

PRODUCT MONOGRAPH  
INCLUDING PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION

<sup>Pr</sup>**MINIPRESS**

Prazosin Hydrochloride Tablets  
Tablets, 1 mg, 2 mg and 5 mg, Oral

BP

Antihypertensive

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## RECENT MAJOR LABEL CHANGES

<a href="#">7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Reproductive Health: Female and Male Potential</a>	03/2024
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## **PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION**

### **1 INDICATIONS**

MINIPRESS (prazosin hydrochloride) is indicated for:

- the treatment of mild to moderate essential hypertension.

It is employed in a general treatment program in association with a thiazide diuretic and/or other antihypertensive agents as needed for proper patient response.

MINIPRESS may be tried as a sole therapy in those patients in whom treatment with other agents caused adverse effects or is inappropriate.

#### **1.1 Pediatrics**

**Pediatrics (< 18 years of age):** Based on the data submitted and reviewed by Health Canada, the safety and efficacy of MINIPRESS in pediatric patients has not been established; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

#### **1.2 Geriatrics**

**Geriatrics (> 65 years of age):** No data are available to Health Canada to establish differences in the safety and efficacy associated with the use of MINIPRESS in geriatric patients.

### **2 CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Prazosin hydrochloride is contraindicated in patients with known sensitivity to this drug or other quinazolines or to any ingredient in the formulation, including any non-medical ingredient, or component of the container. For a complete listing, see [6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING](#).

### **4 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **4.1 Dosing Considerations**

When titration is to be undertaken using the tablet formulation it will be necessary to split the 1 mg scored tablet to obtain the 0.5 mg starting dose.

#### **4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment**

- The starting dose of MINIPRESS is 0.5 mg. The dose should be built up gradually with 0.5 mg being given b.i.d. or t.i.d. for at least three days. Unless adverse effects occur and subject to the blood pressure lowering effect this dose should be increased to 1 mg given b.i.d. or t.i.d. for at least a further three days.
- Thereafter, as determined by the patient's response to the blood pressure lowering effect, the dose should be increased gradually. Response to MINIPRESS is usually seen within one

to fourteen days if it is to occur at any particular dose. When a response is seen, therapy should be continued at that dose until the degree of response has reached the optimum before the next dose increment is added.

- Incremental increases should be continued until a desired effect is achieved or a maximum daily dose of 20 mg is reached.
- The maintenance dose of MINIPRESS may be given as a twice or three times daily dosage regimen.

#### **Patients With Renal Impairment:**

- In patients with moderate to severe grades of renal impairment, it is recommended that therapy be initiated at 0.5 mg daily and that dose increases be instituted gradually. See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Renal](#).

#### **Use With Other Drugs**

##### Patients Receiving Diuretic Therapy

- The diuretic should be reduced to a maintenance dose level for the particular agent and MINIPRESS initiated at 0.5 mg h.s. then proceeding to 0.5 mg b.i.d. or t.i.d. After the initial period of observation, the dose of MINIPRESS should be gradually increased as determined by the patient's response.

##### Patients Receiving Other Antihypertensive Agents

- Because some additive effect is anticipated, the other agent (e.g., propranolol\* or other beta- adrenergic blocking agents\*, alpha methyldopa, reserpine, clonidine\*, etc.) should be reduced and MINIPRESS initiated at 0.5 mg h.s. then proceeding to 0.5 mg b.i.d. or t.i.d. Subsequent dosage increase should be made depending upon the patient's response.

##### Patients on MINIPRESS to Whom Other Antihypertensive Agents Are Added

- When adding a diuretic or other antihypertensive agent, the dose of **MINIPRESS** should be reduced to 1 mg or 2 mg b.i.d. or t.i.d. and retitration then carried out.

\* Appropriate precautions should be observed when the dosage of these other antihypertensive agents is reduced.

#### **4.4 Administration**

It is recommended that the MINIPRESS tablets should be given with food preferably with the evening meal, at least two or three hours before retiring.

