

Losartan Potassium 25mg, 50mg, 100mg tablets

What is Losartan potassium PCH and what is it used for?

Losartan belongs to a group of medications called angiotensin II antagonists. Angiotensin II is a natural substance in the body that binds to receptors in the blood vessels, causing them to narrow and raising blood pressure. Losartan prevents angiotensin II from binding to these receptors, which relaxes the blood vessels and lowers blood pressure. Losartan slows down the decline of kidney function in patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes.

Losartan potassium is used: in the treatment of patients with high blood pressure (hypertension) in adults, children and adolescents aged 6 to 18 years, to protect the kidneys in patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes who have laboratory-confirmed decreased kidney function and proteinuria (a condition with an abnormal amount of protein in the urine) of more than or equal to 0.5 grams per day, in the treatment of patients with a persistent poor pumping function of the heart (heart failure) as an alternative to angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE inhibitors, a medication for in patients with high blood pressure and thickening of the left ventricle of the heart, Losartan potassium reduces the risk of stroke ("LIFE indication").

If your doctor does not consider it suitable to lower your high blood pressure with Losartan, and if your heart failure has been stabilized with an ACE inhibitor, you should not be switched to Losartan.

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Losartan potassium is used: in the treatment of high blood pressure (hypertension) in adults, children and adolescents aged 6 to 18 years, to protect the kidneys in patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes with laboratory-confirmed decreased kidney function and proteinuria (a condition with an abnormal amount of protein in the urine) greater than or equal to 0.5 grams per day,

in the treatment of patients with persistent poor pumping function of the heart (heart failure) when treatment with angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACE inhibitors, a medication for lowering high blood pressure) is not deemed suitable by your doctor. If your heart failure is stabilized with an ACE inhibitor, you should not be switched to losartan,

in patients with high blood pressure and thickening of the left ventricle of the heart. Losartan potassium reduces the risk of stroke ("LIFE indication").

When should you not use this medicine or use it with extra caution?

if you are allergic to any of the ingredients in this medicine. if your liver is not working well, if you are more than three months pregnant. (it is also better to avoid the use of Losartan potassium PCH at the beginning of pregnancy, if you have diabetes or a kidney function disorder and you are being treated with a blood pressure-lowering medicine that contains aliskiren.

When should you use this medicine with extra caution?

Contact your doctor or pharmacist before taking this medicine. You should tell your doctor if you think you are pregnant (or want to become pregnant). The use of Losartan potassium PCH is not recommended at the beginning of pregnancy and should not be taken if you are more than three months pregnant because it can have serious adverse effects on the baby if used at this stage (see section 2: Pregnancy and breastfeeding).

It is important to tell your doctor before taking Losartan potassium PCH if: you have previously had angioedema (swelling of the face, lips, throat, and/or tongue), you have severe vomiting or diarrhea, which causes you to lose a lot of fluid and/or salt, you are taking diuretics (medicines that increase the amount of water you excrete through the kidneys) or if you are on a low-salt diet, which causes you to lose a lot of fluid and salt (see section 3 "Dosage in special patient groups"), your renal arteries are narrowed or blocked or if you have recently had a kidney transplant, your liver function is impaired (see section 2 "Do not use Losartan potassium PCH" and 3 "Dosage in special patient groups"),

you have heart failure with or without reduced kidney function or if you have heart failure with concomitant life-threatening ventricular arrhythmias. Caution is especially warranted if you are being treated with a so-called beta-blocker, you have problems with your heart valves or heart muscle, If you suffer from coronary heart disease (caused by reduced blood flow through the blood vessels of the heart) or cerebrovascular disease (caused by reduced blood flow through the blood vessels in the brain), if you suffer from primary hyperaldosteronism (a syndrome that is associated with increased secretion of the hormone aldosterone by the adrenal gland due to an abnormality in the gland), if you are taking any of the following medications for the treatment of high blood pressure:

- an "ACE inhibitor" (such as enalapril, lisinopril, ramipril), especially if you have diabetes-related kidney problems
- aliskiren.

