

Napp Laboratories : Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 4GW.

Contributors

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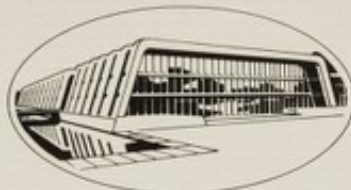
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Napp Laboratories

Cambridge Science Park Milton Road Cambridge CB4 4GW England
Tel: (0223) 424444 Telex: 817805 Fax: (0223) 424441

Dear Doctor / Pharmacist,

We are pleased to announce the introduction of a range of strengths of ADIZEM®-XL Capsules for once-daily administration of diltiazem in the treatment of angina and mild to moderate hypertension. The range comprises ADIZEM-XL 120 mg, 180 mg, 240 mg and 300 mg capsules. This is the only range of once-daily diltiazem capsule preparations available in the UK.

Patients already receiving the currently available 300 mg capsule may be transferred to the new ADIZEM-XL Capsule 300 mg, but they should be monitored during this transition period to ensure the optimal dose is being given. The range of capsule strengths now available provides greater flexibility in dosage titration.

You may also wish to inform these patients that the colour of their new capsules will change (from yellow/white to maroon/pale blue).

We hope you will find the new range of ADIZEM-XL Capsules to be a valuable addition to your choice of medications for the treatment of angina and mild to moderate hypertension.

Yours faithfully,

Dr K.L. Williamson
Group Product Manager

P.S. May we request that in accordance with published recommendations¹, you ensure prescriptions are written by brand name - ADIZEM-XL Capsules.

Reference

1. British National Formulary 1993; Sept: 84.

Full prescribing details can be found on the enclosed data sheet.

® ADIZEM is a Registered Trade Mark.

ADIZEM-XL[®]

Once-daily. Controlled release diltiazem HCl capsules

A new quality daily

ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Presentation ADIZEM-XL Capsules contain Diltiazem Hydrochloride USP. ADIZEM-XL 120mg are pale pink and navy blue capsules marked "DCR 120". ADIZEM-XL 180mg are dark pink and royal blue capsules marked "DCR 180". ADIZEM-XL 240mg are dark red and blue capsules marked "DCR 240". ADIZEM-XL 300mg are maroon and pale blue capsules marked "DCR 300".

Indications Management of angina pectoris and mild to moderate hypertension.

Dosage and administration Dosage should be swallowed whole and not chewed. **Adults:** The usual starting dose is one 240mg capsule daily. However patients' responses may vary and dosage requirements can differ significantly between individuals. **Elderly and patients with impaired renal or hepatic function:** The usual starting dose is one 120mg capsule daily. If necessary the dose may be gradually increased, but careful monitoring of this group of patients is advised. **Children:** ADIZEM-XL Capsules are not recommended for children.

Contra-indications Pregnancy and in women of child bearing capacity. Patients with bradycardia (less than 50 bpm), second or third degree heart block, sick sinus syndrome, decompensated cardiac failure, patients with left ventricular dysfunction following myocardial infarction. Concurrent use with dantrolene infusion.

Precautions and warnings The product should be used with caution in patients with reduced left ventricular function. Patients with mild bradycardia, first degree atrioventricular block or prolonged PR interval should be observed closely.

Side-effects Occasional undesirable effects are nausea, headache, flushing, skin rashes, hypotension, fatigue, oedema of legs. Diltiazem may cause depression of atrioventricular nodal conduction and bradycardia. Changes in liver function tests and renal function have been reported in a few cases.

Legal category POM. **Package quantities and basic NHS price** Blister packs containing 30 capsules. 120mg - £11.49. 180mg - £13.03. 240mg - £14.48. 300mg - £11.49.

Product licence numbers ADIZEM-XL Capsules 120mg: PL 0337/0217. ADIZEM-XL Capsules 180mg: PL 0337/0218. ADIZEM-XL Capsules 240mg: PL 0337/0219. ADIZEM-XL Capsules 300mg: PL 0337/0220.

Product licence holder Napp Laboratories Limited, Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 4GW, UK. Tel: 0223 424444. Member of Napp Pharmaceutical Group. Further information is available from Napp Laboratories Limited.

Date of preparation October 1993. * The NAPP device and ADIZEM are Registered Trade Marks. © Napp Laboratories Limited 1993.

Date of preparation November 1993.