

**PACKAGE LEAFLET**

## Package leaflet: information for the user

### **Cosartal Plus 50 mg/12.5 mg film-coated tablets** **Cosartal Plus 100 mg/12.5 mg film-coated tablets** **Cosartal Plus 100 mg/25 mg film-coated tablets**

Losartan potassium/Hydrochlorothiazide

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet**

1. What Cosartal Plus is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Cosartal Plus
3. How to take Cosartal Plus
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Cosartal Plus
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What Cosartal Plus is and what it is used for**

Cosartal Plus is a combination of an angiotensin II receptor antagonist (losartan) and a diuretic (hydrochlorothiazide). Angiotensin II is a substance produced in the body which binds to receptors in blood vessels, causing them to tighten. This results in an increase in blood pressure. Losartan prevents the binding of angiotensin II to these receptors, causing the blood vessels to relax which in turn lowers the blood pressure. Hydrochlorothiazide works by making the kidneys pass more water and salt. This also helps to reduce blood pressure.

Cosartal Plus is indicated for the treatment of essential hypertension (high blood pressure).

#### **2. What you need to know before you take Cosartal Plus**

##### **Do not take Cosartal Plus:**

- if you are allergic to losartan, hydrochlorothiazide or to any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to other sulfonamide-derived substances (e. g. other thiazides, some antibacterial drugs such as co-trimoxazole, ask your doctor if you are not sure)
- if you have severely impaired liver function
- if you are more than 3 months pregnant (it is also better to avoid Cosartal Plus in early pregnancy – see pregnancy section)
- if you have severely impaired kidney function or your kidneys are not producing any urine
- if you have low potassium, low sodium or high calcium levels which cannot be corrected by treatment
- if you are suffering from gout.
- if you have diabetes or impaired kidney function and you are treated with a blood pressure lowering medicine containing aliskiren.

#### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before taking Cosartal Plus.

You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Cosartal Plus is not recommended in early pregnancy, and must not be taken if you are more than 3 months pregnant, as it may cause serious harm to your baby if used at that stage (see pregnancy section).

It is important to tell your doctor before taking Cosartal Plus:

- if you have previously suffered from swelling of the face, lips, throat or tongue
- if you take diuretics (water pills)
- if you are on a salt-restricted diet
- if you have or have had severe vomiting and/or diarrhoea
- if you have heart failure
- if your liver function is impaired (see section 2 “Do not take Cosartal Plus”)
- if you have narrow arteries to your kidneys (renal artery stenosis) or only have one functioning kidney, or you have recently had a kidney transplant
- if you have narrowing of the arteries (atherosclerosis), angina pectoris (chest pain due to poor heart function)
- if you have ‘aortic or mitral valve stenosis’ (narrowing of the valves of the heart) or ‘hypertrophic cardiomyopathy’ (a disease causing thickening of heart muscle)
- if you are diabetic
- if you have had gout
- if you have or have had an allergic condition, asthma or a condition that causes joint pain, skin rashes and fever (systemic lupus erythematosus)
- if you have had skin cancer or if you develop an unexpected skin lesion during the treatment. Treatment with hydrochlorothiazide, particularly long term use with high doses, may increase the risk of some types of skin and lip cancer (non-melanoma skin cancer). Protect your skin from sun exposure and UV rays while taking Cosartal Plus.
- if you experience a decrease in vision or eye pain. These could be symptoms of fluid accumulation in the vascular layer of the eye (choroidal effusion) or an increase of pressure in your eye and can happen within hours to weeks of taking Cosartal Plus. This can lead to permanent vision loss, if not treated. If you earlier have had a penicillin or sulfonamide allergy, you can be at higher risk of developing this.
- if you experienced breathing or lung problems (including inflammation or fluid in the lungs) following hydrochlorothiazide intake in the past. If you develop any severe shortness of breath or difficulty breathing after taking Cosartal Plus, seek medical attention immediately.
- if you have high calcium or low potassium levels or you are on a low potassium diet
- if you need to have an anaesthetic (even at the dentist) or before surgery, or if you are going to have tests to check your parathyroid function, you must tell the doctor or medical staff that you are taking losartan potassium and hydrochlorothiazide tablets.
- if you suffer from primary hyperaldosteronism (a syndrome associated with increased secretion of the hormone aldosterone by the adrenal gland, caused by an abnormality within the gland).
- if you are taking any of the following medicines used to treat high blood pressure:
  - an ACE-inhibitor (for example enalapril, lisinopril, ramipril), in particular if you have diabetes-related kidney problems.
  - aliskiren
- if you are taking other medicines that may increase serum potassium (section 2 “Other medicines and Cosartal Plus”)

