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What Irbesartan Tablets are and what they are used for
Irbesartan tablets belong to a group of medicines known as angiotensin-II receptor antagonists. Angiotensin-II is a substance produced in the body which binds to receptors in blood vessels causing them to tighten. This results in an increase in blood pressure. Irbesartan prevents the binding of angiotensin-II to these receptors, causing the blood vessels to relax and the blood pressure to lower. Irbesartan slows the decrease of kidney function in patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes.

Irbesartan tablets are used in adult patients to protect the kidney in hypertensive type 2 diabetic patients with laboratory evidence of impaired renal function.

What you need to know before you take
Do not take Irbesartan tablets
- if you are allergic to irbesartan or any other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you have diabetes or impaired kidney function and have been treated with a blood pressure lowering medicine containing aliskiren.

Warnings and precautions
Tell your doctor before taking Irbesartan tablets if you suffer from excessive vomiting or diarrhoea.

Irbesartan Tablets and alcohol
Irbesartan tablets can be taken with or without food. Irbesartan tablets are swallowed with a glass of water. Irbesartan tablets can be given with or without food and the amount of electrolytes (e.g. potassium) in your blood at regular intervals. See also information under the heading “Do not take Irbesartan Tablets.”

Children and adolescents
This medicinal product should not be used in children and adolescents (under 18 years) because the safety and efficacy have not yet been fully established.

Other medicines and Irbesartan tablets
Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Your doctor may need to change your dose and/or take other precautions:
- if you are taking an ACE-inhibitor or aliskiren (see also information under the headings “Do not take Irbesartan Tablets” and “Warnings and precautions”).

Breast-feeding
Irbesartan tablets with food and drink
Irbesartan tablets can be taken with or without food. The tablets should be swallowed with a drink of water. If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding
If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Irbesartan Tablets 300mg film-coated Tablets
Irbesartan 150mg film-coated Tablets
Irbesartan 75mg film-coated Tablets

Your doctor may check your kidney function, blood pressure, and the amount of electrolytes (e.g. potassium) in your blood at regular intervals.

Irbesartan Tablets 75mg, 150mg & 300mg tablet laffet - UK

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4. How to take

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

The following strengths are available: 75mg, 150mg and 300mg.

Method of administration

Irbesartan tablets are for oral use and are taken with or without food. The tablets should be swallowed with a drink of water. You should try to take your daily dose at about the same time each day. It is important that you continue to take Irbesartan tablets until your doctor tells you otherwise.

Patients with high blood pressure

The recommended dose is 150mg once a day. The dose may be increased to 300mg once daily depending on blood pressure response.

Patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes with kidney disease

In patients with high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes, 300mg once daily is the preferred maintenance dose for the treatment of associated kidney disease.

The doctor may advise a lower dose, especially when starting treatment in certain patients such as those on haemodialysis, or those over the age of 75 years. The minimal blood pressure lowering effect should be reached 4–6 weeks after beginning treatment.

Use in children and adolescents

Irbesartan tablets should not be given to children under 18 years of age. If a child swallows some tablets, contact your doctor immediately.

If you take more Irbesartan tablets than you should

If you accidentally take too many tablets, contact your doctor immediately. Symptoms of overdose can be hypotension, dizziness, headache.

If you forget to take Irbesartan tablets

If you forget to miss a daily dose, just take the next dose as normal. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

5. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them. Some of these effects may be serious and may require medical attention.

With similar medicines, rare cases of allergic skin reactions (shock, urticaria), as well as localized swelling of the face, lips and/or tongue have been reported in patients taking Irbesartan. If you get any of the symptoms of an allergy or get short of breath, stop taking Irbesartan tablets and contact your doctor immediately.

Side effects reported in clinical studies for patients treated with Irbesartan were:

Very common (may affect more than 1 in 10 people):

- Changes in blood pressure and type 2 diabetes with kidney disease, blood tests may show an increased level of potassium.
- Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):
  - Skin reactions (shock, urticaria), as well as localized swelling of the face, lips, and/or tongue have been reported in patients taking Irbesartan. If you get any of the symptoms of an allergy or get short of breath, stop taking Irbesartan tablets and contact your doctor immediately.

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