Your doctor may monitor your kidney function, blood pressure, and the number of electrolytes (e.g. potassium) in your blood. If you are using other medicines that may increase the amount of potassium in your blood (see section 2 'Are you using any other medicines?').

Children and adolescents up to 18 years of age

Losartan potassium PCH has been studied in children. Consult your doctor for more information. This medicine is not recommended for use in children with kidney or liver problems, as data in these patients are limited. This medicine is not recommended for use in children under 6 years of age, as it has not been proven to be effective in this age group.

Are you using any other medication?

Are you currently taking any other medication in addition to Losartan potassium PCH, or have you done so recently, or is it possible that you will use other medication in the near future? If so, tell your doctor or pharmacist. Tell your doctor if you are using potassium supplements, potassium-containing salt substitutes or potassium-sparing medications such as certain diuretics (amiloride, triamterene, spironolactone) or other medications that may increase the amount of potassium in your blood (such as heparin or trimethoprim), as the combination with Losartan potassium PCH is not recommended.

Be extra careful if you are using the following medications during your treatment with Losartan potassium PCH: other blood pressure-lowering medications, as they can further lower your blood pressure. The blood pressure can also be lowered by one of the following medications/drug classes: tricyclic antidepressants (medications for depression), antipsychotics (medications for mental disorders), baclofen and amifostine.

non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as indomethacin, including COX-2 inhibitors (anti-inflammatory and pain-relieving drugs), as they can reduce the blood pressure-lowering effect of losartan.

Your doctor may adjust your dose and/or take other precautions if: You are taking an ACE inhibitor or aliskiren (also see information in the sections "When should you not use this medicine?" and "When should you take extra precautions with this medicine?"). If your kidney function is impaired, simultaneous use of these medicines can lead to a deterioration of kidney function.

Medicines containing lithium should not be used together with Losartan potassium PCH without careful supervision by your doctor. Special precautions (e.g. blood tests) may be necessary.

What to watch out for with food and drink?

Losartan potassium PCH can be taken with or without food.

Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Are you pregnant, think you may be pregnant, planning to become pregnant or breastfeeding? Consult your doctor or pharmacist before using this medicine.

Pregnancy: Tell your doctor if you think you are pregnant or if you want to become pregnant. Your doctor will usually advise you to stop using Losartan potassium PCH before you become pregnant or as soon as you know you are pregnant and instead advise you to use another medication. Losartan potassium PCH is not recommended for use during early pregnancy and should not be used if you are more than 3 months pregnant, as it can have serious adverse effects on the baby when used from a gestational age of 3 months.

Breastfeeding: Tell your doctor if you are breastfeeding or planning to breastfeed. Losartan potassium PCH is not recommended for nursing mothers, and your doctor may decide on a different treatment for you if you want to breastfeed, especially if your baby is newborn or premature.

Translation: Driving and use of machines

There is no information available on the influence on driving ability and the ability to use machines. It is unlikely that Losartan potassium PCH will affect your driving ability and ability to use machines. However, Losartan potassium PCH can sometimes cause dizziness or drowsiness, like many other drugs used to treat high blood pressure. If you experience dizziness or drowsiness, you should consult your doctor first.

Losartan potassium PCH contains lactose monohydrate

Losartan potassium contains lactose monohydrate. If your doctor has told you that you are intolerant to certain sugars, please contact your doctor before using this medicine.

How to take this medicine?

Follow the advice of your doctor carefully when taking this medicine. Your doctor will determine the Losartan potassium PCH dose that is right for you, depending on your condition and whether you are using other medications. To achieve a constant reduction in your blood pressure, it is important to use Losartan potassium PCH for as long as your doctor prescribes it. Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. If you are unsure about the correct use, please contact your doctor or pharmacist.