Your doctor may check your kidney function, blood pressure, and the amount of electrolytes (e.g. potassium) in your blood at regular intervals.

See also information under the heading “Do not take Cosartal Plus”

### **Children and adolescents**

There is no experience with the use of Cosartal Plus in children. Therefore, Cosartal Plus should not be given to children.

### **Other medicines and Cosartal Plus**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

Tell your doctor if you are taking potassium supplements, potassium-containing salt substitutes, potassium-sparing medicines, or other medicines that may increase serum potassium (e.g., trimethoprim-containing medicines), as the combination with Cosartal Plus is not advisable.

Diuretic agents such as the hydrochlorothiazide contained in Cosartal Plus may interact with other medicines.

Preparations containing lithium should not be taken with Cosartal Plus without close supervision by your doctor.

Special precautionary measures (e.g. blood tests) may be appropriate if you take other diuretics (“water tablets”), some laxatives, glycyrrhizin (found in liquorice), medicines for the treatment of gout, medicines to control heart rhythm or for diabetes (oral agents or insulins).

It is also important for your doctor to know if you are taking:

- other medicines to reduce your blood pressure,
- steroids,
- medicines to treat cancer,
- pain killers,
- drugs for treatment of infections, including fungal infections,
- arthritis medicines,
- resins used for high cholesterol, such as colestyramine,
- medicines which relax your muscles,
- sleeping tablets,
- opioid medicines such as morphine,
- “pressor amines” such as adrenaline or other drugs from the same group.
- oral agents for diabetes or insulins.
- anticholinergic agents (e.g. atropine, biperiden),
- antipsychotics,
- antidepressants,
- carbamazepine

Your doctor may need to change your dose and/or to take other precautions.

If you are taking an ACE-inhibitor or aliskiren (see also information under the headings “Do not take Cosartal Plus” and “Warnings and Precautions”

Please also inform your doctor you are taking Cosartal Plus if you will be undergoing a radiographic procedure and will be given iodine contrast media.

### **Cosartal Plus with food and drink and alcohol**

You are advised not to drink alcohol whilst taking these tablets: alcohol and Cosartal Plus tablets may increase each other’s effects.

Dietary salt in excessive quantities may counteract the effect of Cosartal Plus tablets.

Cosartal Plus tablets may be taken with or without food.

Grapefruit juice should be avoided while taking Cosartal Plus tablets.

### **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

### **Pregnancy**

You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Your doctor will normally advise you to stop taking Cosartal Plus before you become pregnant or as soon as you know you are pregnant and will advise you to take another medicine instead of Cosartal Plus. Cosartal Plus is not recommended during pregnancy, and must not be taken when more than 3 months pregnant, as it may cause serious harm to your baby if used after the third month of pregnancy.

### **Breast-feeding**

Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or about to start breast-feeding. Cosartal Plus is not recommended for mothers who are breast-feeding, and your doctor may choose another treatment for you if you wish to breast-feed.

### **Use in elderly patients**

Cosartal Plus works equally well in and is equally well tolerated by most older and younger adult patients. Most older patients require the same dose as younger patients.

### **Driving and using machines**

When you begin treatment with this medication, you should not perform tasks which may require special attention (for example, driving an automobile or operating dangerous machinery) until you know how you tolerate your medicine.

## **3. How to take Cosartal Plus**

Always take this medicine exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure. Your doctor will decide on the appropriate dose of Cosartal Plus depending on your condition and whether you are taking other medicines. It is important to continue taking Cosartal Plus for as long as your doctor prescribes it in order to maintain smooth control of your blood pressure.

