

Coversyl 2mg Coversyl 4mg, and Coversyl 8mg

perindopril (pronounced per-in-do-pril)

CONSUMER MEDICINE INFORMATION

What is in this leaflet

This leaflet answers some common questions about Coversyl. It does not contain all the available information. It does not take the place of talking to your doctor or pharmacist.

All medicines have risks and benefits. Your doctor has weighed the risks of taking Coversyl against the benefits they expect it will have for you.

If you have any concerns about taking this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Keep this leaflet with the medicine.

You may need to read it again.

What Coversyl is used for

Coversyl lowers blood pressure which doctors call hypertension. Everyone has blood pressure. This pressure helps get your blood all around the body. Your blood pressure may be different at different times of the day, depending on how busy or worried you are. You have high blood pressure when your blood pressure stays higher than is needed, even when you are calm or relaxed.

There are usually no symptoms of high blood pressure. The only way of knowing that you have it is to have your blood pressure checked on a regular basis. If high blood pressure is not treated it can lead to

serious health problems. You may feel fine and have no symptoms, but eventually it can cause stroke, heart disease and kidney failure. Coversyl helps lower your blood pressure.

You may be prescribed Coversyl for heart failure. Heart failure means that the heart muscle cannot pump blood strongly enough to supply all the blood needed throughout the body. Heart Failure is not the same as heart attack and does not mean that the heart stops working. Some people develop heart failure after having had a heart attack. However there are also other causes of heart failure.

Heart failure may start off with no symptoms, but as the condition progresses, you may feel short of breath or may get tired easily after light physical activity such as walking. You may wake up short of breath at night. Fluid may collect in different parts of the body, often first noticed as swollen ankles and feet. In severe heart failure, symptoms may occur even at rest.

Coversyl helps to treat heart failure. If you follow your doctor's advice, your ability to perform daily activities may improve. You may breathe more easily, feel less tired, and have less swelling.

Coversyl is available only with a doctor's prescription.

Before you take Coversyl

There are some people who shouldn't take Coversyl. Please read the list below. If you think any of these situations apply to you or you have any questions, please consult your doctor.

When you must not take Coversyl

Do not take Coversyl if:

- * **you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant**
- * **you are breastfeeding or plan to breast-feed**
- * **you undergo renal dialysis using polyacrylonitrile membranes, or you have renal artery stenosis**
- * **you have experienced swelling of the face, tongue, lips or throat either spontaneously or in response to another medicine in the past. (This rare condition is known as angio-oedema)**
- * **you are allergic to it or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.**
- * **the packaging is torn or shows sign of tampering**
- * **the expiry date (EXP) on the pack has passed.**

Coversyl can generally be used safely by elderly people. However reduced kidney function is often found in elderly people and in this case, the starting dose should always

be 2mg. An even lower dose may be prescribed for patients with serious kidney failure. Coversyl is not recommended for children.

If you think any of these situations apply to you, or you have any doubts or questions about taking Coversyl consult your doctor or pharmacist.

Taking other medicines

Some medicines can affect the way Coversyl works. In particular, diuretics (sometimes called 'water tablets' because they increase the amount of urine passed each day) can increase the effect of Coversyl. So can some other medicines which lower blood pressure. Care also has to be taken if you are taking lithium tablets.

It is a good idea to remind your doctor of all other medicines you take.

How to take Coversyl

The dose of Coversyl you may need each day will be decided and adjusted by your doctor. This will normally be 2mg to 8mg once daily for high blood pressure and 2mg to 4mg once daily for heart failure.

Swallow your tablet(s) with a glass of water, preferably in the morning before a meal.

If you forget to take it

If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the dose you missed and take your next dose when you are meant to. Otherwise, take it as soon as you remember, and then go back to taking it as you would normally.

Do not take a double dose to make up for the dose that you missed.

How long to take it

Coversyl helps control your blood pressure or your heart failure, but does not cure it. Continue taking the tablets for as long as your doctor tells you.

If you take too much

Immediately telephone your doctor, or the Poisons Information Centre (telephone in Australia: 13 11 26; in New Zealand: 03 4747 000) if you think you or anyone else may have taken too much Coversyl. Do this even if there are no signs of discomfort or poisoning.

While you are taking Coversyl

Things you must not do

Do not give Coversyl to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

Do not use Coversyl to treat other complaints unless your doctor tells you to.

Do not stop taking Coversyl or change the dosage, without checking with your doctor.

Do not stop taking your tablets because you are feeling better, unless advised by your doctor.

Side effects

Coversyl helps most people with high blood pressure or heart failure, but it may have unwanted side effects in a few people. All medicines can have side effects. Sometimes they are serious, most of the time they are not.

With Coversyl, the side effects can include:

- * cough, often described as dry and irritating

- * headache
- * feeling tired or lethargic
- * feeling faint, light-headed or dizzy
- * nausea or stomach pain

These side effects when they occur are usually mild.

Consult your doctor or pharmacist if you experience any of these or notice anything else that is making you feel unwell.

Do not be alarmed by this list of possible side effects. You may not experience any of them. Other uncommon side effects have been reported and you should ask your doctor or pharmacist if you want to know more.

Tell your doctor immediately or go to accident and emergency at your nearest hospital if any of the signs below occur. (These side effects are extremely rare).

- * Swelling of lips, face, mouth, tongue and throat.

After taking Coversyl

Storage

Keep your tablets in the pack until it is time to take them. Keep them in a cool, dry place where it stays below 30 degrees C. Keep them where children cannot reach them.

Disposal

If your doctor tells you to stop taking Coversyl, or the tablets have passed their expiry date, return any leftover tablets to your pharmacist for disposal.

Product description

Coversyl is registered on the Australian register of Therapeutic Goods.

Australian Register Number:

Coversyl 2mg tablets: AUST R 34266

Coversyl 4mg tablets: AUST R 34267

Coversyl 8mg tablets: AUST R 96738

What Coversyl looks like

Coversyl 2mg tablets are white round tablets.

Coversyl 4mg tablets are white, scored, rod-shaped tablets.

Coversyl 8mg tablets are green, round biconvex tablets, with a heart on one face and a Servier logo on the other face.

Coversyl 2mg, Coversyl 4mg and Coversyl 8mg are contained in a blister strip that is itself enclosed in an aluminium foil envelope containing a desiccant sachet. Each box contains 30 tablets. A desiccant is a substance that absorbs moisture and helps to protect the tablets, especially when it is very humid.

Ingredients

Each tablet of Coversyl 2mg contains 2mg of perindopril erbumine as the active ingredient and a number of inactive ingredients.

Each tablet of Coversyl 4mg contains 4mg of perindopril erbumine as the active ingredient and a number of inactive ingredients.

Each tablet of Coversyl 8mg contains 8mg of perindopril erbumine as the active ingredient and a number of inactive ingredients.

The inactive ingredients include cellulose, lactose, silica, magnesium stearate and aluminium copper complexes of chlorophyllins (E141ii) lake.

Manufacturer

Coversyl is a product discovered by Servier Research International. It is distributed in Australia by:

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