



COZAAR (losartan potassium) tablets

Patient Advisory Label Update®

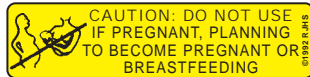
DRUG NAME: COZAAR (losartan potassium) tablets

MANUFACTURER: Merck Pharmaceuticals

INDICATIONS FOR USE: For the treatment of high blood pressure.

In order to assist you with your patient counseling, we recommend the use of the following Patient Advisory Label(s) when you dispense *Cozaar*:

A-46:



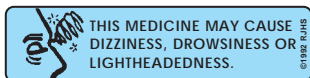
Research: It is reported that the use of this product during pregnancy, especially during the second and third trimester can cause low blood pressure, severe kidney failure and even death in the newborn.

A-22:



Research: Salt substitutes contain potassium, which may affect the use of this medicine.

A-15:



Research: Dizziness and lightheadedness is noted in the literature. Advise the patient to avoid sudden changes in posture or driving until they know how they may react to it. If these side effects continue, patient should call his/her physician.

A-13:



Research: This label is considered the "universal" counseling label when maintenance, long term therapy is needed to obtain the desired therapeutic outcomes. The treatment of high blood pressure requires long term and continuous use for the desired outcome.

A-9:



Research: A patient's diet is the most important part of controlling their condition and is necessary for this medication to work properly. If the patient's physician has suggested a diet, stress the need to follow it.

Please Note: The Patient Advisory Label Update® and The Patient Advisor® are intended to provide the healthcare professional with easily accessible, practical drug counseling information to use when verbally communicating with a patient about a particular drug. The information printed here is designed to assist, not replace, professional judgement. The author, manufacturer or distributor make no claims regarding proper use of this information.

References available upon request

To obtain Labels or other Patient Counseling Information:



R•J Health Systems, Inc.

P.O. Box 290616 • Wethersfield, CT 06109 • Phone: 860-563-1223 Fax: 860-563-1650 • or on the web: www.rjhealthsystems.com



COZAAR (losartan potassium) tablets

Patient Advisor®

Be sure to read all this information and contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions that are not answered here.

THIS MEDICATION IS USED:

To treat high blood pressure.

PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION:

- Take this medicine exactly as your doctor has instructed.
- This medicine can be taken WITH or WITHOUT food, but follow each dose with a full glass of water (4 ounces).
- This medicine should be taken at the same time every day. High blood pressure is a long-term disease. You should continue to take this medicine even if you feel better.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER:

- This medicine may cause dizziness or light-headedness. Avoid sudden changes in posture. Sit or lie down at the first sign of dizziness. Be careful going up or down stairs. DO NOT drive a car, operate dangerous machinery or do jobs that require you to be alert until you know how you are going to react to this medicine.
- DIET is an important part of managing your blood pressure. You should decrease the amount of sodium-containing products such as canned soup, pickles, ketchup, relish, frankfurters (hot dogs). Ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice or check food before purchasing for low sodium items.
- SALT SUBSTITUTES should NOT be used without the advice of your doctor or pharmacist. These products contain potassium, which may be stored by the body and effect the use of this medicine.
- If your mouth becomes dry, you may suck on hard sour candy (sugarless), chew gum, use a saliva substitute, or drink extra fluids.
- DO NOT use any prescription or non-prescription drugs such as diet pills; antacids; cough, cold or allergy medicines; pain relievers or medicines containing alcohol without first talking with your doctor or pharmacist. Some may affect this medicine or aggravate your condition.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS:

Dizziness, light-headedness, diarrhea, heartburn, nausea, skin rash, possible cough, muscle cramps.

MISSED DOSE INSTRUCTIONS:

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as possible, BUT if it is almost time for the next dose, DO NOT take the missed dose or DO NOT DOUBLE the next dose. Instead, continue with your regular dosing schedule.