

DILTIAZ®
Brand of Diltiazem Hydrochloride, USP
Antianginal / Antihypertensive

DESCRIPTION:

DILTIAZ®, brand of diltiazem hydrochloride is a calcium-channel blocking agent with antianginal and antihypertensive properties.

PROPERTIES:

DILTIAZ® binds to membrane structures responsible for the "Slow inward current" of calcium, and blocks the calcium influx.

DILTIAZ® has peripheral and coronary vasodilator effects thus reducing peripheral resistance, blood pressure, myocardial oxygen demand and increasing coronary blood flow and myocardial oxygen supply. **DILTIAZ®** exerts some negative inotropic activity.

PHARMACOKINETICS:

DILTIAZ® is rapidly and almost completely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract following oral administration, but undergoes extensive first-pass hepatic metabolism. The bioavailability of diltiazem has been reported to be about 40%, although there is considerable inter-individual variation in plasma concentrations. Diltiazem is about 80% bound to plasma proteins. It is extensively metabolised in the liver mainly as active desacetyldiltiazem. The half-life is reported to be about 3 to 5 hours.

INDICATIONS:

DILTIAZ® is indicated in the management of classical angina pectoris; vasospastic angina pectoris (i.e. Prinzmetal's angina) and in the treatment of essential hypertension.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- **DILTIAZ®** is contraindicated in nursing and pregnant women.
- Left ventricular insufficiency with pulmonary stasis.
- Sinusal dysfunctioning.

PRECAUTIONS:

Use with caution in patients with sick sinus syndrome, pre-existing artioventricular block, or pre-existing hypotension.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Adverse effects include atrioventricular block, bradycardia, nausea, gastro-intestinal discomfort, headache, ankle oedema, hypotension and flushing. Gynoaecomastia has also been reported.

DOSAGE & ADMINISTRATION:

- Coronary heart disease: 1 tablet 3 times daily; if necessary may be increased to 2 tablets 3 times daily.
- Hypertension: ½ tablet 3 times daily in mild cases and 1 tablet 3 times in severe cases; if necessary may be increased to 2 tablets 3 times daily.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

- Profound bradycardia has been reported when **DILTIAZ®** was prescribed with a beta-blocker, amiodarone and digoxine. Diltiazem increases blood-cyclosporin concentrations. In consequence, cyclosporing doses can be reduced by about one-third. Diltiazem may significantly prolong the elimination half-life of nifedipine.
- The association of **DILTIAZ®** with dantrolene is potentially dangerous.
- **DILTIAZ®** increase carbamazepine and theophyllin blood concentrations.
- Anti-H₂ increase **DILTIAZ®** blood concentrations.
- Excessive hypotension may occur when **DILTIAZ®** is prescribed with alpha-1 blocker.
- The prescription of **DILTIAZ®** with an antiarrhythmic is disadvised because the unwanted cardiac effects of both drugs are additional.

AVAILABILITY:

Tablets : Packs of 50 tablets each containing Diltiazem Hydrochloride 60 mg, Excipient q.s. 1 tablet.

Reg. No.:

Lebanon: 27548

Tablets : Packs of 1000 tablets (10's x 100 blisters) each containing Diltiazem Hydrochloride 60 mg, Excipient q.s. 1 tablet.

Reg. No.:

Lebanon: 27549