

International Society of Hypertension

# INFORMATION ON BLOOD PRESSURE (BP) MEDICATIONS





# TAKE YOUR TABLETS AS PRESCRIBED AVOID SKIPPING DOSES

# IF YOU DEVELOP SIDE EFFECTS PLEASE DISCUSS OTHER OPTIONS WITH YOUR DOCTOR

# S CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS (CCBs)

### e.g. amlodipine, nifedipine Good for stroke reduction Prevent cardiovascular disease

### Side effects:

• Swollen ankles (10%), constipation (<1%)

# ANGIOTENSIN CONVERTING ENZYME INHIBITORS (ACE INHIBITORS)

## e.g. enalapril, perindopril, lisinopril Prevent cardiovascular disease Added benefit for lowering albumin in urine and delaying kidney disease.

## Side effects:

- Dry cough is the most common
- Angio-oedema (<1%)- swollen face and lips which may progress to difficulty in breathing (stop the medication and see your doctor immediately), dry cough (3-35%)
- Increased creatinine (kidney impairment) and increased potassium

## MINERALOCORTICOID RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS (MRAs)

i.e. spironolactone, epleronone Benefit in heart failure

### Side effects:

 Tender or breast enlargement in men, high potassium in blood

# 🖀 ALPHA BLOCKERS

## e.g. doxazosin, prazosin

Useful if prostatic enlargement is present

### Side effects:

• Dizzy (5-19%), headaches (6-10%), drowziness

# THIAZIDE AND THIAZIDE-LIKE

i.e. hydrochlorothiazide (thiazide), chlorthalidone (thiazide-like) indapamide (thiazide-like)

### Prevent heart failure and cardiovascular events

## Side effects:

- Low blood levels of potassium, sodium
- Frequent urination especially on treatment commencement
- Increased blood sugar level, uric acid,

# **B** LOOP DIURETICS

### i.e. furosemide (loop)

### Indication:

Loop Diuretic for fluid overload and kidney failure
Side offects:

## Side effects:

 Dehydration, gout, muscle cramps, renal failure and potassium

## ANGIOTENSIN RECEPTOR BLOCKERS (ARBs)

e.g. losartan, telmisartan, valsartan

### Prevent cardiovascular disease

Added benefit for lowering albumin in the urine and delaying kidney disease

### Side effects:

 Increased creatinine (kidney impairment) and hyperkalemia

## BETA BLOCKERS

e.g. atenolol, bisopralol, carvedilol Benefit in heart failure, after heart attacks

## Side effects:

- Asthma (0.4-2%), drop in BP on standing or sudden posture change (2-4%)
- Bradycardia, fatigue