

## INFORMATION FOR THE CONSUMER

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IMDUR®

#### (isosorbide-5-mononitrate extended release tablets)

**Read this leaflet carefully.** It has been prepared by the makers of IMDUR to help you get the most benefit from this drug. It contains general points about IMDUR and should add to more specific advice from your doctor or pharmacist.

**This leaflet should not replace your doctor's or pharmacist's advice.** Because of your health condition, they may have given you additional instructions. If so, be sure to follow their advice. Also, if you have any questions or concerns after reading this leaflet, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. **Do not decide on your own to stop taking IMDUR.**

#### WHAT IS IMDUR?

IMDUR is the brand name for the extended release formulation of isosorbide-5-mononitrate, which is released gradually over a 10 hour period. IMDUR belongs to a family of drugs called nitrates that function by dilating blood vessels.

IMDUR is used to prevent severe chest pain and feeling of pressure around the heart (recurring angina pectoris). IMDUR is not intended for the immediate relief of sharp chest pains (acute angina pectoris).

#### WHAT SHOULD I TELL MY DOCTOR BEFORE STARTING IMDUR?

Be sure you've told your doctor:

- about all health problems you have now, and have had in the past;
- about all other medicines you take, including any you take for high blood pressure, and ones you can buy without a prescription;
- if you are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are breast feeding;
- if you have ever had an allergic, bad or unusual reaction to nitrates or to any medicine for heart problems;
- if you are allergic to non-medicinal substances like food products, preservatives, or dyes, which may be present in IMDUR (see What Does IMDUR Contain?).

#### WHAT DOES IMDUR CONTAIN?

Most medicines contain more than their "active" ingredient. These other ingredients are needed to keep medicines in a form you can use. For people with certain allergies, the

following is a list of all ingredients in IMDUR. Check with your doctor if you think you might be sensitive to any of these items.

The active ingredient in IMDUR is isosorbide-5-mononitrate. Non-medicinal ingredients are: colloidal silicon dioxide, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, iron oxide yellow, magnesium stearate, paraffin, polyethylene glycol, sodium aluminum silicate, titanium dioxide.

## **HOW DO I TAKE IMDUR?**

IMDUR tablets are available in compliance blister packs, 30 tablets/pack, and in bottles of 100 tablets.

If you are using the compliance blister pack, the days of the week are printed on the back of the blister. Start with the tablet that matches the day of the week and continue taking them in order until they are all finished. There are 14 days of labeled tablets in each blister, with one extra to make 15. All 15 tablets, including the one labeled “Take this tablet last”, are exactly the same. Once you have finished the 14 labeled tablets, take the one marked “Take this tablet last” before starting your next blister pack. The Compliance Pack protects each tablet. When you first open the pack, if you find any damage to the plastic seal or foil which exposes the tablet, ask your pharmacist to check the package.

Take IMDUR exactly as your doctor tells you. Usually, this is one tablet in the morning. If your doctor tells you to take two tablets each day, they must be taken together in the morning. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about your directions.

IMDUR tablets should be swallowed whole, with half a glass of water or other liquid e.g., fruit juice or milk. **Do not chew or crush the tablets.**

If needed, the tablets may be broken in half along the scored line.

Do not take extra doses of IMDUR, unless your doctor tells you. Using more can increase the chance of unwanted effects.

**Remember** to get a new prescription from your doctor or a refill from your pharmacy a few days before all your tablets are taken.

## **WHAT DO I DO IF I MISS A DOSE?**

It is important to take IMDUR at about the same time every day.

If you miss a dose of IMDUR and remember within 6 hours, take your usual dose as soon as possible. Then go back to your regular schedule. But if it is more than 6 hours when you remember, do not take the missed dose. Just take the next dose on time.

**Never take a double dose of IMDUR to make up for missed tablets.** If you are still unsure, check with your doctor or pharmacist to see what you should do.

## **WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF IMDUR?**

IMDUR, like any medication, may produce side effects.

The most common side effect is headache. It often occurs at the beginning of the treatment, but usually goes away after a few days. If you get a bad headache, and it becomes a problem, be sure to tell your doctor.

If too much IMDUR is taken, a severe pulsing headache might occur. You may feel lightheaded, dizzy, excited, flushed, have cold sweats, nausea (feeling sick) and vomiting. If any of these symptoms occur, lie down with your feet raised and get someone to call your doctor right away.

Some people feel IMDUR makes them dizzy, faint, or tired. This is more likely when IMDUR is first started. If you have any of these effects, please tell your doctor.

**Do not stop taking IMDUR until your doctor tells you.** He or she may want to reduce your dose slowly.

Remember, medicines affect different people in different ways. Just because other people have had side effects does not mean you will get them. Discuss how you feel on IMDUR with your doctor or pharmacist.

Other side effects which cannot be predicted may occur in rare cases. If you have any bothersome or unusual effects while using IMDUR, check with your doctor or pharmacist right away.

## **ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

If you are taking IMDUR, you must not take phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors (i.e. Viagra<sup>®</sup> (sildenafil), Cialis<sup>®</sup> (tadalafil), Levitra<sup>®</sup> (vardenafil)). Such a combination can produce severe lowering of blood pressure, loss of consciousness, heart attack, or death.

Unused medicines which you know you will no longer need should be carefully discarded. Small quantities may be disposed of in the toilet or you may wish to seek advice from your pharmacist.

## **HOW DO I STORE IMDUR?**

It is best to keep IMDUR tablets at normal room temperature and in a dry place. Do not keep IMDUR in the bathroom. Do not keep or use IMDUR after the expiry date marked on the Compliance Pack or bottle.

Do not transfer IMDUR to other containers. To protect your IMDUR tablets, keep them in the original packaging.

**Keep IMDUR out of the reach of children.** Never take medicine in front of small children as they may want to copy you.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

IMDUR is for your current condition only. Do not use it for other problems unless your doctor tells you. Never give it to other people to use.

Be sure to tell your doctors, dentists and pharmacists that you take IMDUR.

All drugs can have both helpful and harmful effects. Both depend on the person and his or her health condition. This leaflet alerts you to some of the times you should call your doctor. Other situations which cannot be predicted may arise. Nothing about this leaflet should stop you from calling your doctor with any questions or concerns you have about IMDUR.

**NOTE:** This INFORMATION FOR THE CONSUMER leaflet provides you with the most current information at the time of printing. Please refer to the Consumer Information Leaflet located at [www.astrazeneca.ca](http://www.astrazeneca.ca), to see if more up-to-date information has been posted.

Customer Inquiries: 1 800 668-6000

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