

Your medication information for Chronic Heart Failure

Angiotensin 2 receptor antagonists or “Sartans”

Active Ingredient Name	Some Common Brand Names
Candesartan	Adesan [®] , Atacand [®] , Candesan [®] ,
Eprosartan	Teveten [®]
Irbesartan	Abisart [®] , Avapro [®] , Irbesat [®] , Irprestan [®] , Karbesat [®] , Karvea [®]
Losartan	Cozaar [®] , Cozavan [®]
Olmesartan	Olmotec [®]
Telmisartan	Micardis [®] , Mizart [®] , Teltartan [®]
Valsartan	Dilart [®] , Diovan [®]

What are angiotensin 2 receptor antagonists?

- ♥ Angiotensin 2 receptor antagonists widen the blood vessels to lower blood pressure and reduce strain on the heart.
- ♥ They may work to:
 - Reduce your heart failure symptoms.
 - Reduce your need for hospital admissions.
 - Help you live longer.

What should I do while taking them?

Take your angiotensin 2 receptor antagonist every day according to the doctor's instructions.

- ♥ Angiotensin 2 receptor antagonists are usually taken once a day, with or without food.

See your doctor for a check-up one to two weeks after starting angiotensin 2 receptor antagonist treatment, and every six to 12 months thereafter.

- ♥ The doctor will measure your blood pressure and order a blood test to check your kidney function and blood potassium levels.

What are the possible side effects?

- ♥ Contact your doctor or go to your nearest emergency department if you develop swelling of the face, mouth, tongue, lips or throat. This is an extremely rare side effect.
- ♥ You may feel dizzy when you first start taking an angiotensin 2 receptor antagonist or when the dose is increased.
 - To avoid dizziness, get up slowly from sitting or lying down.
 - Sit or lie down if you feel dizzy or light-headed.
 - Tell your doctor if you continue to feel dizzy after the first few weeks.
- ♥ Some people develop a dry, irritating cough when taking an angiotensin 2 receptor antagonist. If this occurs, you should discuss it with your doctor.
- ♥ Read the consumer medicines information leaflet or speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like more information about possible side effects.



For more advice about information in this leaflet, contact:

Monash Medicines Information -

Tel (03) 9594 2361

Version 2.1, April 2017

Consumer reviewed