Package leaflet: Information for the user

Azilsartan Medoxomil/Chlortalidone 40 mg/12.5 mg film coated tablets
Azilsartan Medoxomil/Chlortalidone 40 mg/25 mg film coated tablets
azilsartan medoxomil/chlortalidone

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 or pharmacist.
- 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 or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

What is in this leaflet:

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

1. What Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone is and what is is used for

Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone contains two active substances, azilsartan medoxomil and chlortalidone, that are used for treating high blood pressure (hypertension) in adult patients (over 18 years of age):

- Azilsartan medoxomil belongs to a class of medicines called angiotensin II receptor blockers. It lowers the blood pressure by relaxing the blood vessels.
- Chlortalidone belongs to a class of medicines called diuretics. It lowers the blood pressure by helping the body to get rid of extra fluid by making your kidneys produce more urine.

You will only be given Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone if treatment with azilsartan medoxomil alone has not adequately controlled your blood pressure. When given together, the two active substances in Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone help to lower the blood pressure more than if either of them were given alone.

2. What you need to know before you take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone

Do NOT take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone if you:
- are **allergic** (hypersensitive) to azilsartan medoxomil or to chlortalidone, or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).
- are **pregnant.** (Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone should not be used in pregnancy - see pregnancy section).
- have **severe liver disease**.
- have **severe kidney disease**.
- do not produce any **urine.**
- have **low blood sodium** levels that cannot be corrected despite treatment.
- have **abnormally high levels of calcium** in your blood.
- have **abnormally high levels of uric acid** in your blood that cause symptoms **(gout)**.
- have diabetes or impaired kidney function and you are treated with a blood pressure lowering medicine containing **aliskiren**.

Warnings and precautions
Before you take, or whilst you are taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone, tell your doctor if you:
- have kidney problems
- are on dialysis or had a recent kidney transplant
- suffer from liver problems
- have heart problems (including heart failure, recent heart attack)
- have ever had a stroke
- have low blood pressure or feel dizzy, weak, restless or lightheaded
- have muscle pains or cramps, or muscular fatigue
- have nausea and vomiting, diarrhoea, dry mouth, thirst, or tiredness
- are taking diuretics (a water tablet), or
- develop a decreased amount of urine

These may be signs of severe dehydration or salt-depletion. Your doctor should correct these problems before you take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone
- have a disease of the adrenal gland called primary hyperaldosteronism
- have been told that you have a narrowing of the valves in your heart (called "aortic or mitral valve stenosis") or that the thickness of your heart muscle is abnormally increased (called "hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy")
- are being treated with lithium (used for treating mental health problems).
- are taking any of the following medicines used to treat high blood pressure:
    - an "ACE-inhibitor" (for example enalapril, lisinopril, ramipril, etc.), in particular if you have diabetes-related kidney problems.
    - Aliskiren
- 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 Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone. 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.

Your doctor may check your kidney function, blood pressure, and the amount of electrolytes (e.g. potassium, calcium, sodium, magnesium or chloride) in your blood at regular intervals. Your doctor may also check your glucose, uric acid, cholesterol and triglyceride (blood lipid) levels.

See also information under the heading "Do not take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone".

You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone should not be used during pregnancy, and must be stopped if you become pregnant, as it may cause serious harm to your baby if used (see pregnancy section).

Children and adolescents
There is no experience with the use of Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone in children or adolescents under 18 years of age. Therefore, Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone should not be given to children or adolescents under 18 years of age.

Other medicines and Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone
Please tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking or have recently taken any other medicines, including medicines obtained without a prescription.

Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone can affect the way some other medicines work and some medicines can have an effect on Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone.

