

Ivabradine (eye-VAB-ra-deen) for Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS)



What is ivabradine used for?

- Ivabradine (Coralan® and APO-Ivabradine®) is a heart medicine that has been shown to help the symptoms of Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS).
- It does this by making your heart beat slower and with more strength so blood is moved around your body more effectively helping to stop dizziness, lightheadedness, fainting, fast heart rate, weakness and fatigue when upright.

What is the usual dose of ivabradine?

- The usual dose for POTS starts at 2.5mg morning and night and is increased slowly as necessary to a maximum dose of 7.5mg morning and night.
- Keep a track of your symptoms and share them with your health care provider so the dose can be adjusted for you.

How and when should I take ivabradine?

- Swallow the tablets with a glass full of water while sitting or standing.
- You should take ivabradine with food (breakfast and dinner).

Is ivabradine addictive and can I stop taking it suddenly?

Ivabradine is not addictive, if you want to stop taking it you should discuss this with your health care provider.

What should I do if I forget to take a dose of ivabradine at the right time?

- Take the next dose as usual and continue your regular dosing.
- Do not try to catch up by taking two doses at once as you may get more side-effects.

Will other medications or supplements affect my ivabradine?

- Ivabradine interacts with some other medicines and supplements – talk to your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medicines, herbs, vitamins or supplements.
- Avoid drinking grapefruit juice while taking ivabradine.

Can I drink alcohol while I'm taking it?

- If you drink alcohol, it may reduce the effect of ivabradine as alcohol can lower blood pressure.

Is ivabradine safe for pregnancy and breastfeeding?

- No, Ivabradine may affect your developing baby. You should not take it while pregnant or breastfeeding.

more overleaf



Ivabradine (eye-VAB-ra-deen) for POTS cont'd

What sort of side-effects could I get if I am taking ivabradine?

Many people get:

- Visual disturbances including bright spots of light, flashes or halos around images. You may also see multiple trailing images or distorted images. This can happen when moving quickly between dim and bright lighting conditions. (Do not drive or operate machinery if you are affected by this side-effect)
- Slower heart rate

Tell your doctor if you get:

- Fast irregular heart rate
- A slow heart rate (under 40 beats per minute)
- A bad rash (hives, blister or skin peeling)
- Shortness of breath, wheezing or swelling of the face, lips or tongue.

You must also read the Consumer Information Leaflet (CMI) for a full list of side effects but do not let these worry you. You may not get any side effects and if you get any that bother you tell your health care provider.

Is ivabradine expensive?

- In Australia, ivabradine is available as a private prescription. You may be able to claim a rebate for this medication if you have private health insurance. Talk to your pharmacist and ask them to price match the cheapest price you can find.

The small print:

This leaflet is to help you understand more about ivabradine. You must also read the manufacturer's Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) Leaflet which can be found here:

<https://www.nps.org.au/medicine-finder/coralan-tablets>

You will find more information on the internet but as internet-based information is not always accurate talk to your health care professional. Do not share medicines with anyone else. This is not medical advice. Refer to the full Medical Disclaimer on our website



Membership details here



To find out more about POTS visit:

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