

CARDURA (Doxazosin)

CARDURA is used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH. CARDURA is also used to treat high blood pressure (hypertension). This pamphlet describes CARDURA only as a treatment for BPH.

What CARDURA does:

CARDURA relaxes the tightness of a certain type of muscle in the prostate and at the opening of the bladder.

This may increase the rate of urine flow and/or decrease the symptoms you are having. CARDURA helps relieve the symptoms of BPH. It does NOT change the size of the prostate, which may continue to grow. However, a larger prostate does not necessarily cause more or worse symptoms.

If CARDURA is helping you, you should notice an effect on your particular symptoms within 2 to 4 weeks of starting to take the medicine. Even though you take CARDURA and it may help you, CARDURA may not prevent the need for surgery in the future.

What you should know while taking CARDURA for BPH

CARDURA can cause a sudden drop in blood pressure after the VERY FIRST DOSE. You may feel dizzy, faint, or "light-headed", particularly after you get up from bed or from a chair. This is more likely to occur after you've taken the first few doses, but can occur at any time while you are taking the drug. It can also occur if you stop taking the drug and then restart treatment.

Because of this effect, we recommend that you to take **CARDURA at bedtime**. If you take CARDURA at bedtime but need to get up from bed to go to the bathroom, get up slowly and cautiously until you are sure how the medicine affects you. It is also important to get up slowly from a chair or bed at any time until you learn how you react to CARDURA. You should not drive or do any hazardous tasks until you are used to the effects of the medication. If you begin to feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you feel better. You will start with a 1 mg dose of CARDURA. Then the dose will be increased as your body gets use to the effect of the medication. Usually the dose is increased to 2 mg by the third week, and if needed to 4 mg by the fifth week. Do not go higher without our permission. Doses higher than 4 mg increase the likelihood of dizziness and fainting.

Other side effects you could have while taking CARDURA include drowsiness, blurred or hazy vision, nausea, or "puffiness" of the feet or hands. Discuss any unexpected effects you notice with us, or call if you have questions.

Other important facts

You should see an effect on your symptoms within 2 to 4 weeks. So, you will need to continue seeing your doctor to check on your progress regarding your BPH and to monitor your blood pressure in addition to your other regular checkups.

You must take it every day at the dose prescribed. ***If you forget to take your Cardura or for any reason do not take your Cardura for more than three days in a row, you should return to the 1 mg. nightly dose for two to three days before returning to your regular dose. If you do not have 1 mg. tablets, you should break a 2 mg tablet in half.*** Be cautious about possible dizziness. Call us if you have question about restarting CARDURA.