

LOSAR® 50 mg, scored film-coated tablet
Losartan potassium

LOSAR® 100 mg, scored film-coated tablet
Losartan potassium

Read this leaflet carefully before taking this medicine as it contains important information for you.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.

- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse.

- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.

- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse. This also applies to any side effect not mentioned in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet?

1. what are LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® and in which case are they used?

2. how to take LOSAR® before you take LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®?

3. how to take LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®?

4. possible side effects?

5. how to store LOSAR® et LOSAR FORT®?

6. how to dispose of this medicine?

1. WHAT ARE LOSAR® AND LOSAR FORT® AND IN WHICH CASE ARE THEY USED?

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Angiotensin II antagonists, uncombined - ATC code: C09CA01

Losartan belongs to a group of medicines called angiotensin II receptor antagonists. Angiotensin II is a substance produced by your body that acts to receptors in the wall of your vessels causing narrowing to them. It causes an increase in blood pressure. Losartan competes with the receptors resulting in a decrease in blood pressure. Losartan slows deterioration of kidney function in patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes.

Therapeutic indications:

- LOSAR® LOSAR FORT®:

- Treatment of essential hypertension in adults and children and adolescents aged 6 to 18 years.

- Treatment of renal impairment in adult patients with type 2 diabetes, hypertension, with proteinuria ≥ 0.5 g/day, as part of antihypertensive treatment.

- Treatment of heart failure in adult patients, when treatment with an enzyme-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor is inappropriate due to intolerance (cough) or a contraindication. Losartan should not be used as a relay treatment in patients with heart failure, stabilized by an ACE inhibitor.

- Patients should have left ventricular ejection fraction = 40% and should be clinically stabilized and on regular treatment for heart failure.

- Reduction of stroke risk in hypertensive patients with left ventricular hypertrophy at the "electrocardiogram".

2. WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU TAKE LOSAR® AND LOSAR FORT®?

Never take LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®:

- If you are allergic to any of the ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

- If you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant, it is also preferable to avoid taking LOSAR® OR LOSAR FORT® in early pregnancy - see section "Pregnancy and Breast-feeding".

- If your liver function is severely impaired.

- If you have had kidney failure or kidney disease and you are being treated with a medicine to reduce blood pressure causing kidney damage.

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT®:

- You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or are likely to become) pregnant. LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® are not recommended for use during pregnancy. If you are pregnant or become pregnant within 3 months pregnant as it could seriously harm your child if taken from this stage of pregnancy (see section "Pregnancy and Breast-feeding").

It is important to tell your doctor before taking LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®:

- If you have ever had angioedema (swelling of the face, lips, throat and/or tongue) (see also section 4 "Possible side effects").

- If you have had severe vomiting or diarrhea, causing a very significant loss of fluids and/or salts from your body (see section 3 "Dosage in special patient groups").

- If you are taking diuretics (medicines which increase the amount of water passing through your kidneys) or if you are on a salt-free diet which may lead to a significant loss of fluid and salt from your body (see section 3 "Dosage in special patient groups").

- If you have had a kidney transplant or blockage of the kidney arteries or have recently had a kidney transplant.

- If your liver function is impaired (see sections 2 "Do not take LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®" and 3 "Dosage in special patient groups").

- If you suffer from heart failure with or without kidney failure or concomitant severe cardiac arrhythmia which may be life-threatening, seek attention as soon as you are simultaneously treated with beta-blockers.

- If you have a heart valve or heart muscle problem.

- If you have coronary artery disease (caused by reduced blood flow to the heart vessels), or cerebrovascular disease (caused by reduced blood flow to the brain).

- If you have had primary hyperaldosteronism (a syndrome associated with increased aldosterone secretion following an abnormality of the adrenal glands).

- If you are taking any of the following medicines to treat high blood pressure:

- o an ACE inhibitor (eg enalapril, lisinopril, ramipril), particularly if you have diabetes-related kidney problems.

- o a potassium sparing diuretic (eg spironolactone, triamterene, amiloride).

Your doctor may need to check your kidney function, blood pressure, and levels of electrolytes (eg, potassium) in your blood at regular intervals. See also the section "Do not take LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®" for more information.

- If you are taking other medicines likely to increase serum potassium (see section 2 "Other medicines and LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®").

Children and adolescents

Losartan has been studied in children. For more information, ask your doctor.

The use of LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® is not recommended in children with kidney or liver problems, as the available data are limited and these patients are not recommended for children under 6 years of age, safety of use and efficacy not being established in this age group.

