

CLOMIPHENE CITRATE (BRAND NAME CLOMID®)



Description: An oral medication that has been available for more than 30 years. It is used to stimulate ovulation in women who do not ovulate on a regular basis. For women undergoing treatment, Clomiphene Citrate can be used to increase the number of eggs that are ovulated. This medication is supplied as 50 mg tablets.

How it works: Clomiphene Citrate binds to specific receptors in the brain, which stimulate the pituitary gland to release higher amounts of follicle stimulating hormone (FSH). It sends the brain a false message implying that there is an estrogen deficiency in the blood stream. In response, the pituitary gland releases more FSH and luteinizing hormone (LH), which stimulates the growth of an egg follicle. FSH is the main hormone that stimulates the follicles (the fluid filled cysts which contain the eggs) to develop in the ovaries. The increased levels of FSH in turn have a beneficial effect on the ovary to allow a follicle, or sometimes more than one follicle, to develop. Furthermore, follicles produced from Clomiphene Citrate produce more progesterone, which in turn, can make the lining of the uterus (called the endometrium) more receptive to implantation.

Potential side effects: Side effects may include hot flashes, visual spots in front of the eyes, headaches and mood changes. Multiple births occur in 5-10% of pregnancies. Excessive enlargement of the ovaries, called ovarian hyper-stimulation (OHSS) may also occur. Symptoms of OHSS include excessive fluid retention and severe abdominal discomfort.

Storage: Clomiphene Citrate may be stored at controlled room temperature 59-86°F. Protect from heat, light, excessive humidity and store in closed containers.

Instructions: Take orally as directed by your physician.