In particular, tell your doctor if you are taking any of the following medicines:
- Lithium (a medicine for mental health problems)
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such as ibuprofen, diclofenac or celecoxib (medicines to relieve pain and inflammation)
- Aspirin (acetylsalicyclic acid) if taking more than 3 g per day (medicine to relieve pain and inflammation)

- Medicines that increase the amount of potassium in your blood; these include potassium supplements, potassium-sparing medicines (certain 'water tablets') or salt substitutes containing potassium
- Medicines associated with low blood potassium (hypokalaemia) such as corticosteroids (e.g. prednisone), ACTH (a hormone), amphotericin (an antifungal medicine) and carbenoxolone (used to treat mouth ulcers)
- Heparin (a medicine for thinning the blood)
- Aliskiren or other medicines to lower your blood pressure, such as enalapril, lisinopril, ramipril or valsartan, telmisartan, irbesartan
- Other medicines used to treat high blood pressure, diabetes, gout, or asthma
- Digitalis (a medicine for heart problems)
- Anticholinergics such as atropine used for abdominal or stomach spasms or cramps
- Amantadine (a medicine for Parkinson´s disease)
- Colestyramine (used to reduce cholesterol levels in the blood)
- Ciclosporin (used to treat rheumatic disease or after a transplant)
- Medicines to treat cancer such as cyclophosphamide or methotrexate
- Vitamin D and calcium supplements

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 Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone" and "Warnings and precautions").

Pregnancy and breast-feeding

Pregnancy
You must tell your doctor if you think you are (or might become) pregnant. Your doctor will normally advise you to stop taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone before you become pregnant or as soon as you know you are pregnant and will advise you to take another medicine instead of Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone.
Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone should not be used in pregnancy, and must be stopped if you become months pregnant, as it may cause serious harm to your baby if used.

Breast-feeding
Tell your doctor if you are breast-feeding or about to start breast-feeding. Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone is not recommended for mothers who are breast-feeding, and your doctor may choose another treatment for you if you wish to breast-feed, especially if your baby is newborn, or was born prematurely.

Driving and using machines
Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone is unlikely to have an effect on driving or using machines. However some people may feel tired or dizzy when taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone and if this happens to you, do not drive or use any tools or machines.

Edarclor contains sodium
This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per tablet, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

3. How to take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone

Always take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone exactly as your doctor has told you. You should check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.
It is important to keep taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone every day.
Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone is for oral use. Take the tablet with plenty of water.
You can take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone with or without food.

- The usual starting dose is one 40 mg/12.5 mg tablet once a day. Your doctor may increase this dose to a maximum of one 40 mg/25 mg tablet once a day depending on blood pressure response.

- If you have recently lost body fluids e.g. through vomiting or diarrhoea, or by taking water tablets, you should tell your doctor before you start taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone.
- If you suffer from other coexisting illnesses such as heart failure your doctor will decide on the most appropriate starting dose.

A reduction in your blood pressure will be measurable within 1-2 weeks of starting treatment and the full effect of your dose will be observed by 4 weeks.

If you take more Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone than you should
If you take too many tablets, or if someone else takes your medicine, contact your doctor immediately. You may feel faint or dizzy if you have taken more than you should.

If you forget to take Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone
Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose. Just take the next dose at the usual time.

If you stop taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone
If you stop taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone, your blood pressure may increase again. Therefore do not stop taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone without first talking to your doctor about alternative treatment options.

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

4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

<u>Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone</u>
STOP taking Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone and seek medical help immediately if you have any of the following serious allergic reactions, which occur rarely (less than 1 in 1000 people):
- Difficulties in breathing, or swallowing, or swelling of the face, lips, tongue and/or throat (angioedema)

Other possible side effects include:
Very common side effects affecting more than 1 in 10 people:
- Increased serum creatinine in the blood (an indicator of kidney function)

Common side effects affecting less than 1 in 10 people:
- Dizziness and feeling faint when getting up
- Diarrhoea
- Nausea
- Low blood pressure (hypotension), which may make you feel faint or dizzy
- Feeling tired (fatigue)
- Muscle spasms
- Increased uric acid in the blood

Uncommon side effects affecting less than 1 in 100 people:
- Skin rash and itching
- Fainting (syncope)
- Sensation of tingling, pins and needles (paraesthesia)
- Vomiting
- Gout which causes pain and swelling in the joints
- Deficiency in red blood cells (anaemia)
- Increase or decrease in blood potassium
- Decrease in blood sodium levels
- Increased blood glucose levels

Adverse reactions reported with one of the individual components may be potential adverse reactions with Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone, even if not observed in clinical studies with this product.

