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PERINDOPRIL - ORAL

USES: This medication is used to treat high blood pressure.

This drug may also be used for heart failure or to help protect the kidneys in diabetes.

HOW TO USE THIS MEDICATION: This medication is generally used once or possibly twice daily. Dosage is adjusted for each person according to medical condition being treated and medical history.

Follow all directions exactly and take the medication as directed. This drug is best taken on an empty stomach at the same time each day.

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

SIDE EFFECTS: Headache, dry cough, nausea, unusual weakness, back pain or diarrhea. If these persist or worsen, notify your doctor.

Very unlikely but report immediately any unusual muscle weakness or cramps, stomach or chest pain, one-sided arm or leg weakness, vision changes, difficulty breathing, skin rash, tingling or swelling of the hands or feet, swelling of the face, lips or tongue, yellowing eyes or skin, itching, fever, persistent sore throat, dizziness, fainting or unusual change in amount of urine.

PRECAUTIONS: Before using this drug, tell your doctor your medical history, including any allergies (especially drug allergies), kidney, liver, heart or blood vessel disease, kidney dialysis, history of angioedema, diabetes.

Consult your doctor before using salt substitutes or low salt products.

To avoid dizziness and lightheadedness when rising from a seated or lying position, get up slowly.

Limit your intake of alcohol and use caution when exercising or during hot weather as these can aggravate dizziness and lightheadedness.

This medication should be used only when clearly needed during the first three months of pregnancy. It is not recommended for use during the last six months of pregnancy. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor.

It is not known if this drug is excreted into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

Extreme caution is advised if this drug is used in children.
Caution is advised if this drug is used in the elderly.

DRUG INTERACTIONS: Tell your doctor of all nonprescription and prescription medication you may use, especially anesthetics for surgery, narcotic pain relievers, lithium, potassium supplements, potassium-sparing water pills and other water pills (diuretics), high blood pressure medication or NSAIDs (aspirin-like drugs).

Avoid "stimulant" drugs that may increase your heart rate such as decongestants or caffeine. Decongestants are commonly found in over-the-counter cough and cold medicines.

NOTES: Do not share this medication with others.

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

Lab tests may be done periodically.

MISSED DOSE: If you miss a dose, use it as soon as you remember. If it is near the time of the next dose, 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 (15-30 degrees C) away from light and moisture.