

## Ask your doctor about your chronic GI symptoms

Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency (EPI) is a condition that occurs in people who cannot digest food normally because their pancreas does not make enough enzymes. As a result, people with EPI suffer from one or more troublesome gastrointestinal (GI) issues. **Additionally, the symptoms of EPI can be similar to other digestive conditions — complicating the process of diagnosing it.**<sup>1</sup>



**Complete then print or share this form with your doctor.** Only your doctor can determine if your symptoms are due to EPI or another condition. Make sure to mention all your symptoms, when you experience them, your medical history, and any medications that you may be taking.

### 1. What are your chronic symptoms?

**Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms?**

- Diarrhea
- Gas
- Bloating
- Stomach pain
- Greasy stools
- Unexplained weight loss

**How recently did you start experiencing symptoms?**

- 1 Month
- 3 Months
- 6 Months
- More than 6 months
- Unknown duration

**Do any of these symptoms occur after eating?**

- Yes
- No

**Do you have difficulty holding bowel movements or have to rush to the bathroom?**

- Yes
- No

**Are you taking any medications for your symptoms?**

- Yes
- No

### 2. Conditions that effect the pancreas

**Does your medical history include any of the following conditions that affect the pancreas?**

Select all that apply:

- Chronic pancreatitis
- Pancreatic surgery
- Cystic fibrosis
- Pancreatic cancer
- Type 1 or 2 Diabetes
- None of the above

**Are you taking any medications for your symptoms?**

If yes, tell your doctor which medications.

- Yes
- No

**See the following page for additional symptom questions and Important Safety Information**



### 3. Conditions that effect the gastrointestinal system

#### Does your medical history include any of the following conditions that affect your gastrointestinal system?

Select all that apply:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irritable bowel syndrome                | <input type="checkbox"/> Ulcerative colitis                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Celiac disease                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Small intestinal bacterial overgrowth (SIBO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exocrine pancreatic insufficiency (EPI) | <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crohn's disease                         |   |

#### Are you taking any medications for your symptoms?

If yes, tell your doctor which medications.

- Yes  
 No

#### Indication

PANCREAZE is a prescription medicine used to treat people who cannot digest food normally because their pancreas does not make enough enzymes due to cystic fibrosis or other conditions. PANCREAZE may help your body use fats, proteins, and sugars from food.

#### Important Safety Information

##### What is the most important information I should know about PANCREAZE?

PANCREAZE may increase your chance of having a serious, rare bowel disorder called fibrosing colonopathy that may require surgery. The risk of having this condition may be reduced by following the dosing instructions that your healthcare provider gave you.

**Take PANCREAZE exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Do not take more or less PANCREAZE than directed by your doctor.**

**Call your doctor right away if you have any unusual or severe** stomach area (abdominal) pain, bloating, trouble passing stool (having bowel movements), nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

##### What should I tell my doctor before taking PANCREAZE?

Tell your doctor if you:

- are allergic to pork (pig) products
- have a history of blockage of your intestines, or scarring or thickening of your bowel wall (fibrosing colonopathy)
- have gout, kidney disease, or high blood uric acid (hyperuricemia)
- have trouble swallowing capsules
- have any other medical condition
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed

**Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

##### What are the possible side effects of PANCREAZE?

PANCREAZE may cause serious side effects, including:

- **A rare bowel disorder** called fibrosing colonopathy
- **Irritation of the inside of your mouth.** This can happen if PANCREAZE is not swallowed completely

- **Increase in blood uric acid levels.** This may cause worsening of swollen, painful joints (gout) caused by an increase in your blood uric acid levels
- **Allergic reactions** including trouble with breathing, skin rashes, or swollen lips
- PANCREAZE and other pancreatic enzyme products are made from the pancreas of pigs, the same pigs people eat as pork. These pigs may carry viruses. Although it has never been reported, it may be possible for a person to get a viral infection from taking pancreatic enzyme products that come from pigs.

The most common side effects include pain in your stomach (abdominal pain) and gas.

These are not all the side effects of PANCREAZE. Talk to your doctor about any side effect that bothers you or does not go away. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch). You may also report side effects to VIVUS LLC at 1-888-998-4887.

##### How do I take PANCREAZE?

- **Do not crush or chew the PANCREAZE capsules or their contents, and do not hold the capsule or contents in your mouth.** Take PANCREAZE exactly as your doctor tells you. Read the Medication Guide for directions on how to give PANCREAZE to adults and children (children older than 12 months).
- Read the Medication Guide for directions on how to give PANCREAZE to infants (children up to 12 months).

Please read the [PANCREAZE Medication Guide](#) and [PANCREAZE Prescribing Information](#) and discuss any questions you have with your doctor.

**REFERENCES:** 1. Othman MO, et al. Introduction and practical approach to exocrine pancreatic insufficiency for the practicing clinician. *Int J Clin Pract.* 2018;72:e13066.