#### **4.5 Missed Dose**

If the patient misses a dose, instruct the patient to take the dose as soon as they remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, inform the patient to skip the missed dose and continue the regular dosing schedule.

## 5 OVERDOSAGE

### Symptoms

A few reports of prazosin hydrochloride overdose have been documented with MINIPRESS (prazosin hydrochloride). The most frequently observed symptoms of overdose include hypotension and somnolence.

Accidental ingestion of at least 50 mg of MINIPRESS in a two-year-old child resulted in profound drowsiness and depressed reflexes. No decrease in blood pressure was noted. Recovery was uneventful.

### Treatment

Should overdose lead to hypotension, support of the cardiovascular system is of first importance. Restoration of blood pressure and normalization of heart rate may be accomplished by keeping the patient in the supine position. If necessary, vasopressors should be used. If this measure is inadequate, shock should then be treated with volume expanders. Renal function should be monitored and supported as needed. Laboratory data indicate MINIPRESS is not dialysable because it is protein bound.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional poison control centre.

## 6 DOSAGE FORMS, STRENGTHS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING

Table 1 – Dosage Forms, Strengths, Composition and Packaging

Route of Administration	Dosage Form / Strength / Composition	Non-medicinal Ingredients
Oral	Tablets 1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg of prazosin	Calcium phosphate, corn starch (gluten), FD&C yellow #6 (in 1 mg tablets only), magnesium stearate/sodium lauryl sulfate, and microcrystalline cellulose.

**MINIPRESS Tablets:** Available as scored tablets containing prazosin hydrochloride equivalent to 1 (orange), 2 (white, round) and 5 (white, diamond) mg of prazosin. Available in bottles of 100s (all strengths) and bottles of 500s (1 mg and 2 mg) and unit dose packages of 100 tablets (all strengths).

## 7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### Cardiovascular

MINIPRESS may cause syncope and/or excessive hypotension with sudden loss of consciousness. In most cases this is believed to be due to an excessive postural hypotensive effect, although occasionally the syncopal episode has been associated with about of severe tachycardia with heart rates of 120 to 160 beats per minute. The incidence of syncopal

episodes is approximately 0.8% when the gradual dose build up described under dosage and administration is followed. The incidence is higher if the initial dose exceeds 0.5 mg. Syncopal episodes have occurred within 30 to 90 minutes of the initial dose of the drug. They have also been reported in association with dosage increases or the introduction of MINIPRESS into the regimen of a patient taking another antihypertensive agent or a diuretic. Physicians are therefore advised to limit the initial dose of the drug to 0.5 mg b.i.d. or t.i.d., to subsequently increase the dosage slowly, and to introduce any additional antihypertensive drugs into the patient's regimen with caution.

Patients whose blood pressure is not adequately controlled by high doses of a beta-adrenergic blocking agent such as propranolol may develop acute hypotension when MINIPRESS is added. To minimize the incidence of acute hypotension in such patients, the dose of beta-adrenergic blocking agent should be reduced before MINIPRESS is administered. A low initial dose of MINIPRESS is also strongly recommended. See [4.2 Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment](#).

If syncope occurs, the patient should be placed in the recumbent position and supportive measures instituted. This adverse effect is self-limiting and in most cases does not recur once a steady maintenance level is initiated. Patients should be cautioned to avoid situations where injury could result should syncope occur during MINIPRESS therapy especially in the initial dose adjustment period.

More common than loss of consciousness are the symptoms often associated with lowering of the blood pressure, namely, dizziness and light-headedness. The patient should be cautioned about these possible adverse effects and advised what measures to take should they develop.

### **Monitoring and Laboratory Tests**

False positive results may occur in screening tests for pheochromocytoma in patients who are being treated with MINIPRESS (prazosin hydrochloride) due to increase in urinary vanillylmandelic acid (VMA) and methoxyhydroxyphenyl glycol (MHPG), urinary metabolites of norepinephrine. If an elevated VMA is found, MINIPRESS should be discontinued, and the patient retested after a month.

