



Name That Medicine:

Blood Pressure Medications

There are several classes of drugs used for managing high blood pressure. Drugs from more than one class may be used together to achieve the benefits of the different mechanisms of action of each class of drug. Those underlined> below are preferred when treating hypertension in people with diabetes. This guide may help your patients identify the name of the oral medication that has been prescribed for them — and help avoid confusion.

Angiotension Converting Enzyme Inhibitors (ACE Inhibitors):

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Benazepril*	Lotensin®	5	Relaxes blood vessels and protects kidneys.
		10	
		20	
Captopril*	Capoten®	12.5	
		25	
		50	
		100	
Enalapril*	Vasotec®	2.5	
		5	
		10	
		20	
Fosinopril*	Monopril®	10	
		20	
		40	
Lisinopril*	Prinivil® Zestril®	2.5	
		5	
		10	
		20	
		30	
Moexipril*	Univasc®	7.5	
		15	
Quinapril*	Accupril®	5	
		10	
		20	
		40	
Ramipril	Altace®	1.25	
		2.5	
		5	
		10	
Trandolapril*	Mavik®	2	
		4	

Angiotension Receptor Blockers (ARBs):

Drug Name	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Candesartan	Atacand®	4	Relaxes blood vessels and protects kidneys.
		8	
		16	
		32	
Eprosartan	Teveten®	400	
		600	
Irbesartan	Avapro®	75	
		150	
		300	
		300	
Losartan	Cozaar®	25	
		50	
		100	
Olmesartan	Benicar™	5	
		20	
		40	
Telmisartan	Micardis®	40	
		80	
Valsartan	Diovan®	40	
		80	
		160	
		320	

Alpha 1 Receptor Blockers:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Doxazosin*	Cardura®	4	Relaxes blood vessels.
Terazosin*	Hytrin®	1	
		2	
		5	
		10	

Beta Blockers:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Atenolol*	Tenormin®	25	Reduces the workload on the heart and helps it to beat more regularly.
		50	
		100	
Metoprolol Succinate*	Toprol XL™	25	
		50	
		100	
Metoprolol Tartrate*	Lopressor®	25	
		100	
Nadolol*	Corgard®	40	
		80	
Propranolol*	Inderal®	10	
		20	
		40	
		80	
Propranolol Extended Release*	Inderal® LA	60	
		80	
		120	
		160	
Sotalol*	Betapace®	80	
		120	
		160	
		240	

Calcium Channel Blockers:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Amlodipine*	Norvasc®	2.5	Vasodilation. Blocks calcium transport into muscle cells. Calcium is required for the muscle to contract, so the result is relaxation of the muscle, and therefore, dilation of the blood vessel.
		5	
		10	
Diltiazem*	Cardizem®	30	
		60	
		120	
Diltiazem Sustained Release*	Cardizem® Sustained Release	60	
		90	
Felodipine ER*	Plendil®	2.5	
Isradipine CR*	DynaCirc CR®	2.5	
		5	
		10	
Nifedipine*	Adalat®	30	
Nisoldipine	Sular®	30	
		40	
Verapamil*	Calan®	40	
		80	
		120	
		240	
Verapamil Extended Release*	Covera-HS® Verelan®-PM	120	
		180	

Central Acting Alpha Adrenergic Agonists:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Clonidine Tablets*	Catapres®	0.1	Relaxes blood vessels.
		0.2	
		0.3	
Clonidine Patch	Catapres® TTS		

Combined Alpha and Beta Blockers:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Carvedilol*	Coreg™	3.125	Relaxes blood vessels.
		6.25	
		12.5	
Labetalol*	Normodyne®	100	
		200	
		300	

Diuretics other than Thiazides:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Bumetanide*	Bumex™	0.5	Increases urinary excretion of sodium and water. Over time, this causes decreased peripheral vascular resistance.
		1	
		2	
Furosemide*	Lasix®	20	
		40	
		80	
		80	
Spironolactone*	Aldactone® Aldactazide®	25	
		50	
		100	
Torsemide*	Demadex®	5	
		10	
		20	
		100	
Triamterene/HCTZ*	Dyazide®	37.5–25	
		50–25	
		75–50	

Thiazide Diuretics:

Drug Name <small>*Indicates Generic is Available</small>	Representative Brand Name	Doses Available (mg)	Mechanism of Action
Hydrochlorothiazide*	Hydrodiuril®	12.5	Increases the amount of urine passed, which causes the body to lose sodium and water.
		25	
		50	

Diabetes Educators: Call 1-800-635-2288 for information or patient brochures.
Medicare Part B patients: Call 1-877-231-5199 and mention reference code EDO6500 to order your diabetes testing supplies.
Website: www.PrescriptionSolutions.com/diabetes

New medications, medications combining the actions of more than one drug class, and the availability of medications as generics continue to come to market. Drugs have been included to represent common medications in the classes of drugs depicted.
 Sources: Adapted from www.drugdigest.org, and *The Art and Science of Diabetes Self-Management Education*, 2006.

The information in this educational tool does not substitute for the medical advice, diagnosis or treatment of your physician. Always seek the help of your physician or qualified health provider for any questions you may have regarding a medical condition.

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MSS07-124-FF 2/09

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