PACKAGE LEAFLET: INFORMATION FOR THE USER

Tenormin® Injection 0.5 mg/ml

atenolol

Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine.

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their symptoms are the same as yours.
- If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

In this leaflet:

1. What Tenormin is and what it is used for
2. Before you have Tenormin
3. How to have Tenormin
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1. What Tenormin is and what it is used for

Tenormin contains a medicine called atenolol. This belongs to a group of medicines called beta-blockers. Tenormin is used to:

- Treat uneven heart beats (arrythmias).
- Protect the heart in the early treatment after a heart attack (myocardial infarction).

It works by making your heart beat more slowly and with less force.

2. Before you have Tenormin

Do not have Tenormin if:

- You are allergic (hypersensitive) to atenolol or any of the other ingredients in your medicine (see Section 6: Further information).
- You have ever had any of the following heart problems:

  - heart failure which is not under control (this usually makes you breathless and causes your ankles to swell)

  - second- or third-degree heart block (a condition which may be treated by a pacemaker)

  - very slow or very uneven heart beats, very low blood pressure or very poor circulation.
- You have a tumour called phaeochromocytoma that is not being treated. This is usually near your kidney and can cause high blood pressure. If you are being treated for phaeochromocytoma, your doctor will give you another medicine, called an alpha-blocker, to take as well as your Tenormin.
- You have been told that you have higher than normal levels of acid in your blood (metabolic acidosis).

Do not have Tenormin if any of the above apply to you. If you are not sure, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before having Tenormin.

Take special care with Tenormin

Check with your doctor or pharmacist before having Tenormin if:

- **You have asthma, wheezing or any other similar breathing problems, or you get allergic reactions, for example to insect stings. If you have ever had asthma or wheezing, do not take this medicine without first checking with your doctor.**
- You have a type of chest pain (angina) called Prinzmetal's angina.
- You have poor blood circulation or controlled heart failure.
- You have first-degree heart block.
- You have diabetes. Your medicine may change how you respond to having low blood sugar. You may feel your heart beating faster.
- You have thyrotoxicosis (a condition caused by an overactive thyroid gland). Your medicine may hide the symptoms of thyrotoxicosis.
- You have problems with your kidneys. You may need to have some check-ups during your treatment.

If you are not sure if any of the above apply to you, talk to your doctor or pharmacist before having Tenormin.

Taking other medicines

Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, or have recently taken, any other medicines. This includes medicines that you buy without a prescription and herbal medicines. This is because Tenormin can affect the way some other medicines work and some medicines can have an effect on Tenormin.

In particular, tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:

- Clonidine (for high blood pressure or migraine). If you are taking clonidine and Tenormin together, do not stop taking clonidine unless your doctor tells you to do so. If you have to stop taking clonidine, your doctor will give you careful instructions about how to do it.
- Verapamil, diltiazem and nifedipine (for high blood pressure or chest pain).
- Disopyramide, quinidine or amiodarone (for an uneven heart beat).
- Digoxin (for heart problems).
- Adrenaline, also known as epinephrine (a medicine that stimulates the heart).
- Ibuprofen or indometacin (for pain and inflammation).
- Insulin or medicines that you take by mouth for diabetes.
- Medicines to treat nose or sinus congestion or other cold remedies (including those you can buy in the pharmacy).

Operations

If you go into hospital to have an operation, tell the anaesthetist or medical staff that you are having Tenormin. This is because you can get low blood pressure (hypotension) if you are given certain anaesthetics while you are having Tenormin.

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Talk to your doctor before having Tenormin if you are pregnant, may become pregnant or are breast-feeding.

Driving and using machines

- Your medicine is not likely to affect you being able to drive or use any tools or machines. However, it is best to wait to see how your medicine affects you before trying these activities.
- If you feel dizzy or tired when having this medicine, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

3. How to have Tenormin

Tenormin will be given to you by a doctor or nurse. It will be given to you as an injection.

The dose depends on your illness, and how bad it is, your age and weight and how well your kidneys are working.

Children

Your medicine must not be given to children.

If you have more Tenormin than you should

If you think you have been given too much of this medicine, talk to your doctor or nurse straight away.

If you forget to have Tenormin

If you think you have not had a dose at the right time, talk to your doctor or nurse straight away.

If you stop having Tenormin

Your doctor or nurse will let you know when to stop having this medicine.

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Tenormin can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

Allergic reactions:

If you have an allergic reaction, see a doctor straight away. The signs may include raised lumps on your skin (weals) or swelling of your face, lips, mouth, tongue or throat.

Other possible side effects:

Common (affects less than 1 in 10 people)

- You may notice that your pulse rate becomes slower while you are having the injection. This is normal, but if you are concerned please tell your doctor about it.
- Cold hands and feet.
- Diarrhoea.
- Feeling sick (nausea).

- Feeling tired.

Uncommon (affects less than 1 in 100 people)
- Disturbed sleep.

Rare (affects less than 1 in 1,000 people)
- Heart block (which may cause an abnormal heart beat, dizziness, tiredness or fainting).
- Numbness and spasm in your fingers which is followed by warmth and pain (Raynaud's disease).
- Mood changes.
- Nightmares.
- Feeling confused.
- Changes in personality (psychoses).
- Hallucinations.
- Headache.
- Dizziness, particularly when standing up.
- Tingling of your hands.
- Being unable to get an erection (impotence).
- Dry mouth.
- Dry eyes.
- Disturbances of vision.
- Thinning of your hair.
- Skin rash.
- Reduced numbers of platelets in your blood (this may make you bruise more easily).
- Purplish marks on your skin.
- Jaundice (causing yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes).

Very rare (affects less than 1 in 10,000 people)

- Changes to some of the cells or other parts of your blood. Your doctor may take blood samples every so often to check whether Tenormin has had any effect on your blood.

Conditions that may get worse
If you have any of the following conditions, they may get worse when you start to take your medicine. This happens rarely affecting less than 1 in 1,000 people.
- Psoriasis (a skin condition).
- Being short of breath or having swollen ankles (if you have heart failure).
- Asthma or breathing problems.
- Poor circulation.

Do not be concerned by this list of side effects. You may not get any of them. If any of the side effects get serious, or if you notice any side effects not listed in this leaflet, please tell your doctor or pharmacist.

5. How to store Tenormin

- The doctor and hospital pharmacist are responsible for storing, using and disposing of Tenormin correctly.
- Keep your medicine in a safe place where children cannot see or reach it. Your medicine could harm them.

- Do not store above 25°C. Store your medicine in the original package. Keep the ampoules in the carton.
- Do not use your medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the ampoule label and carton. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines that are no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Further information

What Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml contains

The active substance is atenolol. Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml contains 5 mg (milligrams) of atenolol in 10 ml (millilitres) of injection.

The other ingredients are citric acid, sodium chloride, sodium hydroxide and water for injection.

What Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml looks like and contents of the pack

Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml is a clear, colourless solution in a clear glass ampoule. It comes in a pack containing 10 ampoules. Each ampoule contains 10 ml of solution.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

The Marketing Authorisation for Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml is held by AstraZeneca UK Limited, 600 Capability Green, Luton, LU1 3LU, UK.

Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml is manufactured by AstraZeneca UK Limited, Silk Road Business Park, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 2NA, UK.

To listen to or request a copy of this leaflet in Braille, large print or audio please call, free of charge:

0800 198 5000 (UK only)

Please be ready to give the following information:

Product name **Tenormin Injection 0.5 mg/ml**
Reference number 17901/0050

This is a service provided by the Royal National Institute of Blind People.

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