### **Renal**

**Use in Patients with Moderate to Severe Grades of Renal Impairment:** Because some patients with moderate to severe grades of renal impairment have responded to smaller than usual doses of prazosin hydrochloride, it is recommended that therapy be initiated with MINIPRESS at 0.5 mg and that dose increases be instituted cautiously.

### **Reproductive health: Female and male potential**

**Priapism:** Rarely,  $\alpha$ 1-antagonists such as prazosin have been associated with priapism. Because this condition can lead to permanent impotence if not promptly treated, patients should be advised about the seriousness of the condition.

## **7.1 Special Populations**

### **7.1.1 Pregnant Women**

Although no teratogenic effects were seen in animal testing, there are no adequate and well controlled studies which establish the safety of MINIPRESS in pregnant women. Limited uncontrolled use in the management of hypertension in the later stages of pregnancy suggests that prazosin hydrochloride in combination with a beta-blocker can lower blood pressure in pregnant patients. The drug appears to be less effective in patients with proteinuria in whom the addition of i.v. hydralazine was usually required. Accordingly MINIPRESS should be used during pregnancy only if in the opinion of the physician the potential benefit outweighs potential risk to mother and child.

### **7.1.2 Breast-feeding**

Prazosin has been shown to be excreted in small amounts in human milk. Caution should be exercised when MINIPRESS is administered to breast-feeding mothers.

### **7.1.3 Pediatrics**

**Pediatrics (< 18 years of age):** No data are available to Health Canada; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.

### **7.1.4 Geriatrics**

**Geriatrics (> 65 years of age):** No data are available to Health Canada to establish differences in the safety and efficacy associated with the use of MINIPRESS in geriatric patients.

## **8 ADVERSE REACTIONS**

### **8.1 Adverse Reaction Overview**

The most common reactions associated with MINIPRESS (prazosin hydrochloride) therapy are postural dizziness (11%), nausea (9.5%), drowsiness (8.7%), headache (8.4%), palpitations (6.6%), dry mouth (5.6%), weakness (4.6%), and fatigue/malaise (4.5%). In most instances side effects have disappeared with continued therapy or have been tolerated with no decrease in dose of drug.

### **8.2 Clinical Trial Adverse Reactions**

Clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions. The adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials; therefore, may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse reaction information from clinical trials may be useful in identifying and approximating rates of adverse drug reactions in



real-world use.

The following reactions of unknown frequency have also been observed during MINIPRESS (prazosin hydrochloride) administration.

Cardiac disorders:	syncope (see <a href="#">7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular</a> ), tachycardia, faintness.
Ear and labyrinth disorders:	vertigo, tinnitus.
Eye disorders:	blurred vision, reddened sclera.
Gastrointestinal disorders:	vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, abdominal discomfort and/or pain, pancreatitis.
General disorders and administration site conditions:	edema, fever.
Hepatobiliary disorders:	liver function abnormalities (increase in AST or ALT).
Hematologic:	decreased hematocrit/hemoglobin, positive ANA titer.
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders:	arthralgia.
Nervous system disorders:	paresthesia.
Psychiatric disorders:	nervousness, depression, hallucinations.
Renal and urinary disorders:	urinary frequency, incontinence.
Reproductive system and breast disorders:	impotence, priapism.
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders:	dyspnea, epistaxis, nasal congestion.
Skin and subcutaneous disorders:	rash, pruritus, alopecia, lichen planus, diaphoresis.
Vascular disorders:	orthostatic hypotension.

Single reports of pigmentary mottling and serous retinopathy have been reported. In these instances, the exact causal relationship has not been established because the baseline observations were frequently inadequate.

In more specific slit-lamp and funduscopy studies, which included adequate baseline examinations, no drug-related abnormal ophthalmological findings have been reported.

