinson's disease • Works in brain to block cholinergic neurotransmitter receptors. This reduces How it some symptoms of Parkinson's disease works (tremor, rigidity, too much saliva) and side effects of antipsychotics • Urinary retention (can't pass urine properly) Constipation Blurred vision Dry mouth Fast pulse Side effects (heart rate) Confusion Dizzy Sleepy

- Bladder and bowel trouble
- Dementia







Heart trouble

Old people

Eye trouble (glaucoma)

## **Warnings**

#### Interactions — Do not use together without medical consult **BENZATROPINE** with

• Other anticholinergic medicines (eg amitriptyline, chlorpheniramine, promethazine, chlorpromazine, olanzapine, oxybutynin, tiotropium)

### Tell the patient









**Do not** stop taking medicine **Do not** drive or operate Take medicine as instructed to machinery if sleepy or stop symptoms coming back

blurred vision

Do not drink alcohol (grog)

Warning stickers (page 310): 1, 9 (if taking for a long time)

#### Check



**Blood** pressure