

Editor's note: This English translation was done by a third party. The original document can be accessed [here](#).

Information for healthcare professionals about finasteride 1 mg Published July 6, 2022

Information for prescribers

You must take care to rule out causes of alopecia that are not of androgenetic origin to limit inappropriate prescriptions of finasteride 1 mg.

Some specialized centers can offer a trichogram, which consists of pulling out a few hairs in two or three locations on the scalp to better understand the nature of the alopecia.

It is important to discuss with your patient the different alternatives available to treat alopecia.

If he does have androgenetic alopecia and the prescription of finasteride is being considered, the following points should be considered.

When initiating treatment

—Comply with the conditions of use of the marketing authorization (MA):

- prescription only for men (contraindication for women);
- no prescription before the age of 18 and discontinuation of treatment beyond the age of 41.

—Ask your patient about his history with particular attention to his psychological history, and any sexual disorders.

—Make him aware of the possible adverse effects, in particular sexual and psychological, and of the importance of remaining attentive to possible changes in his mood or to any other sign that could worry him, even if they are intimate and he can be difficult to talk about.

—Invite your patient to let you know quickly if he has adverse effects.

—Discuss the desire for having children and inform him of the possible impact on fertility and the need to anticipate a parenthood project in the event of taking finasteride.

—Inform him that generally 3 to 6 months of treatment are necessary to observe a stabilization of the hair loss.

—Tell your patient that there is no need to increase the dose of finasteride 1 mg in the hope of faster or greater effectiveness. Similarly, it is useless to reduce the dose of finasteride to avoid the appearance of adverse effects or to reduce their intensity.

—Given the nature of the adverse effects, in particular those of a psychological nature, it is advisable to schedule a follow-up consultation within three months after initiation of treatment, to assess its tolerance, then regularly (for example, every 6 months) during the treatment. That, while indicating to your patient that it may be necessary to reconsider the prescription in the event of the appearance of adverse effects, or a decrease in effectiveness.

—Give your patient the Patient Information Sheet

—Offer time for reflection.

—Due to the lack of data concerning the combination of finasteride and topical minoxidil, this combination is not recommended in the treatment of androgenetic alopecia.

During treatment

—It is important to systematically reassess the relevance of continuing treatment at each follow-up consultation for this treatment, and to check that it is well tolerated.

—If the treatment is poorly tolerated, you should stop it and consider, if necessary, multidisciplinary care depending on the nature of the adverse effects observed.

—Remember to report adverse reactions

Information for pharmacists

At the start of treatment

—Discuss with your patient the potential risks associated with taking finasteride 1 mg and give them the patient information sheet if they have not already received it.

During treatment

—Ask your patient if he is tolerating the treatment well.

—If it evokes a psychological problem (feeling of sadness, anxiety, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, etc.), treatment should not be continued without further medical advice.

—If your patient mentions the onset of sexual problems or any other undesirable effect, ask him to report them quickly to his doctor who will assess the advisability of continuing or stopping this treatment.

—Do not forget to report adverse effects, if you are informed of such effects which have not already been reported.

—Give the patient the [patient information sheet](#) if he has not already received it.

Information for healthcare professionals other than the prescribing physician

Remember that finasteride 1 mg has a hormonal action and can cause mental disorders and sexual disorders. These disorders may require discontinuation of treatment and implementation of multidisciplinary care.