Literature reports exist associating MINIPRESS therapy with a worsening of pre-existing narcolepsy. A causal relationship is uncertain in these cases.

## 8.5 Post-Market Adverse Reactions

Allergic reaction.

## 9 DRUG INTERACTIONS

### 9.2 Drug Interactions Overview

MINIPRESS has been administered without any adverse drug interaction in limited clinical experience to date with the following: (1) cardiac glycosides - digitalis and digoxin; (2) hypoglycemics - insulin, chlorpropamide, tolazamide and tolbutamide; (3) tranquilizers and sedatives - chlordiazepoxide, diazepam and phenobarbital; (4) antigout - allopurinol, colchicine and probenecid; (5) antiarrhythmics -procainamide, propranolol (see [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Cardiovascular](#)), and quinidine; and (6) analgesics, antipyretics and anti-inflammatories - propoxyphene, ASA, indomethacin and phenylbutazone.

### 9.4 Drug-Drug Interactions

The drugs listed in this table are based on either drug interaction case reports or studies, or potential interactions due to the expected magnitude and seriousness of the interaction (i.e., those identified as contraindicated).

**Table 2 - Established or Potential Drug-Drug Interactions**

Proper / Common name	Source of Evidence	Effect	Clinical comment
Diuretic or other antihypertensive agent	T	Addition of a diuretic or other antihypertensive agent to MINIPRESS has been shown to cause an additive hypotensive effect. An exaggerated hypotensive response has also been observed.	MINIPRESS should be initiated at 0.5 mg h.s. then proceeding to 0.5 mg b.i.d. or t.i.d. After the initial period of observation, the dose of MINIPRESS should be gradually increased as determined by the patient's response.

Legend: T = Theoretical

### 9.5 Drug-Food Interactions

Interactions with food have not been established.

### 9.6 Drug-Herb Interactions

Interactions with herbal products have not been established.

## 9.7 Drug-Laboratory Test Interactions

False positive results may occur in screening tests for pheochromocytoma in patients who are being treated with MINIPRESS due to elevated levels of urinary vanillylmandelic acid (VMA) and methoxyhydroxyphenyl glycol (MHPG), urinary metabolites of norepinephrine.

## 10 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

### 10.1 Mechanism of Action

MINIPRESS is a formulation of prazosin hydrochloride and is a conventional release formulation. Prazosin causes a decrease in total peripheral resistance. Animal studies suggest that the vasodilator effect of prazosin is related to selective blockade of post-synaptic  $\alpha_1$ -adrenoceptors. The results of dog forelimb experiments demonstrate that the peripheral vasodilator effect is confined mainly to the level of the resistance vessels (arterioles). Hemodynamic studies have been carried out in man following acute single dose administration and during the course of long-term maintenance therapy. The results confirm that the therapeutic effect is a fall in blood pressure unaccompanied by a clinically significant change in heart rate, renal blood flow and glomerular filtration rate. In patients with hypertension there is little change in cardiac output. In addition, clinical pharmacology studies have shown that both prazosin and prazosin GITS antagonize the vasopressor effect of intravenous phenylephrine, an  $\alpha_1$ -agonist.

In man blood pressure is lowered in both the supine and standing positions. The hypotensive effect of prazosin hydrochloride is greater when the patient is standing, and a mild reflex tachycardia can result. Tolerance has not been observed to develop in long term hypertensive therapy. Rebound elevation of blood pressure does not seem to occur following abrupt cessation of therapy with MINIPRESS.

Most clinical studies indicate that chronic therapy with MINIPRESS has little effect on plasma renin activity. However one report suggests a transient increase in plasma renin activity following the initial dose, as well as attenuated transient increase with subsequent doses.

