

Candesartan Cilexetil

Trade Name: Atacand®

Prescription Type: Oral tablets

Drug Company: Astra Merck

Uses:

Candesartan is an angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB). It is prescribed to treat high blood pressure (hypertension). High blood pressure is often a result of poor kidney function. Poor kidney function leads to the release of aldosterone, which in turn causes the body to retain more salt and water. The increased amount of fluid will cause the blood pressure to rise.

Combinations of high blood pressure medication are often prescribed. Specifically, diuretics (water-reducing drugs) plus candesartan help to decrease blood pressure.

How To Take This Medication:

Take this medication exactly as prescribed. Try to take it at the same time every day.

Do not stop taking this drug without consulting your physician. Some conditions may get worse when the drug is suddenly stopped. Feeling well means the drug is working and is not a reason to stop.

Precautions:

Candesartan was thoroughly tested in over 7000 patients. Only 1% of these patients experienced side effects. The most common side effects are:

- back pain
- dizziness
- fatigue
- upper respiratory infection
- swelling in the pharynx and nasal passages

Pregnant women should not take candesartan. The drug is known to stop development of a growing fetus and can even result in death of the fetus when taken during the second and third trimester.

Patients with renal impairment or renovascular disease should be closely monitored by their physicians and may not be suited for taking this drug. The kidneys play a key role in excreting the drug from the blood stream. If the

kidneys are not working, dangerous levels of the drug may collect in the blood.

Drug Interaction:

There are no significant drug interactions known to occur with candesartan.

Note: It is important to have your blood pressure checked regularly. Learn how to monitor your own blood pressure and visit your doctor when you suspect changes in your blood pressure level.