

## Valsartan

**Class:** Angiotensin II Receptor Blocker

**Indications:** Alone or in combination with other antihypertensive agents in the treatment of primary hypertension; reduction of cardiovascular mortality in patients with left ventricular dysfunction postmyocardial infarction; treatment of heart failure (NYHA Class II-IV)

**Available dosage form in the hospital:** 160 MG TAB

**Dosage:**

**-Hypertension:** Initial: 80 mg or 160 mg once daily (in patients who are not volume depleted); dose may be increased to achieve desired effect; maximum recommended dose: 320 mg/day

**-Heart failure:** Initial: 40 mg twice daily; titrate dose to 80-160 mg twice daily, as tolerated; maximum daily dose: 320 mg

**-Left ventricular dysfunction after MI:** Initial: 20 mg twice daily; titrate dose to target of 160 mg twice daily as tolerated; may initiate  $\geq 12$  hours following MI

**Renal Impairment:**

-  $Cl_{cr} \geq 30$  mL/minute: No dosage adjustment necessary.

-  $Cl_{cr} < 30$  mL/minute: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling; safety and efficacy have not been established.

-Dialysis: Not significantly removed.

**Hepatic Impairment:**

-Mild-to-moderate impairment: No dosage adjustment necessary; use caution in patients with liver disease. Patients with mild-to-moderate chronic disease have twice the exposure as healthy volunteers.

-Severe impairment: No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling; has not been studied

**Common side effect:**  $>10\%$ : Central nervous system: Dizziness (heart failure trials 17%). Renal: BUN increased  $>50\%$  (heart failure trials 17%)

1% to 10%: Cardiovascular: Hypotension (heart failure trials 7%; MI trial 1%), orthostatic hypotension (heart failure trials 2%), syncope (up to  $>1\%$ ). Central nervous system: Dizziness (hypertension trial 2% to 8%), fatigue (heart failure trials 3%; hypertension trial 2%), postural dizziness (heart failure trials 2%), headache (heart failure trials  $>1\%$ ), vertigo (up to  $>1\%$ )

**Pregnancy Risk Factor:** D