### 10.2 Pharmacodynamics

#### Hypotensive Action

The nature of the hypotensive action of prazosin hydrochloride was studied both by *in vitro* and *in vivo* methodology. Intravenously administered prazosin hydrochloride in dogs caused prolonged hypotension and reduction in total peripheral resistance. Cardiac output, heart rate, and blood flow in the femoral, renal, and splanchnic vascular beds were increased transiently. Cardiac responses to electrical stimulation of cardioaccelerator nerves were not depressed, nor was there sympathetic ganglion or adrenergic neurone blockade. Although prazosin hydrochloride reversed the epinephrine pressor response in intact animals, vasodilator activity was only slightly diminished when the vessels were deprived of sympathetic tone by ganglionic blockade.

Physiologic and direct radioligand binding data from studies in experimental animals indicates

that the hypotensive effect of prazosin hydrochloride ascribed to peripheral vasodilation is achieved primarily by competitive blockade of the vascular postsynaptic  $\alpha_1$ -adrenergic receptors. As prazosin acts preferentially on postsynaptic  $\alpha_1$ -adrenergic receptors, the feedback control of neuronal norepinephrine release by presynaptic  $\alpha_2$ -receptors remains unchanged.

In the dog, the hypotensive effect of prazosin hydrochloride intravenously was reversed by metaraminol and norepinephrine given by intravenous infusion.

### **Miscellaneous Actions**

At doses considerably higher than those required for antihypertensive activity, prazosin hydrochloride has mild CNS depressant activity, decreases heart norepinephrine and adrenal epinephrine in rats, causes diuresis in anesthetized dogs, but fluid retention in conscious dogs and mice, and is hyperglycemic in rats.

In clinical studies in which lipid profiles were followed, there were generally no adverse changes noted between pre- and post-treatment lipids levels.

## **10.3 Pharmacokinetics**

### **Absorption**

Following oral administration of MINIPRESS in normal volunteers and hypertensive patients, plasma concentrations reach a peak at about 3 hours with a plasma half-life of 2 to 3 hours.

### **Distribution**

The drug is highly bound to plasma protein (97%). After chronic administration, no apparent drug accumulation was observed nor were any obvious decreases in plasma concentrations noted. Secondary plasma drug peaks and shoulders suggested probable enterohepatic circulation.

### **Metabolism**

Animal studies indicate that prazosin hydrochloride is extensively metabolized, primarily by demethylation and conjugation. Similar metabolism has been documented in human studies.

### **Elimination**

Animal studies indicate that prazosin hydrochloride is excreted (primarily as glucuronide conjugates) mainly via bile and feces. Similar excretion has been documented in human studies.

### **Special Populations and Conditions**

- **Pediatrics (< 18 years of age):** The safety and efficacy of prazosin hydrochloride in pediatric patients under the age of 18 years has not been established; therefore, Health Canada has not authorized an indication for pediatric use.
- **Geriatrics (> 65 years of age):** No data are available to Health Canada to establish differences in the safety and efficacy associated with the use of MINIPRESS in geriatric patients.

- **Sex:** This information is not available for this drug product.
- **Pregnancy and Breast-feeding:** Prazosin hydrochloride should be used during pregnancy only if in the opinion of the physician the potential benefit outweighs potential risk to mother and child. See [7.1.1 Pregnant Women](#).

Caution should be exercised when prazosin hydrochloride is administered to breast feeding mothers. See [7.1.2 Breast-feeding](#).

- **Genetic Polymorphism:** This information is not available for this drug product.
- **Ethnic Origin:** This information is not available for this drug product.
- **Hepatic Insufficiency:** This information is not available for this drug product.
- **Renal Insufficiency:** See [7 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS, Renal](#).
- **Obesity:** This information is not available for this drug product.

## 11 STORAGE, STABILITY AND DISPOSAL

MINIPRESS should be stored between 15°C to 30°C.

## 12 SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

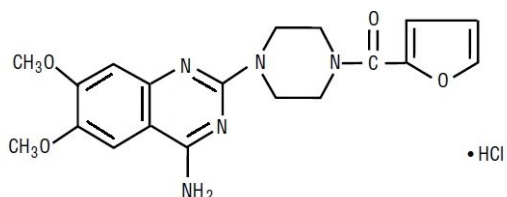
None.

## PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 13 PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION

#### Drug Substance

Proper name:	Prazosin hydrochloride
Chemical name:	1-(4-amino-6,7-dimethoxy-2-quinazolinyl)-4(2-furoyl)-piperazine hydrochloride.
Molecular formula and molecular mass:	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>4</sub> HCl and 419.9 g/mol
Structural formula:	



Physicochemical properties:	Prazosin hydrochloride is a white, crystalline substance, slightly soluble in water and isotonic saline.
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### 14 CLINICAL TRIALS

No information is available.

### 15 MICROBIOLOGY

No microbiological information is required for this drug product.

### 16 NON-CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

#### General Toxicology

##### Acute Toxicity

The results of single-dose acute toxicity studies on prazosin hydrochloride are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3 - Acute Toxicity of Prazosin Hydrochloride**

Species	Sex	Oral	Intraperitoneal
		LD <sub>50</sub> mg/kg	LD <sub>50</sub> (95% Confidence limits) mg/kg
Mouse	M & F	>5000	84 (62-113)

Species	Sex	Oral	Intraperitoneal
		LD <sub>50</sub> mg/kg	LD <sub>50</sub> (95% Confidence limits) mg/kg
Rat	M & F	>2000	141 (121-165)

The signs of toxicity observed following the administration of this compound were, for the most part, common to both mice and rats by both routes and included blanching, depression, decreased respiration, ptosis, writhing, ataxia, tremors and convulsions.

Mongrel dogs given 250 and 500 mg/kg as a single oral dose showed ataxia, depression, occasional diarrhea, relaxed nictitating membrane, ptosis, and occasional tremors.

Tachycardia was also noted in the three dogs at 250 mg/kg. Anorexia was noted 48 hours post dose in one dog receiving 500 mg/kg.

#### Chronic Toxicity

Prazosin hydrochloride was administered to dogs in doses of 2, 10 and 25 mg/kg/day seven days per week for one year. Testicular atrophy and degeneration accompanied by prostatic atrophy and fibrosis occurred in male dogs receiving doses of 25 mg/kg/day.

(Urinary 17-ketosteroid excretion in human clinical studies was monitored in 105 patients for any possible effect on testicular function for periods ranging from 3 to 33 months. A trend analysis of the 17-ketosteroid data disclosed a seasonal variation, but did not suggest a drug effect. Routine semen analysis in 27 male patients on prazosin hydrochloride alone for up to 51 months revealed no semen abnormalities.)

Rats received prazosin hydrochloride in doses of 5, 25, 75 and 150 mg/kg/day for 18 months. During the first 18 weeks of study, drug-induced hepatocellular degeneration and/or necrosis and renal corticomedullary necrosis occurred at the dose level of 150 mg/kg; mild hepatocellular degenerative changes and/or necrosis were found at the dose level of 75 mg/kg.

Between 19 and 53 weeks, the following pathologic changes were observed at dose levels of 150 and 75 mg/kg: testicular necrosis with accompanying inguinal and/or scrotal adhesions; chronic nephrotoxic nephritis; degenerative folding and contracture of the retina (retinitis proliferans); adrenal plethora; gastric necrosis and hepatic necrosis. At the dose level of 25 mg/kg, there was a low percent incidence of testicular, renal and gastric alterations; since these same changes occurred in larger numbers of animals at the two higher dose levels, they appear drug-related.

Between 54 weeks and 18 months, the following changes occurred at dose levels of 150, 75 and 25 mg/kg: testicular atrophy and/or degeneration with accompanying inguinal and/or scrotal adhesions; retinitis proliferans (150 and 75 mg/kg levels only) and hepatic degeneration and/or necrosis. Additionally, bilateral cataracts (not observed previously) occurred at the dose levels of 150 and 75 mg/kg. Chronic nephritis and adrenal plethora (cystic degeneration) which previously (19 to 53 weeks) had a higher percent incidence at the dose levels of 150, 75 and 25 mg/kg, and 150 and 75 mg/kg respectively, appeared with

approximately the same frequency at all dose levels including the controls.

