

# LET YOUR DOCTOR KNOW YOU PREFER THE AMBIEN OR AMBIEN CR BRAND

## YOUR DOCTOR VISIT CHECKLIST

You can do this! One of the biggest, most important reminders is to be an advocate for yourself.

If you prefer the brand, when talking to your doctor, make sure you ask specifically for brand name AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR, prescribed to be Dispense As Written (DAW)—or your state's approved language—on your prescription.

**Follow these pointers when you visit your doctor:**



### KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BEFORE YOU GO

AMBIEN and AMBIEN CR serve a different purpose. It is important that you talk with your doctor to figure out which formulation is right for you.

- AMBIEN is a prescription medicine for the short-term treatment of adults who have trouble falling asleep.
- AMBIEN CR is a prescription medicine for treatment of adults with trouble falling asleep and/or waking up often during the night. It is not known if AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR are safe and effective in children under the age of 18 years.



### WHEN YOU GET THERE, DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF DISPENSE AS WRITTEN

To make sure you get a prescription for the AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR brand, it is important to ask your healthcare provider to write specific language on every one of your prescriptions—including refills—such as:

- Dispense As Written (DAW)
- Do Not Substitute
- No Substitution
- Brand Medically Necessary
- Brand Necessary



### WHAT SHOULD I TELL MY HEALTHCARE PROVIDER BEFORE TAKING AMBIEN OR AMBIEN CR?

AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR may not be right for you. Before starting AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR, tell your healthcare provider about all of your health conditions, including if you:

- Have a history of depression, mental illness, or suicidal thoughts
- Have a history of drug or alcohol abuse or addiction
- Have kidney or liver disease
- Have a lung disease or breathing problems
- Are pregnant, planning to become pregnant. It is not known if AMBIEN will harm your unborn baby.
- Are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. AMBIEN can pass into your breast milk. It is not known if AMBIEN will harm your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby while you take AMBIEN.

Tell your healthcare provider about all of the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Do not take more AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR than prescribed.

Do not take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR unless you are able to stay in bed a full night (7 to 8 hours) before you must be active again.

Take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR only once per night, right before going to bed.

Click here for full [Prescribing Information](#) including the [Medication Guide](#) for AMBIEN.

Click here for full [Prescribing Information](#) including the [Medication Guide](#) for AMBIEN CR.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on page 2.



## What is AMBIEN® (zolpidem tartrate) or AMBIEN CR® (zolpidem tartrate extended release)

AMBIEN is a prescription medicine for the short-term treatment of adults who have trouble falling asleep.

AMBIEN CR is a prescription medicine for treatment of adults with trouble falling asleep and/or waking up often during the night.

It is not known if AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR are safe and effective in children under the age of 18 years.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

**Do not take more AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR than prescribed.**

**Do not take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR unless you are able to stay in bed a full night (7 to 8 hours) before you must be active again.**

**Take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR only once per night, right before going to bed.**

**AMBIEN and AMBIEN CR may cause serious side effects** that you may not know are happening to you.

- These side effects include:
  - sleep-walking or doing other activities when you are asleep like eating, talking, having sex, or driving a car.
- **Side effects for AMBIEN CR may also include:**
  - sleepiness during the day
  - not thinking clearly
  - acting strangely, confused, or upset
- **Call your doctor right away if you find out that you have done any of these activities after taking AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR.**

You should not drive a car or do things that require clear thinking the day after you take AMBIEN CR.

**Do not take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR** if you drank alcohol that evening or before bed.

**Do not take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR** if you take other medicines that can make you sleepy.

AMBIEN and AMBIEN CR are controlled substances because they can be abused or cause dependence.

**Do not take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR** if you are allergic to zolpidem or any other ingredients in AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR.

- Do not take AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR if you have had an allergic reaction to drugs containing zolpidem, such as Ambien CR, Edluar, Zolpimist, or Intermezzo.
- Symptoms of a serious allergic reaction to zolpidem can include swelling of your face, lips, and throat that may cause difficulty breathing or swallowing

**Before taking AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR, tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you:**

- have a history of depression, mental illness, or suicidal thoughts
- have a history of drug or alcohol abuse or addiction
- have kidney or liver disease
- have a lung disease or breathing problems
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

**AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR may cause serious side effects, including:**

- **getting out of bed while not being fully awake and doing an activity that you do not know you are doing.**
- **abnormal thoughts and behavior.** Symptoms include more outgoing or aggressive behavior than normal, confusion, agitation, hallucinations, worsening of depression, and suicidal thoughts or actions
- **memory loss**
- **anxiety**
- **severe allergic reactions.** Symptoms include swelling of the tongue or throat, and trouble breathing. Get emergency medical help if you get these symptoms after taking AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR.
- **falls, which may lead to severe injuries.**
- **Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the above side effects or any other side effects that worry you while using AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR.**

**The most common side effects of AMBIEN include** drowsiness, dizziness, diarrhea, grogginess or feeling as if you have been drugged.

**The most common side effects of AMBIEN CR include** headache, sleepiness, dizziness and drowsiness the next day.

Take AMBIEN CR tablets whole. Do not break, crush, dissolve or chew AMBIEN CR tablets before swallowing.

Call your doctor if your insomnia worsens or is not better within 7 to 10 days. This may mean that there is another condition causing your sleep problem.

If you take too much AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR or overdose, get emergency treatment.

Click here for full [Prescribing Information](#) including the [Medication Guide](#) for AMBIEN.

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