Adult patients with high blood pressure

The recommended starting dose is 50 mg of losartan once a day (one tablet of Losartan potassium PCH 50 mg per day). The maximum blood pressure-lowering effect is achieved three to six weeks after the start of therapy. In some patients, the dose may later be increased to 100 mg of losartan (two tablets of Losartan potassium PCH 50 mg once a day or one tablet of Losartan potassium PCH 100 mg). Consult your doctor or pharmacist if you suspect that the effect of losartan is too strong or too weak.

Use in children and adolescents

Children under 6 years of age: This medicine is not recommended for use in children under 6 years of age, as its efficacy has not been proven in this age group.

Children 6 to 18 years of age: The recommended starting dose for patients weighing between 20 and 50 kg is 0.7 mg of losartan per kg of body weight, administered once a day (up to 25 mg of Losartan potassium PCH). The doctor may increase the dose if the blood pressure is not under control. Other forms of this medicine may be more suitable for children; consult your doctor or pharmacist.

Adult patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes: The usual starting dose is 50 mg of losartan once a day (one tablet of Losartan potassium PCH 50 mg). Depending on your blood pressure response, the dose may later be increased to 100 mg of losartan once a day (two tablets of Losartan potassium PCH 50 mg or one tablet of Losartan potassium PCH 100 mg).

In the treatment of heart failure, losartan is usually combined with a diuretic (a medication that makes you urinate more) and/or digitalis (a medication that makes your heart pump stronger and more effectively) and/or a beta-blocker.

Dosage in special patient groups: The doctor may advise a lower dosage, especially in certain patients, such as patients who use high doses of diuretics, patients with poorly functioning liver, or patients over 75 years old. The use of losartan is not recommended in patients with severe liver disease (see section 2: When should you not use this medicine?).

Method of use: The tablets should be taken with a glass of water. Try to take your daily dose at approximately the same time each day. It is important that you continue to take Losartan Potassium PCH until your doctor gives you other instructions.

Did you take too much of this medicine?

If you accidentally take too many tablets, contact your doctor immediately. Symptoms of overdose include low blood pressure, accelerated heart rate, and possibly slowed heart rate.

Did you forget to take this medicine?

If you accidentally forget a daily dose, take that dose as soon as possible. Never take a double dose to make up for the missed dose.

Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can have side effects, although not everyone gets them. If you experience the following symptoms, stop using losartan immediately and consult your doctor or go to the nearest hospital emergency department: A severe allergic reaction (rash, itching, swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat which may cause difficulty swallowing or breathing) (angioedema).

This is a serious but rare side effect that occurs in more than 1 in 10,000 patients but less than 1 in 1,000 patients. You may need urgent medical attention or may need to be hospitalized.

The following side effects have been reported with Losartan Potassium 25, 50 and 100 mg PCH:

Common (affects less than 1 in 10 users): Dizziness, vertigo, low blood pressure (especially after extreme loss of fluid from the body to the blood vessels, e.g. in patients with severe heart failure or those treated with strong diuretics), dose-dependent orthostatic effects such as lowering of blood pressure when standing up from a lying or sitting position, weakness, fatigue, low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), high blood potassium (hyperkalemia), changes in kidney function including kidney failure, decreased number of red blood cells (anemia), increase in blood urea, serum creatinine and serum potassium in patients with heart failure.

Uncommon (affects less than 1 in 100 users): drowsiness, headache, sleep disorders, palpitations, severe chest pain (angina pectoris), shortness of breath (dyspnea), cough, abdominal pain, constipation, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, hives (urticaria), itching (pruritus), skin rash, local swelling (edema)

Rare (affects less than 1 in 1,000 users): hypersensitivity, inflammation of blood vessels (vasculitis), including Henoch-Schönlein purpura, numbness or tingling (paresthesia), fainting (syncope), very fast or irregular heartbeat (atrial fibrillation), stroke, hepatitis, elevated serum alanine aminotransferase (ALT) in the blood, which usually disappears after stopping, treatment.

Hoe bewaart u dit middel?

There are no special storage conditions for this medicine.