### *High Blood Pressure*

The recommended usual dose of Cosartal Plus for most patients with high blood pressure is 1 tablet of Cosartal Plus 50 mg/12.5 mg per day to control blood pressure over the 24-hour period. This can be increased to 2 tablets once daily of losartan / hydrochlorothiazide 50 mg/12.5 mg film-coated tablets or changed to 1 tablet daily of losartan / hydrochlorothiazide 100 mg/25 mg film-coated tablets (a stronger strength) per day. The maximum daily dose is 2 tablets per day of losartan / hydrochlorothiazide 50 mg/12.5 mg film-coated tablets or 1 tablet daily of losartan / hydrochlorothiazide 100 mg/25 mg film-coated tablets.

Cosartal Plus 100 mg/12.5 mg is available for patients who need additional blood pressure control after being titrated to 100 mg of losartan.

### *Administration*

The tablets should be swallowed whole with a glass of water.

### **If you take more Cosartal Plus than you should**

In case of an overdose, contact your doctor immediately so that medical attention may be given promptly. An overdose can cause a drop in blood pressure, palpitations, slow pulse, changes in blood composition, and dehydration.

### **If you forget to take Cosartal Plus**

Try to take Cosartal Plus daily as prescribed. However, if you miss a dose do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.

Just resume your usual schedule.

If you have any further questions on the use of this product, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

#### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

If you experience the following, stop taking Cosartal Plus tablets and tell your doctor immediately or go to the casualty department of your nearest hospital:

A severe allergic reaction (rash, itching, swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat that may cause difficulty in swallowing or breathing).

This is a serious but rare side effect, which affects more than 1 out of 10,000 patients but fewer than 1 out of 1,000 patients. You may need urgent medical attention or hospitalisation.

Other side effects that may occur:

*Common (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):*

- Cough, upper airway infection, congestion in the nose, sinusitis, sinus disorder,
- Diarrhoea, abdominal pain, nausea, indigestion,
- Muscle pain or cramps, leg pain, back pain,
- Insomnia, headache, dizziness,
- Weakness, tiredness, chest pain,
- Increased potassium levels (which can cause an abnormal heart rhythm), decreased haemoglobin levels.
- Changes in kidney function including kidney failure
- Low blood sugar (hypoglycaemia)

*Uncommon (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):*

- Anaemia, red or brownish spots on the skin (sometimes especially on the feet, legs, arms and buttocks, with joint pain, swelling of the hands and feet and stomach pain), bruising, reduction in white blood cells, clotting problems, reduced number of platelets,
- Loss of appetite, increased uric acid levels or frank gout, increased blood sugar levels, abnormal blood electrolyte levels,
- Anxiety, nervousness, panic disorder (recurring panic attacks), confusion, depression, abnormal dreams, sleep disorders, sleepiness, memory impairment,
- Pins and needles or similar sensations, pain in the extremities, trembling, migraine, fainting,
- Blurred vision, burning or stinging in the eyes, conjunctivitis, worsening eyesight, seeing things in yellow,
- Ringing, buzzing, roaring or clicking in the ears, vertigo
- Low blood pressure, which may be associated with changes in posture (feeling light-headed or weak when you stand up), angina (chest pain), abnormal heartbeat, cerebrovascular accident (TIA, "mini-stroke"), heart attack, palpitations,
- Inflammation of blood vessels, which is often associated with a skin rash or bruising,
- Sore throat, breathlessness, bronchitis, pneumonia, water on the lungs (which causes difficulty breathing), nosebleed, runny nose, congestion,
- Constipation, obstipation, wind, stomach upsets, stomach spasms, vomiting, dry mouth, inflammation of a salivary gland, toothache,
- Jaundice (yellowing of the eyes and skin), inflammation of the pancreas,
- Hives, itching, inflammation of the skin, rash, redness of the skin, sensitivity to light, dry skin, flushing, sweating, hair loss,
- Pain in the arms, shoulders, hips, knees or other joints, joint swelling, stiffness, muscle weakness,
- Frequent urination including at night, abnormal kidney function including inflammation of the kidneys, urinary infection, sugar in the urine,

- Decreased sexual appetite, impotence,
- Swelling of the face, localised swelling (oedema), fever.