Azilsartan medoxomil
In patients taking azilsartan medoxomil alone, the following additional side effects have been reported:

Common side effects affecting less than 1 in 10 people:
- Swelling of the hands, ankles or feet is more common when azilsartan medoxomil is taken with amlodipine (a calcium channel blocker for treating hypertension) than when azilsartan medoxomil is taken alone (less than 1 in 100 users)

Uncommon side effects affecting less than 1 in 100 people:
- Migraine

Rare side effects affecting less than 1 in 1000 people:
- Changes in blood test results including decreased levels of a protein in the red blood cells (haemoglobin)

Chlortalidone
In patients taking chlortalidone alone the following additional side effects have been reported:

Very common side effects affecting more than 1 in 10 people:
- Increased levels of fat (blood lipids) in the blood

Common side effects affecting less than 1 in 10 people:
- Loss of appetite
- Upset stomach
- Itchy skin rash
- Impotence in men
- Low blood levels of magnesium

Rare side effects affecting less than 1 in 1000 people:
- Sugar in the urine (glycosuria)
- Worsening of diabetes
- Irregular heart beat
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes caused by liver problems (jaundice)
- Increased sensitivity to sunlight
- Inflamed blood vessels in the skin
- Breathing problems due to water (oedema) in the lungs
- Inflammation of the kidneys
- Headache
- Stomach pain
- Constipation
- Increased calcium in the blood
- Changes in the number of cells in the blood, including increase in certain white blood cells (eosinophilia), low white blood cell count (leucopenia, agranulocytosis) and low platelet count (thrombocytopenia)

Very rare side effects affecting less than 1 in 10,000 people:
- Low blood levels of chloride in the blood
- Inflammation of the pancreas which causes severe stomach and back pain

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)
- 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 or pharmacist. 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. By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

5. How to store Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone after the expiry date which is stated on the carton and blister after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of the month.

Store Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone in the original package in order to protect it from moisture. This medicine does not require any special temperature storage conditions.

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required. These measures will help to protect the environment.

6. Contents of the pack and other information

What Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone contains
- The **active substances** are azilsartan medoxomil (as potassium) and chlortalidone either 40 mg/12.5 mg or 40 mg/25 mg.
- The **other ingredients** are mannitol, fumaric acid (for pH adjustment), sodium hydroxide (for pH adjustment), hydroxypropylcellulose, crospovidone (Type A), microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, titanium dioxide (E171), iron oxide, red and iron oxide, black (E172), hypromellose 2910, talc, macrogol 8000 and shellac.

What Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone looks like and contents of the pack
Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone 40 mg/12.5 mg are pale red, round, biconvex, film-coated tablets with "A/C 40/12.5" on one side.
Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone 40 mg/25 mg are light red, round, biconvex, film-coated tablets with "A/C 40/25" on one side.

Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone is provided in desiccated or non-desiccated aluminum/aluminum blister packs, with each blister strip having 14 tablets. The strips of 14 tablets are placed within cartons containing:
- 14, 28 or 56 tablets for 40 mg/12.5 mg tablets
- 14, 28 or 56 tablets for 40 mg/25 mg tablets

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

Marketing Authorisation Holder:
Takeda Pharma A/S, Delta Park 45, 2665 Vallensbaek Strand, Denmark.

Manufacturer:
Takeda Ireland Limited, Bray Business Park, Kilruddery, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

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This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:

Member state	**Name**
Netherlands, Portugal	Edarclor
Ireland	Azilsartan medoxomil/Chlortalidone

This leaflet was last revised in December 2021.

Detailed information on this medicine is available on the website of the HPRA.