

**ALDERFER & TRAVIS CARDIOLOGY, PC**  
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MINOXIDIL - ORAL

USES: This medication relaxes and dilates (expands) blood vessels resulting in lowered blood pressure. It is used to treat hypertension (high blood pressure).

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION: Take this medication exactly as prescribed. Try to take it at the same time(s) each day so you remember to take it.

It is important to continue taking this medication even if you feel well. Most people with high blood pressure do not feel sick.

Do not stop taking this medication without consulting your doctor. Some conditions may become worse when the drug is suddenly stopped. Your dose may need to be gradually decreased.

SIDE EFFECTS: You may feel tired and run down the first few weeks while taking this medication as your body adjusts to the lower blood pressure. This is normal. Continue taking the medication. If the symptoms persist or become severe, inform your doctor.

Dizziness and drowsiness are common especially during the first few weeks of therapy. Use caution driving or engaging in activities requiring alertness.

Notify your doctor if you experience any of the following while taking this medication: chest pain, rapid or increased heart rate, difficulty breathing, fainting, severe indigestion, weight gain of over 5 pounds, or unusual swelling especially of the face, hands or feet.

Minoxidil may cause increased growth or darkening of fine body hairs. When the medication is discontinued, the hair will return to normal after a month or two. If this is bothersome, consult your doctor. Do not stop taking this medication without first notifying your doctor.

PRECAUTIONS: Women who are pregnant or breast-feeding should inform their doctors.

Tell your doctor if you have heart disease, congestive heart failure, or kidney disease or if you have had a recent heart attack.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Before you take minoxidil, tell your doctor of any over-the-counter or prescription drugs you are taking, especially guanethidine (even if you stopped taking it in the last three weeks), diuretics ("water pills"), and other medications for

high blood pressure.

NOTES: It is important to have your blood pressure checked regularly while taking this medication. Learn how to monitor your blood pressure. Discuss this with your doctor.

MISSED DOSE: If you miss a dose, take as soon as remembered. If not remembered until the next day, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not "double-up" the dose to catch up.

STORAGE: Store at room temperature between 59 and 86 degrees F (between 15 and 30 degrees C) away from moisture and sunlight. Do not store in the bathroom.