### **Carcinogenicity**

In a chronic study with rats, prazosin hydrochloride fed at levels up to 75 mg/kg/day for 18 months showed no evidence of carcinogenicity.

### **Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology**

Reproductive and teratologic studies were carried out at dose levels of 25 and 75 mg/kg/day in rats and rabbits. No drug-induced changes were observed.



## **PATIENT MEDICATION INFORMATION**

### **READ THIS FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF YOUR MEDICINE**

#### **PrMINIPRESS**

#### **Prazosin Hydrochloride Tablets**

Read this carefully before you start taking **MINIPRESS** and each time you get a refill. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about this drug. Talk to your healthcare professional about your medical condition and treatment and ask if there is any new information about **MINIPRESS**.

#### **What is MINIPRESS used for?**

MINIPRESS is used in adults to treat high blood pressure (hypertension).

#### **How does MINIPRESS work?**

MINIPRESS works by relaxing blood vessels so that blood passes through them more easily. This helps to lower blood pressure.

#### **What are the ingredients in MINIPRESS?**

Medicinal ingredient: prazosin hydrochloride.

Non-medicinal ingredients: calcium phosphate, corn starch (gluten), FD&C yellow #6 (in 1 mg tablets only), magnesium stearate/sodium lauryl sulfate, and microcrystalline cellulose.

#### **MINIPRESS comes in the following dosage forms:**

Tablets: 1 mg, 2 mg and 5 mg of prazosin (as prazosin hydrochloride).

#### **Do not use MINIPRESS if:**

- you are allergic to prazosin, other quinazolines, or any of the other ingredients in MINIPRESS.

**To help avoid side effects and ensure proper use, talk to your healthcare professional before you take MINIPRESS. Talk about any health conditions or problems you may have, including if you:**

- have low blood pressure,
- suffer from fainting due to reduced blood pressure when changing posture (going to sit or stand up),
- have kidney problems,
- are pregnant or intend to become pregnant,
- are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed. MINIPRESS can pass into breast milk.

**Other warnings you should know about:**

- MINIPRESS can cause abnormal tests results when screening for pheochromocytoma (a rare tumour in the adrenal gland).
- When you start taking MINIPRESS, you should avoid situations where you may get injured if you faint or become unconscious. This is also more likely to occur when your dose is changed.

**Tell your healthcare professional about all the medicines you take, including any drugs, vitamins, minerals, natural supplements or alternative medicines.**

**The following may interact with MINIPRESS:**

- diuretics (also known as water pills), used to increase urine production and promote the excretion of excess fluid from the body.
- other antihypertensive agents, used to treat high blood pressure.

**How to take MINIPRESS:**

- Take MINIPRESS tablets exactly as directed by your healthcare professional.
- Take MINIPRESS orally by mouth with food. It is recommended that it is taken 2 to 3 hours before bedtime.

**Usual dose:**

Your healthcare professional will determine the right dose and frequency of MINIPRESS for you.

The usual starting dose of MINIPRESS is 0.5 mg (half of a 1 mg tablet) at bedtime. Your healthcare professional may adjust your dose depending on how you respond and if you take other medicines.

The maximum dose is 20 mg per day.

**Overdose:**

If you think you, or a person you are caring for, have taken too much MINIPRESS, contact a healthcare professional, hospital emergency department, or regional poison control centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

**Missed Dose:**

If you miss a dose, take the missed dose as soon as possible. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule. Do not take a double dose to make up for a missed one.

**What are possible side effects from using MINIPRESS?**

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking MINIPRESS. If you experience any side effects not listed here, tell your healthcare professional.