*Rare (may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people)*

- Hepatitis (inflammation of the liver), abnormal liver function tests

*Very rare (may affect up to 1 in 10,000 people)*

- Acute respiratory distress (signs include severe shortness of breath, fever, weakness and confusion)

*Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)*

- Flu-like symptoms and feeling of general discomfort and illness,
- Generally feeling unwell (malaise),
- Low levels of sodium in the blood (hyponatraemia),
- Abnormal muscle breakdown (rhabdomyolysis) with symptoms such as muscle pain, weakness and swelling which can lead to kidney problems (urine can become dark),
- Disturbed taste (dysgeusia),
- Dose-related orthostatic effects such as lowering of blood pressure appearing when rising from a lying or sitting position,
- Cutaneous lupus erythematosus, which is identified by a rash that may appear on the face, neck, and scalp.
- Skin and lip cancer (Non-melanoma skin cancer)
- Decrease in vision or pain in your eyes due to high pressure (possible signs of fluid accumulation in the vascular layer of the eye (choroidal effusion) or acute angle-closure glaucoma.

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via HPRA Pharmacovigilance Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store Cosartal Plus**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the label and carton after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

For 50 mg/12.5 mg and 100 mg/25 mg film-coated tablets:

*Blister:* Store below 25°C.

*Tablet container:* Store below 30°C.

For 100 mg/12.5 mg film-coated tablets:

Store below 30°C and store in the original packaging in order to protect from moisture.

[Container:]

Shelf life after opening: 6 months.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Cosartal Plus contains**

- The active substances are losartan potassium and hydrochlorothiazide.  
Each Cosartal Plus 50 mg/12.5 mg tablet contains 50 mg losartan potassium and 12.5 mg hydrochlorothiazide.  
Each Cosartal Plus 100 mg/12.5 mg tablet contains 100 mg losartan potassium and 12.5 mg hydrochlorothiazide.  
Each Cosartal Plus 100 mg/25 mg tablet contains 100 mg losartan potassium and 25 mg hydrochlorothiazide.
- The other ingredients are:  
*Tablet core:* mannitol (E421), microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, povidone (K-30), magnesium stearate.
- *Film-coating:* hypromellose (3cP, 50cP), hydroxypropylcellulose, titanium dioxide (E171), macrogol 400 (for 50 mg/12.5 mg and 100 mg/25 mg tablets).  
Hypromellose (6cP), macrogol 8000, yellow iron oxide (E172), talc, titanium dioxide (E171) (for 100 mg/12.5 mg tablets).

### **What Cosartal Plus looks like and contents of the pack**

Cosartal Plus 50 mg/12.5 mg tablets are white to off-white colored, 8 mm round shaped, biconvex, film-coated tablets, with breakline on both sides and debossed on one side with 'KK' and '1' on either side of breakline.

Cosartal Plus 100 mg/12.5 mg tablets are yellow colored, 10 mm, round shaped, biconvex film coated tablets debossed with "KK2" on one side and plain on other side.

Cosartal Plus 100 mg/25 mg tablets are white to off-white colored, 10 mm round shaped, biconvex, film-coated tablets, with breakline on both sides and debossed on one side with 'KK' and '3' on either sides of breakline.

#### Pack sizes

Blister packs and tablet containers:

#### [50/12.5 mg and 100/25 mg tablets]

Blister: 10, 14, 20, 28, 30, 50, 56, 60, 98 or 100 film-coated tablets

Tablet container: 100, 250 or 500 film-coated tablets

#### [100/12.5 mg tablets]

Blister: 10, 14, 20, 28, 30, 50, 56, 60, 98 or 100 film-coated tablets

Tablet container: 100 or 300 film-coated tablets

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

### **Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer**

#### **Marketing Authorisation Holder**

Accord Healthcare Ireland Ltd, Euro House, Euro Business Park, Little Island, Cork T45 K857, Ireland

#### **Manufacturer**

Accord Healthcare Polska Sp.z.o.o.  
Ul. Lutomińska 50, 95-200, Pabianice, Poland.

Or

Accord Healthcare B.V.  
Winthontlaan 200, 3526KV Utrecht, The Netherlands

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