

Carvedilol



The Heart Centre

4480 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V6H 3V4
604-875-2120 • 1-888-300-3088
Emergency call: 604-875-2161
(ask for Cardiologist on call)
www.bcchildrens.ca

What is Carvedilol (Coreg, Apo-carvedilol)?

Carvedilol (KAR-ve-dil-ole) is a medication that may be used to treat heart failure and sometimes high blood pressure. It belongs to a class of medications called beta blockers.

It comes in in tablet and liquid (suspension) form.

How do I give this medicine?

- ▶ Shake well if liquid form
- ▶ Give ___ mL or ___ tablet(s) (= _____ mg) _____ times a day by mouth/NG or GT
- ▶ Give with or after food or feeding to lessen the risk of low blood sugar

How is this medication stored?

- ▶ Store liquid in fridge
- ▶ Tablets should be kept at room temperature away from moist or damp places
- ▶ Keep medication out of the reach of small children

What should I do if a dose is missed?

- ▶ Give the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is close to the time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and give the next dose at the normal time.
- ▶ Do **not** double up the dose.
- ▶ If your child vomits within 30 minutes after a dose - give a new dose. If longer than 30 minutes then wait until next normal medication time.

Possible common side effects:

- Dizziness or lightheaded due to low blood pressure
- Nausea, upset stomach
- Headache, fatigue (tired)
- Cold hands and feet
- Weight gain

Call cardiologist, cardiology clinic or seek care if your child has any of the following:

- ▶ Skin rash
- ▶ Any new symptoms that seem different from your usual heart symptoms
- ▶ Poor feeding
- ▶ Lethargy/ feeling tired (consider low blood sugar)



Call 911 if any new problems breathing, shortness of breath.

Other notes or special instructions:

- If the child has taken or been given an extra dose and you are worried call Healthlink BC at 811
- If your child accidentally has taken or been given an overdose call:



BC Drug and Poison Centre:
1-800-567-8911 • 604 -682-5050

- ▶ Your doctor may start carvedilol at a low dose then slowly raise it.
- ▶ It is important **not** to stop taking carvedilol suddenly.
- ▶ Check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medication or over the counter medication or herbal product.
- ▶ Carvedilol liquid must be made by a specialized pharmacy. Make sure your pharmacy is able to make carvedilol for your child.
- ▶ Check the expiry date of the liquid.