Other medicines and LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®

The use of LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® are taken, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Tell your doctor if you are taking potassium supplements, salt substitutes containing potassium, potassium-sparing medicines such as certain diuretics (amiloride, triamterene, spironolactone), or other medicines which may increase serum potassium (e.g., paracetamol contains trimethoprim), because the combination with LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT® is not recommended.

Tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines while being treated with LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT®:

- Other antihypertensive medicines, as these may further lower your blood pressure. Blood pressure is likely to be lowered by one of the following medicines/classes of medications: tricyclic antidepressants, antipsychotics, beta-blockers, diuretics, etc.

- non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines such as indometacin, including COX-2 inhibitors (medicines that reduce inflammation and can be used to reduce pain) as they may reduce the blood pressure lowering effect of losartan.

Your doctor may need to change the prescribed dose and/or take other precautions:

If you are taking an ACE inhibitor or aliskiren (see also the sections "Do not take LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®" and "Warnings and precautions" for more information).

If you have improved kidney function, the concomitant use of these medicines may lead to worsening kidney failure. LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® can only be taken with losartan under close supervision by your doctor. Special precautions (blood work) may be appropriate.

LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® with food and drinks

LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® can be taken with or without food.

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Pregnancy

You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Your doctor will normally recommend that you stop taking LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® before you become pregnant or if you know as you know are pregnant. Tell your doctor if you are taking this medicine if you are pregnant or if you are breast-feeding.

LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® are not recommended for women who are pregnant, and your doctor may choose another treatment if you wish to breast-feed, especially if you are breast-feeding.

Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Driving and using machines

The effects on the ability to drive and use machines have not been studied.

LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® contain lactose. Some people with diabetes may be affected by the taste of LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT®.

3. HOW TO TAKE LOSAR® AND LOSAR FORT®?

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if in doubt. You will decide whether to discontinue use of LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT® depending on your condition and if you are taking other medicines. It is important to continue taking LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT® for as long as your doctor prescribes, to allow regular control of your blood pressure.

Adult hypertensive patients

The usual starting dose is 50 mg losartan once daily (1 tablet of LOSAR® 50 mg). The blood pressure lowering effect is seen after 4-6 weeks of starting treatment. In some patients the dose may later be increased to 100 mg losartan once daily (2 tablets of LOSAR® 50 mg or 1 tablet of LOSAR FORT® 100 mg).

If you have the impression that the effect of LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT® is too strong or too weak, talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Children and adolescents

Children under 6 years old

LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® are not recommended for children under 6 years of age, safety of use and efficacy have not been established in this age group.

Children over 6 years old

The usual starting dose for patients with a body weight between 20 and 50 kg is 0.7 mg losartan per kg once daily (up to 25 mg losartan). The doctor may increase the dose if your blood pressure is not controlled.

Another form of this medication may be available for children; talk to your doctor or pharmacist.

Adult hypertensive patients with type 2 diabetes

The usual starting dose is 50 mg losartan once daily (1 tablet of LOSAR® 50 mg). The dose may then be increased to 100 mg losartan once daily (2 tablets of LOSAR® 50 mg or 1 tablet of LOSAR FORT® 100 mg) depending on blood pressure response.

Losartan tablets can be taken with other antihypertensive medicines (such as diuretics, calcium channel blockers, alpha-blockers, and centrally acting antihypertensives) as well as insulin and other commonly used antidiabetic medications (for example, sulfonylureas, glitazones and glucosidase inhibitors).

Adult patients with heart failure

The usual starting dose is 12.5 mg losartan once daily. Usually, the dose should be increased in increments each week (e.g. 6.25 mg the first week, 25 mg the second week, 50 mg per day the third week, 100 mg per day the fourth week, 150 mg daily in the fifth week) up to the maintenance dose established by your doctor. A maximum dose of 150 mg losartan once a day can be used (for example, 3 tablets of LOSAR® 50 mg or 1 tablet of

LOSAR FORT® 100 mg and 1 tablet of LOSAR® 50 mg).

In the treatment of heart failure, losartan is usually combined with a diuretic (medicine which increases the passage of water through the kidney) and/or digitalis (medicine which helps the heart to work more efficiently) and/or a beta-blocker.

Special patient groups

The doctor may prescribe a lower dose, especially at the start of treatment in some patients, such as those treated with high-dose diuretics, or patients with hepatic impairment or patients over 75 years of age. The use of losartan is not recommended in patients with severe hepatic impairment (see section "Do not take LOSAR® and LOSAR

FORT®").

Method of administration

The tablets should be swallowed whole with a glass of water. Try to take your daily treatment at the same time each day. It is important to take treatment with LOSAR without the advice of your doctor.

