

Metoprolol



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 Metoprolol (Lopresor, Apo-Metoprolol, Novo-Metoprolol)?

Metoprolol (me-toe-PROE-lole) is a medication that may be used to treat heart failure, high blood pressure or prevent or control irregular heart rhythms. It belongs to a class of medications called beta blockers.

It comes 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 after a feeding to lessen the risk of low blood sugar

How is this medication stored?

- ▶ Store liquid in fridge
- ▶ Keep tablets at room temperature away from moist and 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-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

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

- ▶ Shortness of breath, wheezing
- ▶ Skin rash
- ▶ Any new symptoms that seem different from your usual heart symptoms
- ▶ Poor feeding or lethargy (tiredness) (consider low blood sugar)



Call 911 if any new breathing problems or onset of 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

- ▶ This medication can lower blood pressure. Ask your child to get out of bed or stand up slowly.
- ▶ It is important not to stop taking metoprolol suddenly.
- ▶ Check with your doctor or pharmacist before starting any new medication, over the counter medication or herbal product.
- ▶ Metoprolol liquid must be made by a specialized pharmacy. Make sure your pharmacy is able to make metoprolol for your child.
- ▶ Check the expiry date of the liquid.

Developed by the Departments of Pharmacy and Cardiology with assistance from the Department of Learning & Development.

References: upon request • Last updated: Apr.22.2016

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