Verapamil 40mg, 80mg, 120mg and 160mg tablets

What you need to know before you take Verapamil tablets

Verapamil tablets are used for:
- treat and prevent certain types of abnormal heart beats.
- manage and prevent angina.
- manage high blood pressure (hypertension), used alone or in combination with other drugs for high blood pressure.
- sometimes associated with dizziness or faintness.
- have a pacemaker
- are taking a medicine containing dantrolene (to control muscle spasms)
- are taking a medicine containing colchicine (for gout)
- are taking a medicine containing quinidine (to treat arrhythmias)
- are taking a medicine containing dabigatran (medicine to prevent the formation of blood clots)
- are taking a medicine containing aspirin (for pain, fever or to prevent blood clots)
- are taking a medicine containing erythromycin, clarithromycin (to treat infections)
- are taking a medicine containing midazolam (used as sedative or anaesthetic)
- are taking a medicine containing theophylline (to treat asthma)
- are taking a medicine containing rifampicin (to treat infections)
- are taking a medicine containing phenobarbital, carbamazepine or phenytoin (to treat epilepsy)
- are taking a medicine containing alpha or beta blockers (particularly important if having a surgery)
- are taking a medicine containing ivabradine (for heart disease)
- are already taking a medicine containing ivabradine for the treatment of certain heart diseases

Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Verapamil tablets if you have:
- had a heart attack or have problems with the impulses of the heart (first degree atrioventricular block)
- liver disease
- kidney failure.

Surgery

You should tell your doctor you are taking Verapamil tablets if you are having an operation or anaesthetic.

Other medicines and Verapamil tablets

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.
- ivabradine (for heart disease)
- alpha or beta blockers (particularly important if having a beta blocker by injection) and other drugs to treat high blood pressure e.g. prazosin
- cimetidine (to treat stomach ulcers)
- phenobarbital, carbamazepine or phenytoin (to treat epilepsy)
- if you have slow heart rate (bradycardia)
- have low blood pressure (hypotension)
- have Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome (rapid heart rate sometimes associated with dizziness or faintness).

Verapamil tablets and alcohol

Verapamil may increase the amount of alcohol in the body and the time it takes for alcohol to leave the body. You should avoid excessive amounts of alcohol whilst taking Verapamil tablets.

Verapamil tablets and Grapefruit juice

Do not eat or drink products containing grapefruit juice whilst taking verapamil, as grapefruit juice increases the effects of verapamil.

What in this leaflet

Contains important information for you.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- Do not take Verapamil tablets:
  - if you have heart failure
  - if you have sick sinus syndrome
  - if you have low blood pressure
  - if you have certain heart diseases such as bradycardia or heart attack
  - if you have second or third degree atrioventricular block
  - if you have atrioventricular block
  - if you have heart failure

Verapamil Tablets 40, 80, 120, 160mg x 28's, 56's, 84's (UK)

Colours

1. Black
2. Red
3. 3rd party
4. 3rd party
5. 3rd party
6. 3rd party

Non Printing Colours

1. Profile/Text Safe Area
2. 3rd party
3. 3rd party
4. 3rd party
5. 3rd party
6. 3rd party

Package leaflet: Information for the user

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

Driving and using machines
Verapamil tablets may make you feel drowsy, particularly when you first start the treatment and when changing over from another medicine. Make sure you are not affected before you drive or operate machinery, especially if taken with alcohol.

Verapamil tablets contains sunset yellow aluminium lake (E110)
Sunset yellow aluminium lake (E110) may cause allergic reactions.

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

The recommended dose is:

Adults

- High blood pressure: Initially 120mg twice a day increasing to 160mg twice a day. In some cases up to a maximum of 480mg a day can be taken in divided doses.
- Angina: Usually 120mg three times a day. For some patients 80mg three times a day may be sufficient.
- Abnormal heart beats: 40-120mg three times a day.

Elderly with heart or liver problems: you may be given a different dose.

Use in children and adolescents

- Up to 2 years: 20mg two or three times a day.
- 2 years and over: 40-120mg two or three times a day.

Swallow the tablets with water.

If you take more Verapamil tablets than you should
If you (or someone else) swallow a lot of tablets at the same time, or you think a child may have swallowed any contact your nearest hospital casualty department or tell your doctor immediately. Overdose can lead to low blood pressure and in rare cases heart failure.

If you forget to take Verapamil tablets
Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. If you forget to take a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it is nearly time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at the right time.

If you stop taking Verapamil tablets
Talk to your doctor before you stop taking the tablets and follow their advice.

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

4 Possible side effects
Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Contact your doctor at once if any of the following symptoms occur:

- allergic reaction: itching, rash, difficulty breathing and swelling of the face, lips or tongue
- palpitations, chest pains for the first time or chest pains becoming more frequent

Tell your doctor if you notice any of the following side effects, they get worse or you notice any other effects not listed.

Nervous system – headaches, dizziness, pins and needles, involuntary shaking or spasm

Ears – spinning sensation, ‘ringing in the ears’

Heart: Blood vessels – fast, slow or irregular heart beat, low blood pressure, flushing/reddening of the skin, swelling of the ankles, hands or feet

Stomach – constipation, feeling or being sick, pain or discomfort in the stomach, swelling of the gums

Skin – hair loss, skin rash or itching, discolouring, tingling or prickling feeling, blisters, ulcers, numbness

Muscles – weakness, aches, pains in the joints and/or muscles

Reproductive system – impotence, enlarged breasts in men (reversible when treatment is stopped)

Other – tiredness, liver problems which can be detected by blood tests done by your doctor.

Reporting of side effects
If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via the Yellow Card Scheme at www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard or search for MHRA Yellow Card in Google Play or Apple App Store. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5 How to store Verapamil tablets
Keep out of the sight and reach of children. Store below 25°C in a dry place. Do not use this medicine after the expiry date stated on the carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month. Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

6 Contents of the pack and other information

What Verapamil tablets contain

- The active substance is verapamil hydrochloride. Each tablet contains 40mg, 80mg, 120mg or 160mg of verapamil hydrochloride.
- The other ingredients are croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, maize starch, propylene glycol, sunset yellow aluminium lake (E110), quinoline yellow aluminium lake (E10), titanium dioxide (E171), microcrystalline cellulose (E460), hydroxypropylcellulose (E463), methylhydroxypropylcellulose (E464), purified talc (E553).

What Verapamil tablets look like and contents of the pack

Verapamil tablets are yellow, circular, biconvex, film-coated tablets.

Pack sizes are 28, 56 and 84.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

Accord, Barnstaple, EX32 8NS, UK.

This leaflet was last revised in July 2019.