FAIRVIEW PHARMACY — EST. 1978

Using tamsulosin safely

capsule · relaxes prostate muscles · watch for dizziness

3 MISTAKES TO AVOID

1 Taking it the wrong way
Swallow whole. Never crush, chew, or open it. Take about 30 minutes after the same meal, every day.

2 Standing up too fast
Can cause dizziness or fainting, especially with other blood pressure or erection medicines.

3 Restarting without care
Stopped for several days? Restart at the lower dose. Avoid strong medicines like ketoconazole.

How to take it

- Swallow the capsule whole. Never crush, chew, or open it. Take about 30 minutes after the same meal, every day — a different meal or an empty stomach raises side effects.

Standing up too fast

- Can cause dizziness, lightheadedness, or fainting, especially when you start. Be careful getting up from sitting or lying down.
- Worse with other blood pressure medicines, erection medicines (like sildenafil), or warfarin. Not approved to treat high blood pressure itself.

Restarting or mixing it with the wrong medicine

- Stopped or missed it for several days? Restart at the lower dose, with your doctor — don't just pick up where you left off.
- Never with strong medicines like ketoconazole; caution with some antidepressants and antifungals too.
- Having cataract or glaucoma surgery? Tell your eye surgeon you take tamsulosin, even if you stopped it a while ago.

IMPORTANT
Priapism: rarely, tamsulosin can cause a painful erection that won't go away on its own. If it's not treated quickly, it can cause permanent damage.

EMERGENCY: CALL 911
Treat priapism as a medical emergency. Get help right away.

Good to know

- Serious sulfa allergy? Tell us before starting tamsulosin.

Prostate cancer and an enlarged prostate can look alike. Get screened for prostate cancer before starting, and at regular checkups after.

Questions? Ask Dr. Mike at fairviewpharm.com/medications

Leave a message: 601-640-4671 · 500 Katie Ave, Hattiesburg, MS

Medically reviewed by Dr. Mike Acheampong, Pharmacist, Fairview Pharmacy · October 2026

This handout is for education only and is not medical advice. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist about your medicines.
Source: FDA prescribing information for tamsulosin hydrochloride capsules (generic of Flomax), rev. 10/2026.

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