Side effects of MINIPRESS may include:

- abdominal discomfort and pain,
- constipation,
- diarrhea,
- dry mouth,
- fever,
- frequent urination,
- headache,
- itchiness,
- joint pain,
- leaking of urine due to loss of bladder control (urinary incontinence),
- nasal congestion,
- nervousness,
- nosebleed,
- rashes,
- ringing in the ears,
- sweating more than usual,
- tingling or numbness,
- vertigo,
- vomiting,
- weakness.

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
<b>UNCOMMON</b>			
<b>Syncope</b> (fainting or passing out): low blood pressure, low heart rate, dizziness, feeling lightheaded, feeling drowsy, feeling unsteady, feeling weak when standing, or changes in vision.		√	
<b>RARE</b>			
<b>Priapism</b> (painful erection that lasts for several hours): painful erection that is unrelieved by sexual intercourse or			√

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
masturbation, pain that gets worse with time, or erect but not fully rigid penile shaft.			
<b>UNKNOWN FREQUENCY</b>			
<b>Allergic reaction:</b> difficulty swallowing, difficulty breathing, wheezing, drop in blood pressure, feeling of nausea or vomiting, hives, rash, or swelling of the face, lips, tongue or throat.			√
<b>Anemia</b> (decreased number of red blood cells): fatigue, loss of energy, irregular heartbeats, pale complexion, shortness of breath, or weakness.		√	
<b>Depression</b> (sad mood that won't go away): difficulty sleeping, sleeping too much, changes in appetite or weight, feelings of worthlessness, guilt, regret, helplessness or hopelessness, withdrawal from social situations, family, gatherings, and activities with friends, reduced libido (sex drive), or thoughts of death or suicide.	√		
<b>Edema</b> (unusual swelling of the arms, hands, legs, feet and ankles, face or airway passages)	√		
<b>Eye problems:</b> blurry vision or the white of the eye can become red and swollen.	√		
<b>Hallucinations:</b> seeing or hearing things that are not there.	√		
<b>Impotence</b> (unable to get and keep an erection)		√	
<b>Increased levels of liver enzymes (ALT, AST) in the blood:</b> dark urine, fatigue, loss of appetite, yellowing of the skin or eyes		√	
<b>Lichen planus</b> (skin inflammation): shiny red or purple bumps on the skin, rash, lacy white patches in the mouth, itchiness,	√		

Serious side effects and what to do about them			
Symptom / effect	Talk to your healthcare professional		Stop taking drug and get immediate medical help
	Only if severe	In all cases	
painful sores in the mouth or genitals, hair loss, nail scarring or loss, or dark lines from the tip of the nail to the base.			
<b>Orthostatic Hypotension</b> (low blood pressure when standing after sitting or lying down): dizziness, fainting, feeling lightheaded, blurred vision, nausea, vomiting, or fatigue.		√	
<b>Pancreatitis</b> (inflammation of the pancreas): upper abdominal pain, fever, rapid heartbeat, nausea, vomiting, or tenderness when touching the abdomen.		√	
<b>Tachycardia</b> (abnormally fast heartbeat): palpitations, chest pain, fainting, feeling lightheaded, rapid pulse rate, or shortness of breath.		√	

If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

### Reporting Side Effects

You can report any suspected side effects associated with the use of health products to Health Canada by:

- Visiting the Web page on Adverse Reaction Reporting (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html>) for information on how to report online, by mail or by fax; or
- Calling toll-free at 1-866-234-2345.

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

### Storage:

Store MINIPRESS tablets between 15°C to 30°C.

Keep out of reach and sight of children.

**If you want more information about MINIPRESS:**

- Talk to your healthcare professional.
- Find the full Product Monograph that is prepared for healthcare professionals and includes this Patient Medication Information by visiting the Health Canada website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/drug-product-database.html>); the manufacturer's website (<https://www.aapharma.ca/en/>), or by calling 1-877-998-9097.

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