

Prednisone Withdrawal

The following document was prepared by the Myasthenia Gravis Association.

First, you should never stop taking a drug without first consulting your doctor. If Prednisone isn't gradually discontinued, there is a risk for Prednisone withdrawal symptoms. Symptoms can include:

- Severe fatigue
- Body aches
- Light headedness when standing
- Weakness
- Nausea or vomiting

Prednisone is used to treat many conditions, including Myasthenia Gravis. Doctors try to use the lowest dose possible for the shortest time possible because long-term use can cause serious side effects. The time it takes to taper off prednisone depends on condition being treated, the dose and duration of use, and other medical considerations. A complete withdrawal from prednisone can take anywhere from a week to several months.

Always consult a doctor before changing how or whether you take your medications. If you experience prednisone withdrawal symptoms as you are reducing your intake, please contact your doctor.