

## Medication: Frovatriptan 2.5 mg

### What is Frovatriptan?

Frovatriptan belongs to a family of medications called “triptans”, used to treat acute migraine headaches. Migraine symptoms may be caused by swollen blood vessels in the head. Frovatriptan is thought to help with the swelling of these blood vessels. This helps to take away the headache and other symptoms of perimenstrual migraines (i.e. migraines associated with women’s periods), such as feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting) and being sensitive to light and sound.

### Expected Benefit:

- Relief should occur within 2 – 4 hours
- It may take 2 or 3 menstrual cycles before you notice a benefit

### Watch for possible side effects:

It is important to be aware of the side effects however, it is also important to remember that not all side effects occur in everyone. Many of the less serious side effects will improve over the first few days of taking the medication.

If you have problems with these side effects talk with your doctor or pharmacist:

- Heaviness of the arms and legs
- Flushing
- Sensation of pins and needles
- Tightness in the chest, neck, or throat
- If you develop muscle spasms and fever, stop the medication and let the clinic know

### Stopping the medication:

There should be no withdrawal effect when stopping the medication as the medication is not taken regularly.

### How to use this medication:

- Take this medication with or without food

### Dosing Schedule:

- 2.5 mg twice a day
- Start 2 days before your period and continue for 6 days
- Do not take more than 10 days a month to avoid medication overuse headache

### Drugs and Foods to Avoid:

Ask your doctor or pharmacist before using any other medication, including non-prescription medication (over-the-counter medication) and herbal products.

- Avoid St. John’s Wort

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- Avoid antidepressants unless instructed by your doctor
- Do not take with ergotamine or ergot containing medications

Please contact the Complex Chronic Diseases Program at if you have further questions about your medications.