

# BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE STORE

## YOUR PHARMACY CHECKLIST

Now that your doctor has prescribed the AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR brand, make sure that's what the pharmacy gives you.

Follow these tips whenever you get your prescription filled:



### **ASK FOR BRAND NAME AMBIEN OR AMBIEN CR IF THAT IS WHAT YOU AND YOUR DOCTOR HAVE AGREED ON**

Call ahead to the pharmacy to make sure the prescription is branded AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR and not a generic. Whether you're at the pharmacy or ordering via mail-order service, make sure you specify you want the brand name AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR your doctor prescribed.



### **GET YOUR DOCTOR'S ORDERS NOTED**

If you are prescribed brand name AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR, make sure the pharmacist or mail-order service notes this. It will help make sure you are given the correct medication each time.



### **CHECK THE BOTTLE**

Your prescription's label should clearly say "AMBIEN" or "AMBIEN CR."



### **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT DOSAGE STRENGTH**

If it doesn't have the proper dosage on the bottle, it isn't your prescription.



### **CHECK YOUR PILL FOR THE PROPER MARKINGS AT THE PHARMACY**

Generics may come in the same color and shape as brand name AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR, so make sure your pill has the proper markings.

- If you're prescribed AMBIEN, be sure the pill is oval and says "AMB."
- If you're prescribed AMBIEN CR, be sure the pill is round and says "A~."



### **ALERT YOUR PHARMACIST IF IT ISN'T BRANDED AMBIEN OR AMBIEN CR**

Make sure your pharmacist refills your prescription with the AMBIEN or AMBIEN CR brand you were prescribed.

## **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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