If you take more than 1 LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT® than you should:

- If you accidentally take too many tablets, contact your doctor immediately. Symptoms of an overdose are low blood pressure, increased or sometimes decreased heart rate.

If you forget to take LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT®:

- If you forgot to take LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT®, take the next dose as normal. Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose you forgot to take.

If you stop taking LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT®:

- Not applicable.

For more information, ask your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse.

4. POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS?

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. If you experience the following effect, stop taking LOSAR® or LOSAR FORT® and tell your doctor immediately or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

If you have an allergic reaction (rash, itching, swelling of the face, lips, throat which may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing).

This is a serious side effect that may occur in more than 1 in 10,000 patients, but less than 1 in 1,000 patients. You may need urgent medical supervision or hospitalization.

The following side effects have been reported with losartan:

Common may affect up to 1 in 10 people:

- Dizziness,

- Lowering of blood pressure (particularly after excessive water loss from the blood vessels, for example in patients with severe heart failure or with treatment with high doses of diuretics),

- Decreased orthostatic effects such as decrease in blood pressure when going from a supine to a seated position, Weakness,

- Fatigue,

- Too much sugar in the blood (hyperglycemia),

- Feeling of rapid heartbeat (palpitations),

- Chest pain (angina),

- Shortness of breath (dyspnea),

- Abdominal pain,

- Diarrhea,

- Nausea,

- Vomiting,

- Rash (hives),

- Skin pruritis,

- Skin rash,

- Localized swelling (edema),

- Cough,

Rare may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people:

- Hypersensitivity,

- Angioedema,

- Inflammation of blood vessels (vasculitis including Henoch-Schönlein purpura),

- Seizures or tingling (paresthesia),

- Fainting (syncope),

- Very fast and irregular heartbeats (atrial fibrillation),

- Stroke,

- Inflammation of the liver (hepatitis),

- Elevation of alanine aminotransferase (ALT), which usually normalizes when treatment is stopped.

Not known frequency (cannot be estimated from the available data):

- decreased platelet count,

- agranulocytosis,

- Abnormalities of liver function,

- Muscle and joint pain,

- Flu-like syndrome,

- Back pain and urinary tract infection,

- Increased sensitivity to the sun (photosensitivity),

- Unexplained muscle pain with dark (teal-colored) urine (rhabdomyolysis),

- Impotence,

- Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis),

- Decrease of blood sodium levels (hyponatremia),

- Depression,

- General feeling of malaise,

- Ringing, buzzing, rumbling, or popping in the ears (tinnitus),

- Abnormal eye movements.

Side effects in children are identical to those reported in adults.

Reporting side effects

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse. This also applies to any side effect not mentioned in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the national reporting system: CNPV (Centre National de la Pharmacovigilance).

By reporting side effects, you help provide more information about the safety of the medicine.

5. HOW TO STORE LOSAR® AND LOSAR FORT®?

Keep this medication out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the box or vial label after "EXP". The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not dispose of this medicine via household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away this medicine when you longer need it. These measures help protect the environment.

6. CONTENT OF THE PACKAGING AND OTHER INFORMATION

What LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® contain:

	LOSAR®	LOSAR FORT®
Losartan potassium	50 mg	100 mg

Excipients	Pragelatinized Corn Starch, Microcrystalline Cellulose, Croscarmellose Sodium, Magnesium Stearate, OPADRY II HP WHITE....., q.s.p one tablet	Microcrystalline Cellulose, Lactose Monohydrate, Croscarmellose Sodium, Pregelatinized Corn Starch, Magnesium Stearate, Colloidal Anhydrous Silica, Opadry II HP HPSF18378, Opadry II HP 8SG34736....., q.s.p one tablet
Excipients with known effect	Lactose monohydrate	

What do LOSAR® and LOSAR FORT® look like and content of the outer packaging

Specialty	Form	MAN*	Presentations
LOSAR® 50 mg	Scored film-coated tablet-blister in white Alu/PVC	9233411	Box of 30 tablets
LOSAR® 100 mg	Scored film-coated tablet-blister in white Alu/PVC	9233791	Box of 30 tablets

Marketing authorisation holder and manufacturer

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Supplementary information: List I Table A

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THIS IS A MEDICIN

- A medicine is not like other consumer goods.

- A medicine is a product that affects your health and its consumption without being a food, drink or a cosmetic.

- Strictly follow your doctor's prescription and the instructions for use which are prescribed for you, follow the advice of your pharmacist.

- You must not sell, buy, exchange or otherwise dispose of this medicine, its indications, and its contraindications.

- Do not stop the treatment on your own initiative during the prescribed period.

- Do not take it again, do not increase the dosage without consulting your doctor.

Keep medicines out of the reach of children